



**St. Joseph's Church**  
**O'Connell Avenue, Limerick**  
**Church Notices, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Sixth Week of Easter**

**Mass Times and Intentions**

Day	Time	Name
Sun. May 5 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Catherine, William & Bernadette Fannon (anniv's.)
	12.30pm	Joan Savage, Marie Fitzpatrick & Noel Naughton
	5.30pm	Brosnahan family
Mon. May 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Deceased members of Kavanagh & Peacock families
Tue. May 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Bridget Moynihan
Wed. May 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Jim Cleine (anniversary); Philomena Gleeson & also remembering John Broadhurst who died in November; Cyril Patrick McMahon (Snr.); Cyril Vincent McMahon; Pepa Jiminez (health intentions)
Thur. May 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Noel Breen who died recently
Fri. May 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mary Quirke (4 <sup>th</sup> anniversary)
Sat. May 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Mary Molloy (23 <sup>rd</sup> anniversary)
Sun. May 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Bernadette Ronan (3 <sup>rd</sup> anniversary)
	12.30pm	Susan Cleary (12 <sup>th</sup> anniversary), Garry Geary, Verette O'Doherty (1 <sup>st</sup> anniversary), Jack Geary & Nina Collery; John Crowley (3 <sup>rd</sup> anniversary); Donal McCormack (month's mind)
	5.30pm	Daniel McCormack (month's mind); Brendan Clinton (7 <sup>th</sup> anniversary on 9 <sup>th</sup> May) & Phyllis Clinton (17 <sup>th</sup> anniversary on 19 <sup>th</sup> May)

**RECENTLY BAPTISED**

We welcome into our Christian Community baby twins **Tom Matthew Ward**, son, and **Siún Brigid Ward**, daughter, of Jean and Seán, and baby **Éva Rachel Kavanagh**, daughter of Nathalie and Jonathan. We pray that the Holy Family watch over and guide them and all of those whom we welcome into this Christian community.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

Όέλαναιμιτο κομηγχαίρωελχας αζυς βεανναχτράι οος να πάίσιτí α ζηλας α ζCέλο Chomαιμεελχ ανseo le οέλναι. We offer our congratulations and blessings to the children who received their first Holy Communion here recently; to the pupils from **An Mhódh Scoil** were here on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April, those from **Scoil Mháthair Dé** on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, and from the **REFD** (Religious Education and Faith Development) **group** yesterday, Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May.

**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS MAY 2024**

**For The Formation Of Men And Women Religious And Seminarians:** Let us pray that men and women religious and seminarians, grow in their own vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, that leads them to be credible witnesses of the Gospel.

**MAY THE MONTH OF MARY**

May is the month when Catholics traditionally focus on Mary, the Mother of Jesus. The practice dates back at least 700 years and is still observed around the world today. May is seen as the beginning of new life and the start of summer, which makes this a logical time for the celebrations of Mary, who brought life into the world.

This month of devotions in the church calendar is characterised by special hymns and the use of flowers, which bring nature into the church. There are several Marian feast days in May, including Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament and Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The celebration of May as a holy month for Mary has been ratified by several popes through the ages.

The May Crowning Perhaps the most well-known of the May Marian devotions is the crowning of a statue of Mary with flowers. This became particularly popular in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, with a procession of school-age boys and girls dressed in their finery, following the statue in a procession. In this ceremony, the statue is decorated at its base with flowers and one of the girls would be chosen to crown Mary with flowers. The nineteenth century hymn 'Bring Flowers of the Rarest' is a traditional accompaniment to this ceremony. Its lyrics, 'O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today, Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May,' sum up what the celebrations are all about. This practice is echoed on a smaller scale throughout the Catholic world with families decorating a statue or picture of the Virgin Mary in their own homes. Marian Shrines Marian shrines also receive particular attention during this special month and, again, are decorated with flowers. Pilgrims sometimes undertake a journey to reach a particular shrine, praying the rosary along the way. The lady chapel of a church or cathedral is often also decorated with flowers during May. Mary is not worshipped in the way that Catholics worship God. She is honoured as the mother of Jesus and as a woman free from sin. Devotions to Mary are an integral part of Catholic life

Extracted from: <https://www.st-monicas.enfield.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Year-5-May-the-Month-of-Mary.pdf>

**POPE FRANCIS ON X**

**May 4:** A gesture of love for someone who cannot reciprocate: this is to imitate God's selfless style.

**May 3:** #PressFreedom is essential for developing a sound critical sense and for learning to distinguish truth from falsehood. It helps us work for justice, peace, and respect for Creation while shunning ideologies. #WPFDF

**May 2:** During this month of May, may we entrust to the Blessed Virgin Mary our personal and family matters, as well as the suffering of those who fall victim to war. Let us #PrayTogether for the Church, all nations, and for peace in Ukraine and the Middle East.

**DIOCESAN FACEBOOK PAGE**

Courage doesn't mean you don't get afraid. Courage means you don't let fear stop you. —Bethany Hamilton

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