

St. Augustine's, Limerick

November
3rd, 2024

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Website: www.augustinianslimerick.com

Email: info@augustinianslimerick.com

Mass Times

Monday-Friday

7.30am, 8.30am,
10.15am, & 4pm

SATURDAY

8.30am, 10.15am

Mass for the Sick

3.00pm

SUNDAY

9.00am, 11.15am

& 7.30pm

CONFESSIONS

MONDAY & FRI -

DAY

10.45am-12 Noon

3.00pm-4.00pm

SATURDAY

10.45am-12noon



St. Augustine's Church

Child Safeguarding Representatives.

Fr. Flor O'Callaghan OSA.

Fr. John Lyng OSA.

Ms Geraldine van Dam

Mr. Robert Ryan

Ms Charlotte Gleeson

Mr. John Doyle



Love, Not Sacrifice

Twenty-five years ago we lived on the edge of dry and dusty city. Women worked hard there. They kept house and reared their children. They had to find water and firewood. On top of that, they also had to make an income.

One way of earning a bit of money was to cook food where they could sell to workers seeking a quick and cheap breakfast as they began their day. You'd see those women in the early morning, baby on back and load on head, as they came out of their little houses in search of a good spot to light their cooking-fire and ply their roadside trade. A bottle of cooking-oil, a couple of big yams, a few plantain or sweet potatoes, little polythene bags of pureed tomatoes and the obligatory condiments. All those along with the frying pan and a few sticks for the fire, made up a typical load.

Some had to walk miles to find a good spot where no other entrepreneur had already staked her claim. This journey was for many the hardest part of the day. Then a great gift appeared among us—the motorcycle-taxi. These machines were often battle-scared to an extreme and their drivers similarly experienced. They paid small regard to law of land or road, or self-preservation. But, for a few cents, they carried women faster, farther and easier to their chosen spot. Everyone benefitted.

Then theologians and jurists of a certain stripe took an interest. They decreed that the women trying to feed their children were acting immorally by getting on a motorbike with a man. Haram. Forbidden by God. Government took fright, supported the ban and the cruel penalties prescribed for breaking it. The women were returned to deeper hardship, the drivers had much of their income taken away. Working citizens found it much harder to get food. Everybody lost. And God was pleased, they told us. The same religious experts would probably be shocked or at best uncomfortable with the idea of today's gospel that charity is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.

It recalls to me a visit to Local Government offices looking for permission for a project that would, we hoped, benefit some and harm none. The answer was firm,

"No. It is impossible. Our bye-laws would not allow it."

That defeated me but not the man who was with me. He had spent far less time in school than I had but was well ahead of me. He appeared not to think that we had been turned down at all. He calmly addressed the official "Thank you, Sir. We are grateful. We know it is impossible. We are here to ask you what we must do to make it possible". Then the human interaction could begin.

It is said that hard cases make bad law. It is certain that bad laws make hard cases.

J.L.

Lessons in Digging

When my wife and I first moved to South Africa we employed a gardener. We became aware that there was a kind of emotionally remote relationship to gardeners, cleaners and so on. It felt different than just employer/employee. The difference was more pronounced. And it was racial. I have never heard of a white cleaner, or gardener in this part of the world, unless they owned the service and employed others.

One day, between the digging and the weeding, I asked our gardener what his interests were, or if he had studied. He said he used to have a keen interest in history. My face lit up! This was a great connection!

‘Oh! I also enjoy history!’

‘No, I hate history,’ he replied, looking toward me, ‘I don’t enjoy history at all.’

‘But why? How can you hate ‘history’?’ said Mr Stupid.

‘It made me angry. Very, very angry. So I stopped. I had to stop reading it.’

(C.S. Lewis: *Christian Reflections*)

It's not history but current news that makes many speak and feel like this today.

NOVEMBER DEAD LISTS

Forms and envelopes for your November Dead Lists are available at the back of the church. Fill out your lists and put them in the box. Special **Remembrance Masses** will be offered at 7.30am each weekday, 10.15 Saturday & 9.00am on Sundays of November.



Day of the Dead : Bouguereau (1825—1905)

Anam Cara Services Team

Online Bereavement Information Evening

Thursday 7th of November at 7pm.

Speaker: **Diane Clabby**.

People can also register via the link below.

[Register here for Anam Cara Online Bereavement Information Evening 7th November 2024](#)

Tara Brophy

Anam Cara Parental Bereavement Support CLG

Contact Numbers: Office 01 4045378
Information Line

085 2888 888 www.anamcara.ie

Friday 10 November Deadline for **Shoebox** charity contributions .

PURGATORY

2

Must we still believe

That after death

Our sins follow us

And we find ourselves

In a barren place,

Aching unbearably for God?

Or what of the farmer

We read about in our book,

Espying his son afar,

Running even in age,

To clasp him tenderly home.

Padraig J. Daly, *Afterlife*: (Dedalus Press)

From Diocesan Office

Vocations Event titled “Exploring Priesthood.”

- **Date:** November 10th
 - **Location:** Pallotine College, Thurles, Co. Tipperary
 - **Time:** 1 PM to 6 PM, including Mass
- Aimed at men approx. between the ages of 18 and 45.

Annual Mass for Religious and Priests

who have died since November 2023..

Milford church, Castletroy on Sunday Nov 10th, 2.30pm.

A cup of tea will be served after the Mass.

Phyllis Moynihan RSM

Vicar for Religious