

St. Augustine's Church Limerick

13th October 2024

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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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



The Day of the Prisoner

The churchmen in charge of labels have branded today "Prisoners' Sunday." I'm not sure what this does for prisoners but it does prompt some thought outside the walls. Peter McVerry's well-known and persuasive viewpoint is printed overleaf.

A particular category of prisoner, those condemned to death, was brought to our attention a few days ago by an item in the *Irish Independent*. There we read that this week Saudi Arabia made its case for a seat on the United Nations Human Rights Council and also reached a record high for openly sanctioned executions, already 208 for this year. The application failed by a narrow vote but the executions go on. All under an avowedly reformist ruling prince.

I don't know about you but I get a little kick out of reading that such and such a condemned prisoner "cheated the hangman." The sentiment probably goes back to reading "western" comics in youth. Maybe the trapdoor didn't open, or the rope broke, or the passing cowboy took dead aim and put the apparatus of death "out of service" and a galloping horse soon put the reprieved man out of reach.

The more modern, "humane", methods of official killing seem to be even more prone to malfunction. The hypodermic syringe, great tool of preventative and curative medicine in our own day, hasn't always worked so well when used to kill. When he was president Barak Obama referred to "some recent rather gruesome and clumsy executions." He was also disturbed because "We know that there are people on death row who have been freed because later on it's been proven that they were innocent." And the evidence of innocence of others was accepted too late. (Wasn't a neighbour of our own, Harry Gleeson, recently exonerated and pardoned—seventy five years after he was hanged for murder). Many do not share any such qualms about the using the law to end a life, or show much awareness that a mistake in this matter is a mistake forever. I once had some very slight acquaintance with a prison where the governor appealed to a visiting military ruler for resources to alleviate the overcrowding that was adding an extra circle to the hell he governed. The solution was immediate and final "empty the condemned cells in the manner prescribed by law." It was done.

A man who, in the parlance, cheated the hangman but didn't get time to savour his victory was the American, Gary Alvord. His appeals and consequent delays dragged on and on and before his case was finalised he died of a brain tumour thirty-nine years after being condemned to the electric chair.

On Prisoners' Sunday it is reasonable to remark that the security of the many requires that the few be locked away. At the same time it must be true that, as McVerry asserts, in many cases incarceration benefits neither the prisoner nor the great human caravan that passes by on the other side of the wall. And, a further reflection: the God who argued with Abraham about reprieves in Sodom and who spoke through Jesus in the gospels would hardly object to being called the God of Second Chances.

J.L.

November Desert Day
Remember your loved ones who are with God



Silent Retreat with Eucharist & Reconciliation
Saturday 2nd November 2024: 10.30 am to 5.00 pm

**Venue: Limerick Diocesan Centre,
St. Munchin's, Corbally, V94 925C**

Facilitated by Phyllis Moynihan RSM and Bernadette Murphy.
Please bring your own packed lunch. Tea/Coffee/Snacks provided. Donation: €20.
Booking is essential, contact Phyllis at 087 963 8893 or email: moynihanphyllis525@gmail.com

**University Maternity Hospital
Limerick**

**Annual Remembrance
Service**



We invite parents and their families who have experienced the death of their baby, or pregnancy loss at any stage, together with hospital staff to

**The Church of the Holy Rosary
Ennis Road
Limerick**

**Sunday 3rd of November 2024
At 3pm**

Every precious life forever remembered

Also will be shared for us

Anam Cara Bereavement Information Evening
in the community takes place on
Thursday 17th of October from 7pm - 8:30pm,
and is kindly hosted by **The Milford Care Centre,**
Castletroy, Limerick, V94 H795.
This is a gentle way to provide information
and support for bereaved parents .

Source: Parish Notes

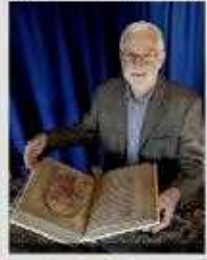
St. Augustine

Come then, Lord! Wake us up!
Call us back to you!
Set our hearts on fire and draw us to you!
Breathe your fragrance on us and let us
taste the sweetness of your presence.
Let us love you! Let us run to you!

Source: Confessions St. Augustine . A fresh
translation By Benignus O'Rourke OSA

The Book of Kells
Up close and Personal.

Enjoy a "guided tour" of the Book of Kells. A unique opportunity to explore and understand the greatest masterpiece of Ireland's Golden Age. An interactive experience in which Donnacha shares his expertise (using the Verlag Facsimile - an exact and complete copy of the manuscript).



St. Mary's CATHOLIC CHURCH
Thursday October 24th at 7.00 p.m.
Free entry. Retiring donations welcome.

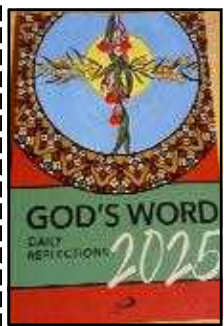
Donnacha MacGabhann MA PHD, taught art in St. John the Baptist School Hospital before embarking on his in-depth study of the Book of Kells culminating in his Doctorate on the same subject. Join us as Donnacha shares his incredible in-depth knowledge of this national treasure. Delivered in a most accessible and enlightening manner. A delightful experience awaits.

Just arrived at the Abbey Bookshop

For those of you who like to follow the readings at daily Mass and those in the ministry of Reading the Word at Mass

God's Word 2025 is now available in the Abbey Bookshop.

In this book you will find the readings for each day, response to the Psalms, reflections, and prayers.



St. Ambrose said: "We speak to God when we pray; we listen to Him when we read the Scriptures," The treasure of the Scriptures brings us closer to God, and the simple format of God's Word 2025 makes it accessible and engaging to all. Why not drop by and pick up your copy of **God's Word 2025**

**Tuesday 15th Oct Feast of St. Teresa of Avila
Virgin & Doctor of the Church**

Source Parish Notes