



# St. Augustine's Church Limerick

29th December 2024

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## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

### Mass Times After Christmas



Monday 30th - Friday

3rd January

Masses:

10.15am, & 4.00pm

Saturday 4th January

Mass 10.15am

Mass of the Sick

3.00pm

Sunday 5th Jan

9.00am, 11.15am

& 7.30pm



### St. Augustine's Church Child Safeguarding Representatives.

Fr. Flor O'Callaghan O.S.A.

Fr. John Lyng O.S.A.

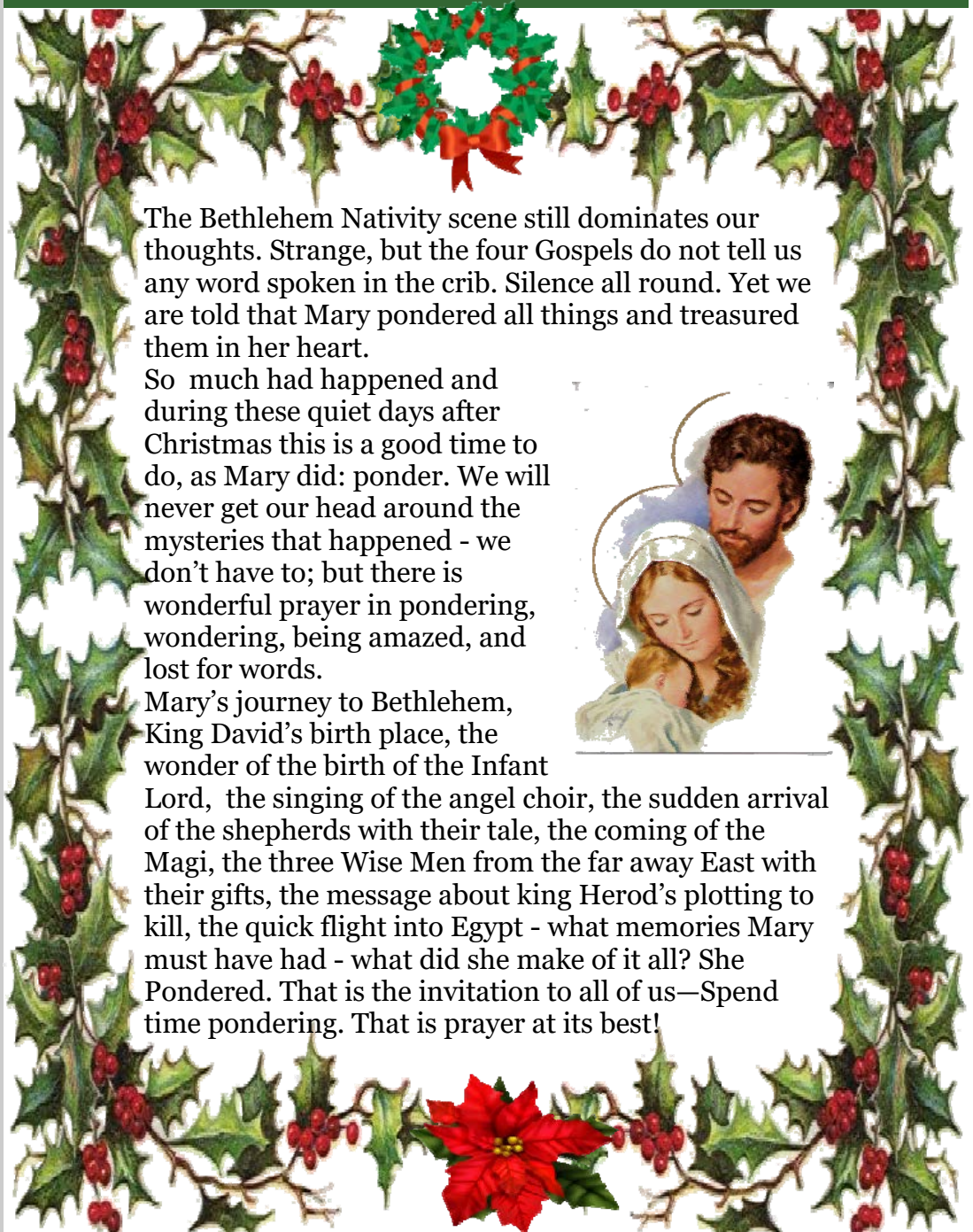
Ms Geraldine van Dam

Mr. Robert Ryan

Ms Charlotte Gleeson

Mr. John Doyle

## *Christmastide - a time of pondering mysteries!*



The Bethlehem Nativity scene still dominates our thoughts. Strange, but the four Gospels do not tell us any word spoken in the crib. Silence all round. Yet we are told that Mary pondered all things and treasured them in her heart.

So much had happened and during these quiet days after Christmas this is a good time to do, as Mary did: ponder. We will never get our head around the mysteries that happened - we don't have to; but there is wonderful prayer in pondering, wondering, being amazed, and lost for words.

Mary's journey to Bethlehem, King David's birth place, the wonder of the birth of the Infant

Lord, the singing of the angel choir, the sudden arrival of the shepherds with their tale, the coming of the Magi, the three Wise Men from the far away East with their gifts, the message about king Herod's plotting to kill, the quick flight into Egypt - what memories Mary must have had - what did she make of it all? She Pondered. That is the invitation to all of us—Spend time pondering. That is prayer at its best!



## Thought for the Day

Today we have a chance to reflect on the mystery of our own families! It really is a bit of mystery, how we mostly come out okay from this most intense and formative of experiences. We receive so much that we really want to ponder and to treasure. We can also be burdened by attitudes and traits that we might well wish we were without. Yet, through it all, we are grateful. Family is our "first love" and never really loses its importance for us.

### Prayer

Bless all our families. We thank you for the very gift of life itself we have through our parents and for all the other many gifts we receive from our families. We have received so much: help us to continue to give. Help us too to know what to overlook and forget, to pay attention to what can be healed and forgiven, and through it all to continue to love. Amen.

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

## Thank You

The Augustinian Community Limerick would like to thank our Readers of the Word, our Eucharistic Ministers, Volunteers, Shop Staff, Musicians, Choir, Floral arranger, and all those who helped prepare for Advent & Christmas, and throughout the year. Thanks also to our Priory Staff who take care of us. Not forgetting all of you who join us for daily Mass in St. Augustine's and our wider congregation who join us via the internet. Thank you for your support we are most grateful. Wishing you a very blessed and safe New Holy Year.

## Peace on Earth

Happy New Year  
From the Augustinian Community

## Twelve Cribs of Christmas

For those of you who may wish to use the days over the New Year to visit some of the Cribs of Limerick, each stop has a focal point and a specific prayer. You will find the programme and prayers for each stop on the notice board at the back of the church. Taking a picture on your phone of the programme might be of help. Before you start out please check online as to opening times.

Emmanuel God-with-us, come to each one of us, and stay with us always.....  
And let us be Emmanuel, God-with-us, to one another  
over these days and into the New Year. Amen



**Let your Light Shine**

Lord, the light I choose to let into my life today  
is based on my hope in you.  
It is a small flame,  
but I believe that it can dispel  
a bit more darkness today.  
For it is through us  
that Christ's light will shine  
in the midst of the struggles  
and cares of the world.