



God's Vineyard

St. Augustine's Church Limerick

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8th October 2023

website: www.augustinianslimerick.com

email: 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



In iothlainn Dé go dtugtar sinn.

"I had a farm in Africa, at the foot
of the Ngong Hills" - first words of **Isak Dinesen** in "Out of Africa"

In Old Ireland it was common for a man to build up a farm with a view to supporting a wife. I lived for a time where it was more common to build a team of wives in order to support a farm. Land was plentiful. Labour less so and automation still in the future. The work was done by hand. The rainy / planting season was short. The area you could cultivate and plant depended on how many hands were available in your household. And what better way to build up a labour force than by marrying them? Simple and obvious.

In a sense I too had a farm in Africa. In that cash-starved place while preaching God you'd keep a respectful eye on Mammon too. One option, personal polygamy, had to be ruled out but the crowd calling you Fada pointed to another. The parish council would mark out a tract of unclaimed land. The people of God, maybe hundreds of them, would pledge a few days a year to prepare, plant, weed, reap, thresh, store and guard what could be sold to help pay church expenses for the coming year. Defaulters would incur censure not found in Canon Law. Many parables of Jesus were acted out. A hundred and more belaboured the land, driven on by drumming like a marching army. You could call it combined harvesting. As they toiled they looked forward with as much joyful hope to the beer-pots already simmering on the headlands as to the hundred-fold promised in the life to come. From the working, singing and drinking together came a sense of ownership and a fierce protectiveness.

J.B. Keane's Field was not so jealously guarded nor John Healy's Nineteen Acres so carefully tended as our few acres at the foot of the Mukuta hills. You could see there a trace of what impelled the tenants of today's gospel to such drastic action. Granted, no person died for threatening our bit of sorghum, beans and groundnuts but the monkeys were not so lucky. One had his enjoyment of fresh groundnuts, and everything else that was his, terminated by an unusually accurate arrow while many others were encouraged by machete, spear and arrow to go back to the hills to think again. And perhaps chatter into the night about the dangerous lunatics on the plain below

The readings today are forceful. As we hear Isaiah we might remember Paul telling the Corinthians, and us, *You are God's farm, God's building*, and a warning about the consequences of producing sour grapes. As for the building, the gospel recalls a psalm to assert that it has only one keystone without which it would crumble in on itself. The same gospel leaves no doubt as to the One from whom the whole lot is borrowed. Every season is Season of Creation. J.L.



Workshop on Positive Mental Health & Wellbeing

'Living a happy and contented life'; getting the conversation going on positive mental health and wellbeing *with Grow & JIGSAW*.

A workshop for parents, people in ministry, community leaders and others to start the conversation on the importance of positive mental health and wellbeing in the family, the parish, and the wider community. Details of resources and supports available to families, parishes and community groups will be shared.

Date: Tuesday 10th October, 7:30-9pm in Limerick Diocesan Centre. *(No charge)* Please register your place here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PostiveMentalHealth>

Prayer

Lord, the light I choose to let into my life today is based on my hope in you.



It is a small flame,
but I believe that it can dispel
a bit more darkness today.

For it is through us
that Christ's light will shine
in the midst of the struggles
and cares of the world.



OCTOBER 17

DIOCESE OF LIMERICK
VOCATIONS OFFICE

THEOLOGY ON TAP
7:30PM @ FENNESSY'S PUB

FR. EAMONN FITZGIBBON
Why is the 'Common Priesthood'
not so common?

FINGER FOOD PROVIDED
Contact Vocations@limerickdiocese.org
for more information



For more information please contact
Northstar Family Support Project on 061 459 260

Annual Service of Commemoration and Hope

Don't look back
with regret
Look forward
with hope



Location: Augustinian Church

Date: Thursday 12th October 2023

Time: 6pm

*We would love you to join us remembering loved
ones who we lost through drug and Alcohol
misuse and supporting the families left behind*

Faith Renewal:

New Autumn-Winter Programme at Knock

- 'What do we know about Jesus'? Evening Faith Formation Course with Fr. Eugene Duffy. Oct/ November.
- 'Joining the Synod: Weekly reflections & discussions on the proceedings in Rome'. Join online.
- Art Workshop: Seeing is believing. Reflecting on Art as a Glimpse of the Sacred' with Dr. Nora Donnelly, Saturday 9th and 16th December.
- Journeying through Advent and into Christmas: November remembrance Mass, Carols by Candlelight, Advent reconciliation Service. All night vigil 7th December. Programme on the Notice board at the back of the church. Further details & information (dates and bookings see www.knockshrine.ie/faithrenewal)

Monastic Weekend

*Monastic Vocations weekend for women at
St Benedict's Priory, Cobh, Co Cork 28th-29th Oct.
For more information contact Mother Prioress:
cobhtyburnconvent@gmail.com*