



# St. Augustine's Church Limerick 6th April 2025 5th Sunday of Lent

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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

## It's Hard to Judge

A recent item in a London newspaper reported, "A judge was punched several times in the face yesterday during an attack in his courtroom. High Court judge, Christopher Pitchford, 55, was left clutching his face after an attack by an as yet unnamed man. He suffered bruising after being hit on the bridge of his nose, left eye and forehead. The man, apparently angry after the judge rejected his case, lunged forward at the Royal Courts of Justice in Central London and ....."

The report goes on to add "The judge and his wife have two sons and live on a farm in South Wales. He cites fishing as one of his main hobbies." What light this latter intelligence is meant to throw on the incident is not clear.

Now, at times some of us might think, or in safe privacy we might even say, that such and such a judge might benefit from a good punch on the nose. But we wouldn't even dream of administering this educational measure ourselves; we know that courtroom etiquette makes no provision for it. It's not done and sound principles of justice underpin the protocol.

Today's gospel tells us Jesus was teaching in the Temple when not only a judge but a whole High Court of scribes, Pharisees and their acolytes turned up. There were judges and jury, prosecutors and police along with a squad of willing would-be executioners. The woman they were dragging along had, they explained, been tried, found guilty and condemned to die. They pointed out that the sentence, stoning to death, was mandatory, laid down by Moses himself. It was then that Jesus administered the punch to the collective nose of judges, jury and executioners:

*If there is one of you without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone.*

Suddenly they became conscious of the glass houses from which they had emerged to stand on high ground and throw stones at a moral inferior. It was as if someone whispered in their ears:

*I know your secret. Do you want to hang around and we'll discuss it in public?* Immediately they all remembered that they had pressing engagements elsewhere and scooted away without even taking time to say "I must be off." First to go was the eldest. He was probably, so to say, the most experienced.

The gospels have other similar instances where Jesus pins his colours to the mast of mercy: the big debtor strangling the small debtor; the Pharisee in the Temple belittling the publican, and many more.

After all that it is only fair to recall too that Jesus before parting had something to say to the newly-reprieved. His advice would in our own day give a title to a popular little Irish TV series: *Give Up Yer Aul Sins.* 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





## Jubilee Year 2025 'Pilgrims of Hope'

### Reflection

What is hope?

Hope is not simply optimism. It is the strength that comes from God. It instils a confidence in us that no matter what happens in life, God is looking after us. And is working for our good. We can move forward into the future trusting in God's providence. Source: Excerpt from -Lenten message from Bishop Brendan Leahy

## Palm Sunday 13th April



Holy Week begins next Sunday, Palm Sunday when we are invited to join the solemn procession before Mass with blessed Palms as we commemorate Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. These palms should be taken home where they will serve as a reminder of the victory of Christ which was celebrated in the procession.

## St. Augustine's Church Holy Week Ceremonies



No morning Masses on Holy Thursday Good Friday & Holy Saturday

**Holy Thursday 17th April** Mass of the Lord's Supper 4.00pm

**Good Friday 18th April** Stations of the Cross at 12 noon  
The Passion of our Lord 4.00pm

**Holy Saturday 19th March**— Easter Vigil 9.00pm

**Easter Sunday 20th April**—Masses: 9.00am & 11.15am- No evening Mass

### Confessions - Holy Week

Monday 14th — Wednesday 16th  
10.45am-12.00 noon & 3.00pm—4.00pm

Thursday 17th — Saturday 19th  
10.00am –1.00pm & 2.00pm- 4.00pm

### 'Let Dandelions Bee'

One of the best actions you can take to help pollinators is reduce mowing. This helps local, native wildflowers emerge naturally over time. In March, Dandelions begin blooming. Research shows they are the most important source of nectar and pollen for pollinators on the island of Ireland, so 'Let Dandelions Bee'!



Source: Parish Notes

The IICS is delighted to invite you to an illustrated presentation  
'Praying the Passion in Looking at Art'  
By Dr Nora Donnelly  
Venue: Mary Immaculate College Chapel  
Date: Monday, 7 April 2025  
Time: 1.00 pm

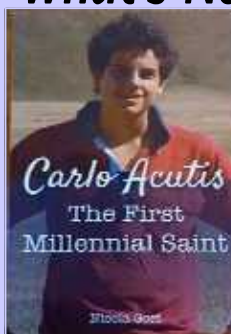
All Welcome!



### Lunchtime Concerts St. Mary's Cathedral Tuesday 8th April at 1.15pm

Catherine O'Carroll (soprano)  
and Irina Dernova (piano)  
Music by Schubert, Faure, Bizet,  
Hughes, Sanderson and Saint-Saens  
Concert is Free (Retiring Collection)

### What's New at Abbey Bookshop



The Tears of Things  
By Richard Rohr  
Prophetic Wisdom for  
and Age of Outrage

Carlos Acutis  
The First Millennium  
Saint  
By Nicola Gori

