



# St. Augustine's Church Limerick

## 2nd Sunday of Lent

### 5th March 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



### 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



## Getting to the Bottom

The first person to reach the summit of Mount Everest from the Nepalese side in 2014, a particularly bad year, was Wang Jing. Fair dues to her. But mountaineers have exacting standards and soon were hinting that there was less to her achievement than met the eye, that Wang had taken wing and 'climbed' a lot of the way by helicopter: Ouch! That would be "a serious moral violation", they tut-tutted. One went farther and fumed "Helicopter Jing, you're imbued with the stench of your money-bought certificates and honours ... The holy Everest has been dirtied by you, a cunning and ugly person!"

Conquest of the same mountain was in debate at the turn of our millennium: George Mallory climbed Everest in 1924 and never came back. Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tensing did so in 1953 and came back acclaimed as "conquerer of Everest," the first ever to get to the top. In 1999 Mallory's body, mummified in the cold, was found near the summit and some signs suggested he'd been on his way back down when he died. Maybe Mallory did get to the top. So, was Hillary's fame and name in danger? Was the singular title he'd held for 46 years mistakenly awarded? It wasn't long before journalists asked the old man himself: was he worried? "Not a bit" said Hillary, "getting to the top is not enough, you have to get to the bottom too."

The hills of Palestine would be minor pimples on the giant that is Everest, but if you know only one hill, that's your highest mountain. So, we are often told, Jesus "went up the mountain." There he gave his great Sermon, there, in today's gospel, he was seen transfigured and so beguiling that his disciples wanted to stay, in permanent excitement. Peter, giddy by the sight and the height, proposed an ambitious building plan. He thought the place shovel-ready. He'd build tents. Tents, if you don't mind! For whom?

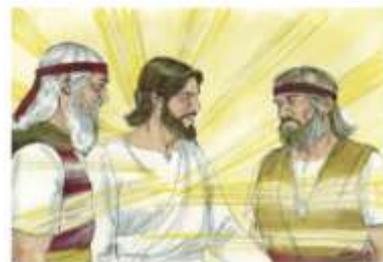
One for the God who *stretches the very heavens and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in!*

Another for Elijah who *travelled to heaven on a whirlwind of God.*

A third tent? for the Moses we meet first in a basket and last when he was buried, by God himself, in an unmarked grave when *he died, 120 y.o. with eye undimmed and strength unspent.*

A big project, Peter's. And it all disappeared in a puff of cloud.

That cloud was giving them the same message as other agents of God gave at the Ascension "Why are you standing here looking into the sky..." In other words back to reality, head for the bottom, that's where the action is. It's down at ground level, where people scratch around for a living, that the life of the Christian is lived. It was there Christ met the needy, hungering for many things. There he looked with no fear at the strong and no disdain at the weak. There he met the lepers, the beggars at the gates and the condemned woman, the rich and the poor, the Samaritans and the Pharisees.



He, before Hillary, knew getting to the bottom is important too.

J.L.

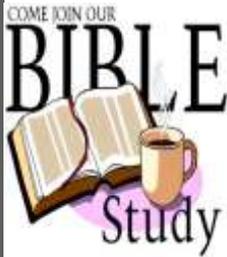
# Thought for Today

Every so often, we catch a glimpse of the "something more" that God has in store for us. These fleeting experiences are to be treasured: the birth of my first child, falling in love, a sense of "being held" by God's presence. Such experiences may help us approach the Transfiguration. Like all transcendent experiences, it is fleeting and yet it etches a memory and leaves a longing. What should we do? Practice listening to him.

**Be not afraid. We cannot always be "on the mountain" and yet what happens on the heights can help us on the lowlands of the everyday.**

**Prayer:** Lord, listening sounds so easy and yet is such hard work! Guide us as we listen to your Son, whose Word is alive, who is himself the way, the truth and the life.

Source: [www.tarsus.ie](http://www.tarsus.ie) /Sunday readings



## Lenten Bible Study at St. Saviour's Parish

'Join us for a Lenten Bible Study each Wednesday during Lent at St. Saviour's Parish. We will be journeying through the Gospel of Mark, watching and discussing a series on the Gospel of Mark by Dr. Tim Gray followed by a time of Q&A and prayer.

Meeting in St. Saviour's Parish Hall (Enter through side doors on Dominick Street) from 7.30 - 8.30pm on March 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th. Please bring your Bible if you have one.'

## Lectio for Lent

Lectio Divina continues online this week for Lent. We reflect each week on the Gospel for the following Sunday. We were happy to welcome new people on screen last week and all are welcome. The wisdom of the Spirit moves in a group. This group meets on Thursday at 8pm on Zoom, so you can reflect on the Word of God from the comfort of your own home. It is possible to install free Zoom on your device. If you would like a Zoom invitation please contact [searchauglim1@gmail.com](mailto:searchauglim1@gmail.com)

LOURDES



### LIMERICK DIOCESAN 2023 PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Led by the Bishop of Limerick, Most Reverend Brendan Leahy

22 - 27 JUNE 2023

5 Nights

From €879 per person

Booking forms are available in the Abbey Bookshop, Limerick Diocesan Office, Newcastle West Parish and Kilmallock Parish Offices. Further information and details on the Notice Board at the back of the Church.

## Team Limerick Clean - Up 8

TLC is an initiative sponsored by the JP McManus Benevolent Fund and supported by Limerick City and County Council. It is Ireland's largest one day clean-up which gathers thousands of volunteers to clean up the streets of Limerick city and county and promote pride in their county, while focusing on helping the environment and celebrating community. Last year over 21,000 participants took part in TLC.

We really want to get the word out there about TLC8 and drive as many registrations as possible to promote pride of place in Limerick, embrace new members of Limerick communities and enhance the environment as best we can. In order to do this, we want to reach as many groups through as many avenues as possible. For more information contact [info@teamlimerickcleanup.ie](mailto:info@teamlimerickcleanup.ie)



## Limerick Dementia Social Club

For persons with Dementia and their Carers and all seeking support with Dementia. Join us the first Wednesday of every month 6.30-8.30pm for a chat, cuppa and fun activity at our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre Childers Rd, Rosbrien, Limerick.



## Pilgrimage to Fatima

Archbishop Eamon Martin is leading a pilgrimage to Fatima from 20th - 27th July 2023. Pilgrims from all dioceses in Ireland are **welcome to travel with him. Cost for 7 days is £799/€899 per person sharing.**

Flights depart Dublin at 6.05am Thursday 20th July arriving in Fatima 11.00am.

Single room supplement and insurance is additional.

For further information contact Joe or Maureen McLaughlin on 00442890701606 or 00447711808207.