



St. Augustine's Church Limerick

14th January 2024

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

website: www.augustinianslimerick.com

email: info@augustinianslimerick.com

Mass Times

Monday-Friday

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

SATURDAY

8.30am, 10.15am
3pm Mass of the Sick

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



Happy New Years

A few weeks from now many Chinese and Vietnamese will send the kitchen god Ong Tao off to heaven's palace to deliver the annual report on their family affairs. As they do so they will skip from the Year of the Rabbit to that of the Dragon.

Our own New Year will be half done when Muslims celebrate the coming of 1445 and it will be in its declining months as Jews welcome 5785. Sunrise and sunset are settled. Otherwise in measuring time it's hard to be sure of anything, like Samuel thinking he was hearing the alarm clock going off every time he fell asleep.

There was a time when our visits to village churches were arranged with their representatives during periodic meetings at the parish centre. What I had heard praised as punctuality elsewhere was not highly prized by all there. But the sun did come up and did go down and all agreed the period in between was a day. An elderly cohort were used to fixing precise time for an engagement by pointing a finger to some quarter of the sky saying "when the sun is there". For them the names of the days had a steeply local slant, being taken from the places, within walking distance of our centre, where a market was held between sun-up and sun-down. So, if the market was Ballysimon or Corbally then that day was not Tuesday or Thursday but Ballysimonday or Corballyday. Simple enough until the slow advance of my education showed there were nine such markets with nine names and consequently nine differently named days. So the idea of a week was among the early illusions that had to be provisionally suspended. Roughly speaking "this day week" meant nine days from now. The week was dead and the fortnight buried. The month, but not as we knew it, was rescued by the moon which was the centre of God's calendar. Age was counted not in years but in planting seasons or harvests. Even that was jeopardised when we heard of places which enjoyed two harvests in the time it took us to have one. All very unsettling for someone from a culture which thought it had tamed time and handcuffed it to its wrist.

Granted, that elderly cohort has gone. Devices now tick off seconds, minutes and hours with no relenting.

So to our own New Year; to be celebrated if taken as mirror of the cyclical renewal of so many things on earth. To be celebrated too if taken as metaphor for

the renewal of spirit, or forgiveness, that God's Word promises.

The Peter who is introduced in today's gospel would show an

interest in renewal; how often must I forgive.... Is seven times enough? Not at all, he was told, but seventy seven times. That should catch the attention of anyone whose personal odometer reads three score and seventeen, or more.



Our years are milestones, but signposts reversed. They tell us how far we've travelled but not how much fuel or how much road we have left.

Happy New Year.

J.L

Thought for the Day

It is good to stop from time to time and ask myself, what am I looking for? This can be answered in the ideal: "what do I think I should be looking for?" or in the real: "what do I actually want as evidenced by my choices and actions?" To move from one to the other we need the grace of dissatisfaction. In the words of Augustine, "You must be dissatisfied with the way you are now, if you ever want to get to where you are not yet." (Sermon 169)

Prayer : Shake us up, Lord, and help us to see ourselves as we truly are, often settling for less, for the moderately good and the reasonably faithful. Give us a longing for more, for all you have in store for us, and on the way bless us with exhilaration that we may be joyful bearers of your Good News. Amen

Source: www.tarsus.ie. Sunday readings

Feast of St. Ita



St. Ita was born in Co. Waterford of noble and Christian parents. Early on she set her mind on serving Christ in religious life. She founded a monastery in Killeedy Co. Limerick, which attracted a great variety of young people. She was given the title 'foster-mother of the saints of Ireland' her feast day is on January 15th . She died in 570.

(Source: Liturgical Calendar for Ireland 2024)

The annual St. Ita's Mass will be celebrated in St. Ita's Church, Ashford, Co. Limerick on Monday 15th January at 11.00am. In preparation for this feast day there will be Adoration in St. Ita church Ashford this Sunday 14th January from 12.00noon –5pm. All are welcome!



Prayer to St. Ita

St Ita our dearest patron saint
thy loving children pray.
Grant that we by thy protection
May grow in virtue day by day.



Grow Mental Health

Grow Mental Health- Friendly Community based groups for anyone experiencing mental health issue through 12 Step Program of connection, hope, identity by empowering people to nurture their positive wellbeing by supporting personal growth through education, peer support and self-teaching.

Based in 33 Henry Street and Croom, several meetings including new meeting on Monday 11-1pm. Contact Michael 086-6063182/Celia 0861526966/www.grow.ie

Training for a Role in International Development

Join Viatores Christi (VC) for our annual live Venture training programme (online) this January 2024! Tailored for current and aspiring missionaries and volunteers, this international and inclusive programme hones practical skills for impactful work in the field.

Explore modules covering mission and development, project cycle management, community development, global awareness, social justice, and climate change, all within a new and accessible GCE framework.

Spanning three weekends on January 27th-28th, February 24th-25th, and March 30th-31st, this transformative programme offers 6 interactive training days from experts and 20+ hours of online self-directed material – all for just **€300. Participants will include those actively engaged in faith-based development projects in East Africa.**

Elevate your skills and make a difference. Reach out to Sorcha at sorcha@viatoreschristi.com or visit <https://vcvolunteers.ie/venture-training/> to download our latest brochure and course syllabus.

A FUNDRAISING NIGHT OF
ENTERTAINMENT
INCLUDING BRIAN FRIEL'S
COMEDY DRAMA
"LOSERS"
IN AID OF CRATLOE PARISH CHURCH
TICKETS €10
DISCOUNTED CHILD/FAMILY RATES
**FRIDAY JANUARY 26TH &
SATURDAY JANUARY 27TH**
CRATLOE COMMUNITY HALL
CURTAIN 8PM