



# St. Augustine's Church Limerick

## 16th June 2024

### 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

website: [www.augustinianslimerick.com](http://www.augustinianslimerick.com)

email: [info@augustinianslimerick.com](mailto: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

## Green and Growing

It will bear fruit and every kind of bird will live beneath it. ....  
I stunt tall trees and make the low ones grow. I wither green trees and  
make the withered green. (Ezch 17)

The last time Limerick were All-Ireland champions, that is before today's unending gluttonous over-indulgence on the part of the Green Machine, the book *Small is Beautiful* was published by E. F. Schumacher. He wrote,

*Modern man does not experience himself as a part of nature but as an outside force destined to dominate and conquer it. He even talks of a battle with nature, forgetting that, if he won the battle, he would find himself on the losing side.*

Aside from that arguably sexist language of fifty years ago, it could be the manifesto of Green politics in our own time. The voting is over, so I'm not canvassing.

Today's readings are green-tinted too: God makes the withered green; Jesus speaks of throwing seeds on the ground and waiting, asleep or awake, with minimal intervention while another agent brings growth and ripening. Harvest is waiting's reward. Cooperating with nature rather than conquering it. The mustard seed is notably small and it's plant is, of course, green. (In autumn when our county neighbours to the south are sometimes doing well with the big ball the green mustard puts on a topping of gold).

But if the mustard plant is a sharp dresser it is sharper still to taste. The dogs in the streets may not know that but I've seen dogs in the countryside learn it long ago. That was a time before the shelves of supermarkets sagged under the weight of Pedigree Chum, Pal and other well-balanced cuisine, countless versions of the perfect dog's dinner. The domestic dog rations then allotted were sometimes poor and had to be supplemented by agility of canine wit and paw. On a good day perhaps the dog dined on rabbit. On a lucky day a freshly-baked cake left to cool unguarded caught Shep's fancy. Before there were hens in batteries or batteries in hens the domestic bird ranged free and liked to find a quiet place to lay her eggs to, with fortune's favour, bring up a family in privacy. Consequently the farmer's better half and man's best friend were in constant competition to be first to reach the fresh egg laid in unpredictable places. In this latter contest the woman sometimes lost and then started to play dirty: eggshells were emptied of their natural content and filled with, you guessed it, mustard. Now if there's one thing an ordinary, simple, country dog can't stand it's filling his face with what he thinks is a fresh egg and finding it's a mouthful of strong-mix mustard. That was aversion-therapy near its brutal best. End of egg-stealing. The needs of God's creatures are maintained in precarious balance.

Back to the gospel growing theme: God's kingdom among us, it appears, grows slowly too. We do our bit, small like the mustard seed. But whether we are awake or asleep the bulk of the work is by an unseen hand. We have no total control but in many instances small is beautiful.

That book is Sub-titled, *A Study of Economics As If People Mattered*).

**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

*Sleep that knits up the ravell'd sleeve of care* is a daily therapeutic miracle, healing the heart. There is a gentle reflection of this in John 11, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Sometimes, it is better to leave things alone and they will come along of their own accord. Parents know this very well...you just have to trust the process / the growth. The typical heresy of our time is not quietism but rather meticulous activism, often declining into pernicky interference. Some things just take time and the courage of non-interference!

**Prayer** You are the mystery at the heart of all and in you we put our trust. When we are asleep, when we are awake, you are silently at work. In you, we place our trust. Amen.

Source: [www.tarsus.ie/Sunday/Readings](http://www.tarsus.ie/Sunday/Readings)

## Augustinians in Ireland

### Religious Vocation

Could God be calling  
YOU?

'One mind, One heart'

email: [vocations@augustinians.ie](mailto:vocations@augustinians.ie)



*Lord make me know your ways,  
Lord teach me your paths.*

Psalm 25: 4

## Augustinian Pilgrimage Knock Shrine



Saturday  
20th July

Tickets  
available from  
Thur 20th June

Abbey Bookshop

## Lunchtime Concert

St. Mary's Cathedral  
Tuesday 18th June

1.15pm

with

Mark Cooney (Oboe) &  
Peter Barley (Piano)

Source: [limerick.ie/discover/  
whats-on](http://limerick.ie/discover/whats-on)

## Mount St. Alphonsus



6 times daily 14th –22nd June

Daily at 7.30am, 10am, 11.30am, 6pm, 7.30pm, 9pm

## \* A Mid Summer Night's Music & Musings

Shannon House

Main St. Castleconnell

Sunday 16th June at 7pm

A Magical Evening of Music,  
Poetry & Stories

Tickets available at Shannon House  
Castleconnell or Eventbrite.

Source: [limerick.ie/discover/whats-on](http://limerick.ie/discover/whats-on)

## Limerick Garden Festival Sunday June 16th from 11am



Limerick Milk Market