



St. Augustine's Church Limerick 14th April 2024 Third Sunday of Easter

website: www.augustinianslimerick.com

email: info@augustinianslimerick.com

Easter Banbh

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

Tom Sexton and I had to take the fat pig of a bishop to the cathedral 250 km away. The bishop himself went ahead of us. It was gift of a little group at their Confirmation. With much squealing, from captors and captive, he was brought to our place for onward shipment. Our transport, maybe our company too, was deemed more pig-appropriate than the bishop's. The open tray behind the seats of our pick-up truck was to be the pig's berth. Lest he try early disembarkation we resorted to a device often mentioned in the literature of the American West and "hog-tied" him. Sunburn was another hazard. Tom and I arriving in Maiduguri sun-scalded wouldn't worry them but it would be serious if our passenger suffered so. The episcopal household might be partial to roast pork but - ignore Charles Lamb - not when it had been roasted alive. Pigs do suffer in the sun. Our human model of beauty may sunbathe slathered in Factor 30. Her porcine cousin likes to apply the full-body mud-mask by wallowing but a hog-tied hog can't wallow. Old J. S. Mill, whose output is well-regarded by some, said it's better to be a dissatisfied man than a satisfied pig. A bad dose of sunburn would leave us with the worst of both worlds, a sore pig and a sour bishop. Worse, we might have to travel with a paied, squealing prisoner through a city where pig and pork are *Haram*, forbidden by Allah. Only infidels had any truck with pigs. At a nervous stretch - too much sun can be halucinogenic - you could imagine our arrival sparking off the "religious" rioting then dormant there but soon to rise again.

P.G. Wodehouse said Lord Emsworth relied on Whiffle's *Care of the Pig*, a tome not in our library, for the Empress of Blandings' skincare. We did our best with neem branches, wet sacking and water. We stopped at Bazza where pigs and Christians are at home to refill the watering-can. Then through Michika where traders' tables, head-panned hawkers and their patrons closed in around us like excited cycling fans between the 21 bends of **Alpe d'Huez**. We took Finn McCool's raised Finger at Wulomanga to our right as a "thumbs-up" and pressed on. At culvert and borrow-pit stopped to moisturise our V.I.Pig.

The Mandara mountains acted as a running-rail on our right all the way until they sloped into the sand and vanished at a place marked by Pulka Rocks - a million-year-old Henry Moore sculpture. From there on you couldn't find even a pebble to fling at a thieving monkey. A causeway carried us to Bama, through low land flat to the horizon, now parched but soon to flood.

With relief we rolled into the cathedral compound and handed over the bishop's pig, well-maintained and blemish-free. A veil is best drawn over the story, very short, of the rest of his life.

What was it all about? Why did they, poor but generous, give the bishop a big pig? They were a people immersed in land and Bible. Offering to deity first fruits of field or pick of herd sat kindly with them. They knew we would carry the pig only as far as St Patrick's Cathedral but, bless them, they took that to be some little bit along the road to God.

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





Feast of Our Mother of Good Counsel Friday 26th April

We turn to you, our Mother of Good Counsel
 as we seek to imitate your faith-filled life.
 May we be lead by the same Wisdom which God sent forth from heaven to guide
 you along unfamiliar paths and through challenging decisions.
 Intercede for us with your Son as we go forward joyful in hope,
 seeking to be united in mind and heart on our way to God.
 O Virgin of Good Counsel hear our prayer as we look for guidance,
 Pray for us to our loving and merciful Father,
 to your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the Holy Spirit,
 giver of all Wisdom one God forever and ever. Amen

Thought for the day

For the Word of God to become a living word, we need to listen beyond the words to the one speaking to us through Scripture. It is our faith that God speaks to us as we listen to "the very voice of the pilgrim people God." This does not happen of its own accord; it calls for a listening ear and an open heart.

Prayer Merciful God, anoint me with you Holy Spirit. As I read your Word, let me hear your voice speaking to me from within. Give me the wisdom to understand your message to me. Let your Word be the joy of my heart and the light to my feet. Give me strength to build my life on your Word. Let it be done to me according to your Word. May I rejoice in the blessedness of hearing your Word and keeping it. Speak Lord; your servant is listening. Source: www.tarsus.ie/Sunday Readings



AWARE

Aware offer a free weekly group for people in the community who may be struggling with depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, and mood related conditions in Limerick. Details are on Aware.ie website.

This group takes place at Mary Immaculate College in Ground Floor, Room G 10, Foundation Building, Mary Immaculate College, South Circular Rd. Limerick, V94 VN26 every Tuesday at 7pm.



Prayer for Good Weather

Heavenly Father, you have created all things and we depend on your loving goodness. You have given us the earth to care for and provide our food. We humbly ask you to bring good weather to our hardworking farming families so that the animals can be put out to graze and crops can be planted. Lift all our hearts this Springtime so that we can enjoy nature in all its beauty. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord Amen.

Workshop: Researching your Family History Online

Thursday 18th April 2pm-4pm
 Venue- Watch House Cross Community Library.
 Shopping Centre Moyross Limerick.
 Booking Essential : 061 557726

Laurel Hill Schools Annual Spring /Summer Fashion Show

Thursday 18th April
 Strand Hotel at 7.30pm

Limerick Choral Union: Presents Verdis Requiem

Saturday 20th April—University Concert Hall—at 8.00pm
 Source: Limerick Events—What's On