



St. Joseph's Church
O'Connell Avenue, Limerick
Church Notices 7th January 2024

First Week in Ordinary Time

Mass Times and Intentions

Day	Time	Name
Sun. Jan. 7 th	10.30am	Michael Galvin (anniversary); Denis Broderick (1 st anniversary) & Mary Ahern (anniversary); Liam Maher (21 st anniversary)
	12.30pm	Mary & Michael Meskell; Gladys Frawley (anniversary); Andrew Hickey 17 th anniversary); Cecila Gleeson (3 rd anniversary); Marie McGill (8 th anniversary); Anne McNamara & all deceased members of the McNamara family & also remembering her brother Ben & sister Angela Keogh (both living)
	5.30pm	Bill & Mary Murphy (anniversaries); Eileen Sheridan (18 th anniversary); Paddy Reid (8 th anniversary. late of Swanson Tce. O'Connell Ave.
Mon. Jan. 8 th	10.30am	James Hayes; Special Intention
Tue. Jan. 9 th	10.30am	Intentions of clergy
Wed. Jan. 10 th	10.30am	pro populo
Thur. Jan. 11 th	10.30am	Joan Gleeson (anniversary); Agnes Cronin (13 th anniversary falls today)
Fri. Jan. 12 th	10.30am	Frank Cahill (anniversary), Donal & Frank (jnr.), & David Walsh
Sat. Jan. 13 th	10.30am	Intentions of clergy
Sun. Jan. 14 th	10.30am	Ted McCarthy (av.); Nancy Gaynor (birthday remembrance); Joseph (24 th av.) & George (13 th av.) Walsh
	12.30pm	Agnes Cronin, Emmet Place (13 th av.); Gretta Casey (8 th av.); John O'Hagan (28 th av.); Kevin & Marie O'Donohue (av's.); John Conway (av.), Harry Conway (2 nd av.), & Sarah & John Conway
	5.30pm	Anne O'Gorman (2 nd av.), Birdie & Louis Cremin, & Mark Leach

RECENTLY DECEASED

We extend our sympathy to their families and pray for the repose of the souls of ► **Therese Gaule (nee Wallace)**, St. Nessan's Road, Dooradoyle, whose Requiem Mass was celebrated here last Thursday January 4th. ► **Frances Carmel Egan Keshvadian**, O'Connell Avenue, whose Requiem Mass was celebrated here last Friday January 5th. ► **Frances Mallen (née Neville)**, Bourke Avenue whose Requiem Mass was celebrated here yesterday, Saturday, January 6th. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen

EACH OF US IS AN INNKEEPER WHO DECIDES IF THERE IS ROOM FOR JESUS.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The Baptism of the Lord (7th January 2024): The sacrament of Reconciliation, or Confession, for me is a humbling experience. I simply have to recognise that I have faults. I have fault lines that run through me causing things to happen that I'd prefer not to happen. The sacrament is basically me handing all these matters over to God and asking for his grace as I live with my faults. The only good thing about them is that they throw me back on God's love. *'The sacraments are all to do with the physical celebrations by which divine life penetrates our human histories.'* (James Alison, Knowing Jesus)

Alan Hilliard, Dipping Into Life (Messenger Publications)

<https://www.veritasbooksonline.com/30126/intercom-thought-for-the-day/>

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

The Baptism of the Lord

► The baptism of Jesus was an extraordinary religious experience for him. Something happened that was a major step forward for Jesus in coming to know that he was the beloved Son of God. We all have events in our lives that are milestones along the road of discovering who we are. What have been these milestones for you?

► 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.' Bring to mind experiences in which you knew you were the beloved (of God or of another person) and that the one who loved you was well pleased. Remember these experiences with gratitude, knowing that the only proper response to love received is thankfulness. Perhaps you have also given that experience to another.

► It is easy to lament the growing secularisation in the world today, but the Spirit of God who spoke loudly to the world in the Christ-event is active today. How can we be open to the new things the Spirit is saying to the church today?

► John gives an example of humility as a person confident in his own role but not seeking to claim to be more than he is. He acknowledges that Jesus is greater. There is a freedom in being able to acknowledge the gifts of others without losing a sense of one's own giftedness. Recall times when you were able to do this.

John Byrne OSA | Email jbyrneosa@gmail.com | <https://www.veritasbooksonline.com/21012/intercom-lens-of-the-gospel/>

POPE FRANCIS ON TWITTER

Jan 5: The world expects believers to offer new enthusiasm for the things of Heaven. Like the Magi, let us lift up our eyes, listen to the desire of our hearts, and follow the star that God makes shine above us. As restless seekers, let us remain open to God's surprises.

Jan 4: Observe the hiddenness and littleness of Jesus in the grotto. Look to the simplicity of the Nativity Scene, and know that goodness, even when hidden and invisible, grows in silence, multiplies in unexpected ways, and spreads the fragrance of joy.



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Contact Details:	Fr. Liam Enright	087-7415603
Parish Clerk & Sacristan:	Úna McCarthy	(061)313401
Office times:	Thursday to Monday	10am to 1pm
Email:	stjosephsparishlk@eircom.net	Website: stjosephsparish.ie

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