



He
is
Risen



St. Augustine's Church Limerick 20th April 2025 Easter Day of the Lord's Resurrection

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Life after Life

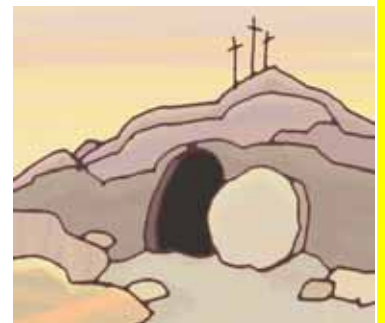
You can get any kind of coffin you want. Oak, Ash, Walnut—white and black, Mahogany or any of a hundred others, an advertiser tells me. An impressive catalogue stretching from the heaviest casket to the lightest basket. My own preference would be for the Ailesbury, *handcrafted by Italian Master Craftsmen from finest solid Cherry, finished with a satin lacquer, with solid brass handles and an exclusive Italian interior.* Sounds like an Ideal Homes Exhibition.

Peoples have various ways of dealing with death and of softening the blow with rituals of hope and continuity. One of the first funerals I had to deal with featured the local version of the Ailesbury. A man of substance died and had to be buried clad in the skins of three of his cows. Consequently the beasts outlived him only by a couple of hours. His outfit would presumably assure the residents on the other side that he whom they now welcomed into their company was no mere owner of a few poor sheep or goats and an ass. The meat, transferred from skins to cauldrons to be cooked for mourners clearly not off their grub for grief at the funeral.

The grave looked ordinary enough up, or down, to a point. At that point the diggers proceeded with a much smaller, circular hole in the middle of the larger. Then the design took another twist as they began to tunnel in all directions outward from the bottom of the smaller excavation. Careful as archaeologists' curates, they teased earth from the lower level until that chamber was the largest of all. Into this the blacksmith unreal ministers shoe-horned the hidebound corpse and sealed off the smaller entrance with sticks so that the minor spirits could circulate protectively around our man. Thus cocooned and holy-watered he began his journey to the Great Spirit's court where his ancestors already happily served. Only then was the earth shovelled back into the grave. All the while, unlike the funeral scene of Sir John Moore, drums were heard beating out messages to worlds near and far.

The burial of Jesus was an altogether simpler affair but the explosion of hope was not to be too long delayed. Body had to be moved or the Sabbath would be offended. Nicodemus, maybe after standing back when the going got tough, now showed his respect by doing what had to be done. A nearby tomb was borrowed. The one who had commanded at the grave of Lazarus "Unbind him and set him free" was now bound in a winding-sheet and entombed, secured by an "immovable" stone. What they thought were his last hours saw mockery heaped on pain. But they didn't know that the last laugh was still to come, and soon. Alleluia.

J.L.





Jubilee Year 2025



Share a Word of Hope

St. Peter says that we should always be ready to "give account of the hope within us to others" (1 Pet 3:15). Certainly, we need to know how to defend and explain our faith. But it is also good simply to share our experiences of faith with one another. That's why small Christian communities of faith are so important. I would love to see such small communities grow in our diocese. Fr. Mícheál Liston who began the Muintearas Iosa community in Limerick often makes the point that we should share and articulate to one another our experiences of faith. Not to show off or out of pride but to build each other up in faith and hope and love.

Recently, in a message to journalists, Pope Francis urged those who work in media and communications to "tell stories steeped in hope". Narrative 4, an initiative based in Limerick, encourages people to share their stories to build empathy and create a better world.

Source: Excerpt from -Lenten message from Bishop Brendan Leahy

Trocaire Boxes

You can now return your Trocaire Boxes

Drop them into the shop or Pastoral Office Thank You.

Mass Times after Easter

Mon 21st -Friday 25th
10.15am & 4.00pm

Saturday 26th April
10.15am

Mass of the Sick
3.00pm

Sunday 27th April
9.00am, 11.15am & 7.30pm

Confessions Resume
Monday 28th April



An Easter People

The glorious spring days of recent weeks have been warming the earth into life. Everywhere seeds and bulbs have awakened from their Winter sleep. Shrubs and plants are putting out green shoots and tender leaves. Easter is late this year. The daffodils and cherry blossoms have come and gone. Tulips, primroses and bluebells have replaced them. Those who are in tune with nature pick up the strong hints of resurrection around them. With a perfect sense of timing creation and resurrection come together in one great act of birth and rebirth.

Divine Mercy Sunday
Sunday 27th April

Redemptorist Church Limerick
Mount St. Alphonsus

Divine Mercy Devotions

Starting 2.30pm - Mass at 4.45pm

EASTER BLESSINGS & THANK YOU

A word of thanks and appreciation to all those who helped us to prepare for Holy Week and Easter, those who exercised the various ministries and those who participated in the ceremonies.

May Easter Joy and the hope of the Risen Christ touch all your lives today and always!

From the Augustinian Community.

International Musical Exchange Concert

Redemptorist Church
Friday 25th April 8pm

Marblehead High School
Orchestra USA & Laurel Hill
Colaiste Choir.

Clare Garden Festival



Sunday, 27th April from 11am
Ennis Showgrounds Co. Clare