

Season of Creation

Mass Times <u>Monday-Friday</u> 7.30am, 8.30am, 10.15am, & 4pm <u>SATURDAY</u> 8.30am, 10.15am Mass for the Sick 3.00pm <u>SUNDAY</u> 9.00am, 11.15am & 7.30pm CONFESSIONS

MONDAY & FRIDAY

10.45am-12 Noon 3.00pm-4.00pm <u>SATURDAY</u> 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



St. Augustine's Church Limerick 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 10th September 2023

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

Weight of a Silent Grudge

(Have it out with him alone, between your two selves.Matt.18)

The history of the trousers can be divided into two eras: the Worn and the Torn. In the first you wore your old trousers until the more stressed areas of the fabric gave way and parts of your person were exposed to the public. Patching was the remedy for this, whether achieved by graft, transplant or cloning.

Then the tectonic plates of history shifted and torn trousers became the bee's knees. Where once you took your old trousers to be cheaply mended you now took your new trousers to be expensively torn. By such giant leaps does civilization advance.

The men I mention here belong definitely in the era of the Worn. In his book *When Bad Things Happen to Good People* Harold S. Kushner tells a story set in central Europe a couple of hundred years ago. A travelling tailor, X, came into town. Going door-to-door he got a bit of work mending clothes. He worked hard and well and the work grew.

Soon he was making new clothes to sell and took on apprentices. He set up a number of shops. He was doing well but he was doing good too. He practised his religion, treated his workers well, raised a family and supported good causes. Then another itinerant tailor, Y, appeared in town and seemed intent on following the same path as his senior: mending, making and growing. He was reaching a certain level of prosperity, nothing near that of X yet, but progressive and promising more. X wondered, should I talk to him, and decided not. He watched the newcomer and his heart reacted, dragging his mind along with it, thinking "I'm the one who brought tailoring here, I built up the demand and supplied it: why should this upstart now



seek to grow prosperous on my coat-tails, so to speak? Why should he be selling to people I could sell to? And I would use the profits more charitably than he ever will." The worm of jealousy had entered and was eating away at the good man, and the first thing eaten was reasonable thought.

God looks after his own and soon an angel appeared to X and told him God was pleased with all the good he'd done. Needless to say, X liked this turn of events. Better still, the messenger told him God would reward his goodness by giving him anything he asked for. Things couldn't be better! Being a thinking man X asked for time to consider what he'd ask for. The angel, being an angel, said OK. X went away to think pleasant thoughts about shops and ships and houses and horses. The angel came back to take his order as it were. X had him confirm that the offer "anything you ask for" still stood and was told "certainly so, and what's more, whatever you ask for your friend Y the tailor will get twice as much." Ouch! Tailor X didn't feel so well now.

A further bit of worried thought showed him what he had to do. "I'm ready to make my request, said he in sadness, I ask God to make me blind in one eye."

I suppose Kushner meant to suggest that Grudges, Slights real or imagined, grouses and well-nursed memories of wrongs I've suffered are heavy things to carry. The weight of them can blind and cripple us.

Jesus suggests in today's gospel he'd have been better off, they'd both have been better off, to talk. **J.L.**



FAITH FORMATION AT ST SAVIOUR'S DOMINICAN CHURCH

Register now for Autumn: Children's Catechesis (age 3-12), Frassatti Youth Group (secondary school young men & women), Young Adult Theology Group, Adult Bible Study, Lectio Divina, Dominican Laity, Online Catechism Group. Contact <u>limerick@op-tn.org</u> or 085 2255796 for more details or to register.

Season of Creation

Join us for River Walk this Sunday 10th beginning at 3pm from King John's Castle and ending at St. Mary's Cathedral. The walk is to reflect on this year's Season of Creation theme "Let peace and justice flow like a river" (Amos 5:24). Along the way we will pause for moments of prayer, music, song, and reflection. All are welcome!

Book of Genesis Programme

Starting on Monday 18th September, with Sr Therese Fitzgerald, Sister of Our Lady of Sion. Sr Therese is an accomplished Scripture scholar. It will be a wonderful opportunity to explore the Book of Genesis and its key characters who continue to shape our lives today. We will pay particular attention to three figures whose stories inform the narratives of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. As we engage with how Abraham, Sarah and Hagar relate with one another, we will reflect on ways in which their stories might support us in our personal response to others. In all of this, we will explore how God's creative presence continues to transform our lives, as it did theirs. There will be **6 weekly Zoom sessions beginning Mondays 18th Sept, and run**

on the 25th September & 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd October, 7:30-9pm. Cost €60

If you are interested in participating, and haven't already registered, you can register your place at: <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BookOfGenesis</u>

BEREAVEMENT INFORMATION EVENING FOR PARENTS AT MILFORD CARE CENTRE, LIMERICK

This event is taking place Wednesday, 13th September 2023 at 7pm



AnamCara

In evening with Milford Care Centre, our partner in the cidwest, with guest speaker Sharon Yard, one of the ounders of Anam Care. Sharen currently works as the iervices Manager with the organisation.

Milford Care Centre

Sharon will share her journey, as a bereaved mother, following the death of her daughter, Rachel. Her open and honest account will highlight what helped her cope and survive the journey of grief less and what did not!

Estelle McGinley, Senior Social Worker with Milford, will give an update on the return of the beneavement support service for beneaved parents living in the Midwest.



If you would like more information about Anam Cara's Support Services and resources, including our monthly online or Face-to-Face parent groups, contact us on 085 2888 888 or info@anamicara.le or visit our website <u>www.anamicara.le</u>

Eucharistic Adoration

Limerick Diocesan Adoration Committee is taking on new members to further the practice of Eucharistic Adoration in the Diocese. You are welcome to attend a preliminary meeting in St. Nessans Parish centre, Raheen V94 ED2C on Sept. 16'th starting with Mass at 10am. Refreshments served, contact details on the notice board at the back of the church.

Workshop for Cantors

The ancient proverb "one who sings well, prays twice" reminds us of the great importance which singing has to the celebration of the Mass. Join the monks of Glenstal Abbey, in association with the Irish Bishops' Advisory Committee on Church Music for a workshop on cantors, taking place Saturday 23 Sept 2023 from 10.15am — 11.45am. For information please email columba@glenstal.com or phone 061 621000