



The Ascension of the Lord

St. Augustine's Church Limerick

The Ascension of the Lord 21st May 2023

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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

World Communications Day

"As we draw near to the stars, we should draw nearer to our neighbour" This pious thought came from the unlikely preacher Lyndon Baines Johnson. So you say, LBJ, but there are signs that the opposite happens.



For a start we *draw near to the stars* by phone, camera, computer, satellite or other mechanical marvel. In the matter of drawing near to the neighbour twittering and tweeting may help, or they may not. Not so long ago, if we wanted someone to talk to, we talked to the neighbour face to face. Now we pick up the phone and the neighbour **only hears our voice when we're shouting at someone in Australia.** Or we seek to Talk to Joe or some such confessor/entertainer. And when you turn to answer someone who speaks to you on the street you find it was someone

in Thailand they were talking to and didn't even see you. Eye-to-eye contact? Forget about it. Even when walking a city street so many eyes are focussed on so **many screens that there's a case for issuing a white stick or a guide dog with each new smart phone.**

The desire to talk once made us go to door, garden, fence, balcony, street or farm gate to meet someone living or passing nearby. Now, to assuage loneliness, many resort to social media, only to find there belittlers, begrudgers and bullies indulging their taste from safe anonymity. For some, social media have transpired to be one of the most anti-social amenities ever devised.

The digital world is a public square, a meeting-place where we can either encourage or demean one another, engage in a meaningful discussion or unfair attacks. I pray that this Jubilee Year, lived in mercy, may open us to even more fervent dialogue so that we might know and understand one another better. (Message of Pope Francis for 50th World Communications Day).

If stuck for a cup of sugar or a bottle of milk for the baby we used to go next-door. Now we *apply for assistance.* This reduces hardship, and is good. But a price is paid. **'Tis a cold thing not to know or be known by the people who live on the other side of a thin brick wall. In many places, that's how it is. Being confined to one area, as we used to be, kept our feet on the ground and made us friends close to home. Insofar as a neighbourly spirit survives in our communities we are blessed.**

J.L.



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

Expectedly, very far away worlds can seem familiar. Such is the case with the world of our second reading (and perhaps our Gospel): an intense community, factions within, pressures from outside, different "versions" of the faith, not always reliable leadership, the departure of members, perhaps some significant. Questions arise. What has happened? Who are we? What do we hold on to? Where should we turn? What should we do? The faraway world of 1 Peter and even **John's Gospel seems suddenly recognisable to us** today. Their message is simply: keep to the heart of the proclamation, Christ our life; keep loving each other; trust the Holy Spirit; it is not our project but God's!

Prayer:

Remind us again, loving God, of the great events that give us new life in Christ.

Rekindle the gift of the Holy Spirit within each and within all.

Source: www.tarsus.ie/Readings



Fruit of the Spirit

Love, Joy, Peace

Patience, Kindness

Goodness, Faithfulness

Gentleness

Self-Control

Gal 5:22-23 NIV

Feast of Pentecost

Join us as we celebrate
this wonderful feast

Sunday 28th at 11.15am

Feast of St. Rita

Mass and Novena Prayers

Monday 22nd May

10.15am & 4pm

With the Blessing of Roses



Bord Bia Bloom Ireland's Largest Garden Festival
June 1st - 5th

Phoenix Park

Bord Bia Bloom

Ireland's Largest Garden Festival
June 1st - 5th



Mallow Home & Garden Festival

26th, 27th 28th May



Open 11am-6pm Daily



Pray for Life Novena 23 - 31 May

The Pray for Life Novena is an invitation to people across Ireland and indeed across the world to pray for the protection of human life. The novena begins on Tuesday 23rd May and ends 31 May the Feast of the Visitation. The aim of this Novena is to help nurture a culture that respects all human life and to promote the protection of life in its entirety from the moment of conception to his natural end.

Source: brief excerpt /Oisín Walsh catholicnews.ie

Join us at www.prayforlife.ie

Summer School 2023—UNLOCKING THE BIBLE

We are thrilled to announce details of our TSS Summer School 2023. For the first time since the pandemic, we are going back to meeting in person, in St Patrick's College, Maynooth. The event will combine in person, live-streaming and recordings. Our goal

We have set ourselves the task of providing "keys" for unlocking the treasures of the Word of God. Our focus will be on how to read the Bible, using a variety of approaches, illustrated throughout by carefully chosen passages and books. Our hope is to enable us all to read the Bible richly and responsibly, so that we may experience the Word of God as truly alive and active.

For your diary

When: June 12-16

Where: St Patrick's College, Maynooth

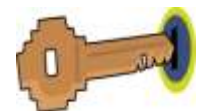
How much: €50

Participation

The presentations can be enjoyed in three ways:

- by attending in person,
- by enjoying the live-streaming each day
- by watching the recorded presentations at your leisure.

More info and booking go to Tarsus Scripture School / or Eventbrite.



Source: Kieran O'Mahony OSA