



St. Rita of Cascia
Feast Wed 22nd May

St. Augustine's Church Limerick 19th May 2024 Pentecost Sunday

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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



From the Heights of Folly

Nearly 100 years ago Lord Berners engaged an architect to build a tower, one of the last great follies of England. Berners understood the essence of the job and explained to the planning inspectors, *'The great point of the tower is that it will be entirely useless.'* The journalist Stephen Bayley surmises that some sad use may have been found for it because there is a notice there saying, 'Members of the public committing suicide from this tower do so at their own risk.'

Bayley goes deeper into the matter: "If you made a fortune from slaves or sugar, you would build yourself a country house with follies in the garden. Besides wealth you needed idleness, wit and a taste for melancholy. The melancholy was important: thus one early example of the folly was the garden hermitage with its resident ornamental hermit, a poor soul hired to live in solitary deprivation to stimulate higher thoughts in the minds of observing visitors. (At Selborne, Gilbert White had his brother dress up as a hermit and strike abject poses when visitors were expected).

Like so much of English taste there was an overflow into Ireland. Here remnants of follies serve as scratching-posts for cattle on Summer days or screens for pursuits less socially acceptable any day.

If the English are the best known of folly-builders and the Irish copied them, they both lag behind another group who really aspired to the height of Folly. Early parts of the Bible tell how people got too big for their boots and lost the run of themselves. The *Tower and the Town (a.k.a. Tower of Babel)* is a good one. They were well-educated and enjoying the economic benefits of the Babylonian Boom. The days of poverty and ignorance were behind them for good and in front stretched an endless road paved with prosperity. We're told they said "we'll build a tower as high as heaven". Fuelled and fooled by over-confidence and ambition they set about reaching heaven by their own power. God laughed. He confused them till no one could understand a word anyone else said. Accidents were inevitable: A bricklayer would tell his mate "hold the ladder please" and his mate think he said "take that ladder away". A carpenter would say to his apprentice "don't cut that plank until we measure what's needed" only for young lad to saw the thing into useless halves, each too short for the job. Labour relations and esprit de corps went to the dogs, and their Folly followed. The project was abandoned leaving a "ghost estate" type of tower. The attempt to take over from God was postponed. The project could be lumped in with the constructions mentioned by *Barton in Monumental Follies (1972) as 'foolish monuments to greatness and great monuments to foolishness.*

The wheel came full circle at the first Pentecost. Language had illustrated the people's separation from one another and from God. Language now brought them together. From all parts of "the known world," they heard and understood the same good news, irrespective of mother tongue. Now the sound of rushing wind was not from chickens of delusion and guilt coming home to roost, or the swimming pool on the roof leaking, but the God-sent sound of the Spirit offering wisdom and integrity renewed. **J.L.**

Thought for the day

It is often forgotten that Pentecost is first of all a Jewish feast, actually a harvest festival. That sense of "in gathering" is also a theme of our Christian Pentecost, as we see the beginning of the church. By the time of Jesus, Shavuot—to give it its Hebrew name—also marked the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai. This also fits our Christian Shavuot as long as we recall that Law, Torah, meant instruction and indeed a whole way of life under God's grace and guidance. It was always interior and the descent of the Holy Spirit takes this inner reality to new levels.

Prayer Send, O Father, the Holy Spirit of your Son into our lives and communities. May the joy we know in the Spirit help us to be joyful bearers of the Good News to our contemporaries.

Source: www.tarsus.ie/Sunday_readings



Exam Prayer

St. Rita, Saint of the Impossible,
bring serenity to my mind and heart
while I take my exams.

Give me a quiet confidence in my gifts and talents.

Remind me of my dignity and preciousness
in a world where we compete in exams, for jobs,
for a place in life.

Anoint my memory with the power of recall.

Keep me calm on the day of my exams.

May my results be for enrichment of my life
and the education of my heart.

We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Feast of St. Rita Wednesday 22nd May



Mass and Novena Prayers
Wednesday 22nd May
10.15am & 4.00pm
With the Blessing of Roses



Our Lady of Limerick Triduum St. Saviour's Dominican Church Limerick - 24th -26th May

Preacher: Fr Joe O' Brien, O.P.

1pm Mass each day. Adoration and Confessions before and after Mass.

Enrolment in Rosary Confraternity.

Friday: Eucharistic Healing Service and Anointing of the Sick **1pm and 7pm**

Saturday: Eucharistic Procession through the streets of our parish.

Sunday: Presentation of Catechesis Certificates and Family Festival

Bereavement Support Information Talk

Bereavement Support Information Talk will take place in Milford Care Centre, Education Department on Tue 28th May 2024 from 7pm - 8.30pm.

The Bereavement Information Talk is designed to give general information on grief and bereavement to bereaved people, their family and friends. Members of the Bereavement Service will be present to provide general information on Grief and Bereavement.

The evening will comprise of: Short talk by a Bereavement Counsellor, Different experiences of Grief, Services available, Question Time. The Information Talk is Free

Tuesday June 11th Meeting

We will hold a meeting on **Tuesday 11th June at 7.30pm** in the church for our Augustinian Eucharistic Ministers and Readers of the Word. We look forward to sharing our views on how best we can carry out our ministries.