



# St. Augustine's Church Limerick

## 1st Sunday of Lent

### 26th February 2023

website: [www.augustinianslimerick.com](http://www.augustinianslimerick.com)  
email: [info@augustinianslimerick.com](mailto:info@augustinianslimerick.com)

### Mass Times

#### Monday-Friday

7.30am, 8.30am,  
10.15am, & 4pm

#### SATURDAY

8.30am, 10.15am  
Mass for the Sick  
3.00pm

#### SUNDAY

9.00am, 11.15am  
& 7.30pm

#### CONFESSIONS

#### MONDAY & FRIDAY

10.45am-12 Noon  
3.00pm-4.00pm

#### SATURDAY

10.45am-12noon  
2.30pm-4pm

# Bread from Stones

The Tudun Wada road was lined with women sitting on low stools, baby on back and hammer in hand. Not watching the world go by but breaking stones for to be sold, by the head-pan, to pothole-plugging road-menders. Turning stones into bread isn't sinful; it puts bread in the bellies of their children. Nor is it easy; a ton of Dove and a tanker of Olay wouldn't soften their hardened hands.

Nor is turning stones into bread uncommon. Many poor people in many parts of the world have access to no easier raw material than stone and must make their dough from that. At what might seem a farther remove from the Stone Age, and nearer to here too, more than one cub of the Celtic Tiger quarried his way to millions or more: bread beyond dreams. Nothing necessarily wrong with that either, though some might have been better advised to stop digging sooner, before the bottom fell out of their quarries and their country's financial welfare.

Not far from where the stone-breaking women plied their trade, you'd see their rural sisters in equally hard labour. These knelt holding a small rock between their two hands to grind their hard-grown grain against a bigger one. So the big stone was worn hollow, maybe by inches in a lifetime. That's only one of the hard labours that went into the making of their kind of bread. They know, better than anyone else, the kind of drudgery evoked by the phrase *Nose to the grindstone*. Bread was always hard got and in many places still is. The primitive grinding stone was the surest sign of civilization you'd find anywhere. In empty places it told of a disappeared community long after the dwellers had gone and their dwellings returned to the surrounding dust.

So, why does Jesus appear hostile to turning stones into bread? I suppose it's to do with the means proposed: an alliance of God and the Devil to take a shortcut. Shortcuts where you have right of way are okay but moral shortcuts to riches, to pleasure, to power are what used to be called sin. That's probably what the temptations of Jesus are about. In one way or another, if we want the omelette we must break the eggs and if we want the road someone must break the stones. To make bread you knead dough. To eat bread you need dough, and sometimes you have to break stones to earn it.

J.L

## Lent at St. Augustine's

Our Lectio Divina will continue through Lent every Tuesday following the 4.00pm Mass. This is a lovely way of praying the Scriptures together. Why not join us this Lent as we gather at the shrine of our Mother of Good Counsel. Bibles will be provided. The Station of the Cross will begin this Wednesday following the 10.15am Mass and will continue through Lent every Wednesday.



### St. Augustine's Church

Child Safeguarding  
Representatives.

Fr. Flor O'Callaghan O.S.A.

Fr. John Lyng O.S.A.

Ms Geraldine van Dam

Mr. Robert Ryan

Ms Charlotte Gleeson

Mr. John Doyle



## Thought for the day

The temptations of Jesus are not at all temptations to this or that sin but rather fundamental options which matter for the direction of his life. Jesus was tempted in the course of his ministry to choose other ways of being God's prophet, the Messiah or anointed one. In a less obvious way, we too can be attracted by choices which can shape the way our life unfolds. We ask ourselves, what do I live on? What's my true goal? Where is my nourishment? The human, no less than the Kingdom, is more than food and drink. Only the Word of God truly nourishes and illuminates.

**Prayer** Lord, in you we live and move and have our being and we thank you. Help us to place you and your Word at the heart of all we do and, even more, at the core of who we are. Through Christ our Lord. Amen. Source: [www.tarsus.ie/readings](http://www.tarsus.ie/readings)



## Lectio Divina for Lent

Lectio Divina continues online for Lent. If you would like to reflect, with a small group, on the Sunday Gospel during this season, please send your email address to [searchauglim1@gmail.com](mailto:searchauglim1@gmail.com). Please advise if you do not want your email shared with other participants as otherwise your email will appear on the notice each week."

## Evening Lenten Reflections at Knock Shrine

Weekly short talks taking place at St. John's Welcome Centre, Knock Shrine on Tuesday evenings 7th, 14th & 21st March from 8.15pm –9.15pm. Speakers will include :

March 7th— Kieran Cronin—'Laudato Si: St Francis and Prayer for Ecological Conversion.'

March 14th —Jane Mellett —'Almsgiving: Responding to the Cry of the Earth and the Poor through Care for Creation.

March 21st —John Connell — 'Living more Simply in a Complex World'

There will be a Day Retreat with Deirdre Ní Chinnéide—*The Spiral and the Cross –Symbols of Hope through Challenging times* on Saturday 1st April, taking place in the Prayer Centre Knock Shrine from 10am –4pm cost €30 booking online at Eventbrite. Source: More details at [www.knockshrine.ie](http://www.knockshrine.ie)

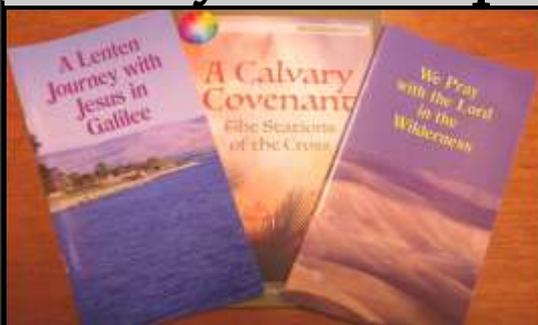


## Trocaire Lenten Campaign 2023

This Lent we are telling the story of a young Somali girl called Nasteha Mahat, who together with her family has had to abandon her family farm and everything she knew because drought took **everything they had**. Nasteha's story is one that is becoming increasingly familiar in Somalia where the worst drought in 70 years has left hundreds of thousands of people on the brink of starvation. Please help this Lent and pick up a Trocaire box on the way out.

Thank you for your support. Source: Excerpt Trocaire Newsletter Issue 20

## Abbey Bookshop



Just three of the many Lenten books available in the Abbey Bookshop this year.

*A Lenten Journey with Jesus in Galilee*

*We pray with the Lord in the wilderness*

*A Calvary Covenant—The Stations of the Cross*

## FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT:

There will be a Fairtrade display stand at the back of the church from tomorrow Monday Feb 27th.

Remember to look for the Loge when shopping and support farming families in the developing world. You are invited to drop by and enter the draw for the

Fairtrade Hamper. More Info- <https://www.fairtrade.ie/climate-change>



Lenten Talks—Day Change : How can we help celebrate and renew our Catholic Faith? Fr. Joe Hayes S.J. will give a **series of Lenten talks to help us reflect on 'How we can help celebrate and renew our Catholic Faith?'** The talks will now take place on the Tuesday evenings beginning 28th February from 7.30pm-9.00pm at the Holy Rosary Parish Hall. All are welcome. Poster updated at the back of the church.