



St. Augustine's Church Limerick 7th April 2024 Second Sunday of Easter

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

Canonization Express

Ten years ago this Sunday they were making saints in Rome. Normally that wouldn't distract me but in this instance it recalls a journey to see one of the future saints thirty odd years earlier. John Paul 11 was coming to Nigeria and our bishop said parishes should try to fly the flag at his Mass in Kaduna. Our patch of the universal church would create identifying banners, the more boastful the better, and hold them high among faithful of the One and True from better-known places. A special train would speed us there and back in comfort. I signed up, with about twenty from my own parish. The timetable said we would have a leisurely day in the metropolis waiting for the pope's arrival and something similar for basking afterwards. One of our group stitched sacking around 25-litre jerricans to keep our water near drinkable temperature. Otherwise we put little thought into provisioning and fasting became a big, unplanned, part of the pilgrimage. A hired Hiace took us to Maiduguri. Our train clattered into motion and it was Clackety-Clack and Hail Mary - Holy Mary for the next 30 hours. The amenities were, you might say, basic.

That train stopped long and often but not at railway stations. It would halt in one place in the bush for a man with a couple of goats or a sack of beans or a bundle of thatching-reeds, and in another for a woman carrying a baby along with a few trussed hens or a calabash of rancid butter. But it ignored stations where the pilgrim might hope to get something to keep hungry body and, by now, over-fed soul together. So we gazed sadly at baskets of bread and fruit and road-roasted chicken just out of reach as we strained through station after station before coming to rest again in famished wilderness a few miles on.

Promised Day of preparation already eaten up by the thirty-hour journey, we crawled into Kaduna just in time to hurry to our Field of Dreams. There, from our distant corral we got a glimpse of the Venerable Visitor and an eyeful of a Papal Podium populated by fez, mitre, turban, plumed hat and helicopter headgear of many hues. We took part in the Mass, waved our banners, prayed our poor mouthful of prayers, joined in the applause and rushed back to the station fearful that our iron horse might bolt without us. I shouldn't call it a horse because that honest animal hurries towards the home manger while our train was even slower than before. In a second dark pre-dawn one of our men discerned the environs of his sister's house and, having had enough, jumped ship. Soon, but too late, he saw he had mistaken a well-lit road-builders' camp for his sister's town, adding days to his pilgrimage. Thirty-six hours it took us this time.

Our Hiace was back to take us home. In his haste our driver nearly crashed us into a big lorry. From the seat of honour and maximum danger I saw close up the truck-driver's face as we spun across his path. The others applauded our driver's skill in saving us while I cursed his recklessness in nearly killing us. Even pilgrims differ. Thank God and the saints we survived.

There was a future saint on the Podium but there might have been a good few more on the train.

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

How did any of us make the journey towards faith in Christ? No doubt a great part of it is simply what we received—usually from family. At some point, did I make a conscious choice? Perhaps at other times, I felt like walking away the faith project? What kept me going? Did a more personal ownership of faith result? Perhaps I can identify with the intuition of John O'Donahue, "Faith is helpless attraction to the divine." In spite of everything, in spite of myself, somehow it is part of who I am.

Prayer: Mysterious God, we are those who have seen and at the same time not seen. Help to look beyond the simple gifts of each day to see you the giver behind—and in—every gift. Help us embrace the grace that we may know true blessedness in believing. Source: [www.tarsus.ie/Sunday readings](http://www.tarsus.ie/Sunday_readings)

Community Choir in St. Mary's Cathedral

Free community choir in the Cathedral—open to all—please join us! No musical experience is needed, so please come along to sing— whatever your voice is like , all you need to do is turn up and try. Rehearsals will be held in the Cathedral on Wednesdays at 7.30pm beginning the 10th April running for 8 weeks. The project will conclude with a public performance on the 31st May, when the choir will sing at the opening and closing of a dramatic reading of the Voyage of St. Brendan the Navigator. To register email catherine@ministryofhealing.ie All Welcome.

Divine Mercy Sunday Sunday 7th April

Mount St. Alphonsus
Redemptorist Church Limerick

Divine Mercy Devotions
Starting 2.30pm - Mass at 4.45pm

Blood Donor Clinics

Castletroy Park Hotel
Monday 8th & Tuesday 9th April
16.20pm –19.40pm
Book Appointment 1800 222 111

Greenhills Hotel
Caherdavin
Ennis Road Limerick
Thursday 11th & Thursday 18th April
16.20pm -19.40pm
Book Appointment 1800 222 111

St. Augustine's Church Limerick



**Mozart by Candlelight
with
Frank Mc Namara
Wednesday 10th April at 9.00pm**

Tickets available on the night
and from eventbrite.ie

Eucharistic Adoration

Calling ALL ADORERS of the Blessed Sacrament in Limerick Diocese. The National Eucharistic Adoration Pilgrimage to Knock will take place on Sunday 14th April (weekend after Divine Mercy). Please ring this number 086-0401789 / 087-6497382 to enquire or book a seat. The full bus details are on www.eucharisticadoration.ie

Source Parish Notes

Upward Call Pilgrimage

Join us for the Upward Call Pilgrimage in the footsteps of St Thomas Aquinas and the Eucharist, to Bracciano, Roccasecca, Orvieto, Naples, Rome & more! The pilgrimage, led by the Dominican Friars & Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia, will take place from the 16th - 22nd of June 2024 and is open to young adults, 18-35. The cost of the pilgrimage is €600 which includes ground travel, accommodation, and most meals (2-4 on your own). Please email limerick@op-tn.org to book your spot by April 1st.

Source: Parish Notes