

## **Mass Times**

Monday -Friday 7.30am, 8.30am, 10.15am, & 4pm SATURDAY

3.00pm (Mass for the Sick) SUNDAY

8.30am, 10.15am

9.00am, 11.15am & 7.30pm

#### <u>CONFESSIONS</u>

MONDAY & FRIDAY

10.45am-12 Noon

3.00pm-4.00pm SATURDAY

10.45am-12noon

2.30pm-4pm

#### St. Augustine's Church Child Safeguarding Representatives.

Fr. Noel Hession OSA
Fr. Flor O'Callaghan OSA
Geraldine van Dam
Mr. Robert Ryan
Ms Charlotte Gleeson
Ms Mary Deegan.



Santa's Christmas Post Box



will be in place for receiving letters to Santa from Nov29th 9.30am-5.30pm Mon-Sat. This Post Box will be serviced by An Post to ensure delivery to the North Pole.

### St. Augustine's Church Limerick First Sunday of Advent

website: www.augustinianslimerick.com email: info@augustinianslimerick.com

## 1st December 2019

# Letter from Bishop Brendan Leahy

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I write about the first annual collection for the care of sick and retired priests that is taking places at masses across the Diocese this weekend.

We can be grateful for the many priests who have served the Lord and served all of us for many years. They have helped prepare the way of the Lord in our lives. Now they are retired and, in some cases, they are sick, so it is important first of all to remember in our prayers. Perhaps this might be a time to decide to visit them. The retirement age for Parish Priests of this diocese is 75 years. Thankfully, many priests continue to offer support in ministry beyond this, resulting in many of them giving well over 50 years' service to us. The age profile of priests means that a commercial pension plan is not possible, so the Diocese has to provide for retired priests. Funds to do this are raised in three ways:

- ☐Money has been invested so the interest could be used. Unfortunately, the return on this investment has declined seriously over the past few years and looks likely to remain low for the foreseeable future.
- □Parishes contribute from parish collections.
- Priests in active ministry under 75 give an annual contribution from their stipend

As the number of retired priests grows (we now have well over 30), more funds are needed to support them and that is why we are holding a special collection today at this Mass. Know that the Bishop and priests of the Diocese are grateful for any assistance you can give.

You may also help to support our retired priests by making a donation directly to the Diocesan Clerical Benevolent Fund that is for the care of retired and sick priests. A donation of €250 or over will allow the fund to claim back the tax you have paid on the amount you give, thus increasing the amount received at no cost to yourself. If you wish to do this, please specify so when you make the donation. You might also consider making a bequest for this purpose in your will.

With you I am grateful for the ministry of priests both past and present in our Diocese. With the priests I am also grateful for the prayers and generosity of the lay faithful who support and encourage clergy. Let's go forward together into Advent welcoming the Lord who is coming to us also in one another.

Yours sincerely Brendan Leahy, Bishop of Limerick





A big thank you to everyone who supported our Team Hope Shoebox Appeal this year. The final count on boxes sent from Limerick was 9,982

Well done to everyone!

9,982

#### Public All Night Vigil at Knock 2019

The Public All Night Vigil takes place each year to mark the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The programme for the evening includes the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Holy Hour, and Concelebrated Mass. The ceremonies take place from 8.30pm in Knock Basilica and conclude at 4am. The 2019 All Night Vigil takes place on **Saturday, December 7th 2019** and the Chief Celebrant is His Excellency, Archbishop Jude Thaddeus Okolo, Apostolic Nuncio. Bookings contact 087 3387410

**WORLD AIDS DAY:** Sunday December 1st commemorates World AIDS Day, it is a day of reflection for everyone, it is a day of remembering those that passed on, that did not have a chance to see the new regime of treatment that would have kept them alive, a day to pray for those that are living with HIV and those affected by it. This year's theme is "Communities make a difference". A special remembrance tree has been placed at the end of the church this weekend where you can write a personal message to those you would like to remember or those living with HIV or the individuals that care for people living with HIV. This same tree will go the Goshh Office as their Christmas Tree.

**Ecumenical Lectio Divina- Sacred Scripture Reading and Sharing:** our next gathering will be at St Michael's Church Pery Square Monday December 2nd at 7.30pm. All four sessions will be led and facilitated by Revd Paul Fitzpatrick. All are welcome.

**RNLI Coffee Morning:** there will be a fundraising Coffee Day in aid of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution on Friday, 6th. December from 09.30 to 4.00pm. in the Augustinian Church on O'Connell St. Your support would be warmly welcomed. Christmas cards, Calendars, Diaries and souvenirs will also be on sale.

**Lunchtime Concert:** St Mary's Cathedral at 1.15pm on Wednesday the 4th of December. Trina Walsh (Soprano) will perform. Free admission.

#### Advent at Glenstal Abbey: Here is the Lord: Come out to meet Him.

The first of these Advent talks takes place this Sunday 1st December at the Monastery Library – Glenstal Abbey at 4.30pm. The speakers over the 3 Sundays of Advent will be Dr Jessie Rogers, Luke McNamara OSB, Cuthbert Brennan OSB

**`Light in the Darkness Lunchtime talks'.** The second talk in the series will take place in Saint Michael's Church Pery Square from 1pm - 1.50pm. . Within the context of the fifty minutes there will be time for questions interaction and refreshments. This is open for anyone to attend. *Friday 6th December- Joe Slattery, Project Coordinator, North Star Family Support Project .*