



**St. Joseph's Church**  
**O'Connell Avenue, Limerick**  
**Church Notices, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**The Baptism of the Lord and the First Week of Ordinary Time**  
**Mass Times and Intentions**

Day	Time	Name
Sun. Jan. 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Ted McCarthy (anniversary); Nancy Gaynor (94 <sup>th</sup> birthday remembrance); Lily O'Callaghan & John Enright Joseph Walsh (25 <sup>th</sup> av.) & George Walsh (14 <sup>th</sup> av.)
	12.30pm	Noel Quirke (1 <sup>st</sup> anniversary); Agnes Cronin (14 <sup>th</sup> anniversary); Celia Gleeson (4 <sup>th</sup> anniversary); Gladys Frawley; Frank & Rose Cahill, Donal, Frank & Rita Cahill
Mon. Jan. 13 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Purgatorial
Tue. Jan. 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	J J Fitzpatrick; Hugh O'Brien
Wed. Jan. 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Intentions of clergy
Thur. Jan. 16 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Intentions of clergy
Fri. Jan. 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Intentions of clergy
Sat. Jan. 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Intentions of clergy
Sun. Jan. 19 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	John & Sarah Conway, John Conway & Harry Conway (anniversaries); Liam & Nellie MacNamara (anniversaries)
	12.30pm	Gretta Casey (9 <sup>th</sup> anniversary); John Lyons (1 <sup>st</sup> anniversary); James Byrne (anniversary); Margaret & Billy Hoare (anniversaries); John O'Hagan (29 <sup>th</sup> anniversary); Vincent Lynch (40 <sup>th</sup> av.) & Marion Lynch (2 <sup>nd</sup> av.)

**RECENTLY DECEASED**

We extend our sympathy to their families, and pray for the repose of the souls of **Paul McDonogh**, Russell Court, Fr Russell Road, whose Requiem Mass was celebrated here last Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January and **Patsy Collopy**, Lower Carey's Road, Limerick and formerly of Janesboro, whose Requiem Mass was celebrated here yesterday, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

**WRITER'S COURSE**

A Local Writer's Course for all levels will be starting on next Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January and will run for six weeks from 8 to 10pm each week. The In-person course will deal with the writing of both poems and stories, and refreshments served at each session. For information **Phone Martin at 087 6007100** (Caherdavin Community Centre)

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is a liturgical bridge that connects the Christmas season to Ordinary Time. During the Christmas season we pondered the Incarnation, Nativity, Presentation in the Temple, and Epiphany. Today, we see Jesus manifesting Himself to the world as He began His three years of public ministry.

John the Baptist had been preaching in the desert and offering a baptism of repentance, a sign of one's willingness to turn away from sin and turn toward God. Jesus, of course, was sinless in every way, but he chose to receive the baptism of repentance to unite Himself with fallen humanity. Out of love for us, he took upon Himself our own sins and would suffer their consequences.

By bowing His sacred head to receive the baptism of repentance, Jesus united Himself and His divinity to everyone who had already chosen to repent. And He gave power to every forthcoming act of repentance others would make, even until today. When we repent today, we meet Jesus in that same water of repentance.

It was not only the Eternal Son who was present at that baptism of repentance, but the Father and the Holy Spirit as well. The Spirit descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove, and the Father's Voice spoke to acknowledge His oneness with His Son. Therefore, every time we make a humble act of repentance, such as when we combine the crucifixion, the Trinity, and holy water upon entering a church and blessing ourselves, we not only meet our Lord but also receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and share more fully in our adoption as sons and daughters of the Father in Heaven. As we commemorate Jesus' baptism, we celebrate the fact that our Christian baptism was the beginning of a new unity with the Holy Trinity. We also celebrate our oneness with God, which is renewed every time we make an interior act of repentance for our sins. Every time we acknowledge and repent of our sin, we meet Christ anew, receive a greater outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and affirm and deepen our adoption by the Father in Heaven.

**Prayer:** *Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, You came to me in my baptism and united me in my fallenness with You in Your divinity. I pray that I will never grow weary of repenting of my sin. I beg for Your mercy and forgiveness and open myself more fully to You, Your Father, and the Holy Spirit. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, I trust in You.*

Taken from: <https://mycatholic.life/saints/saints-of-the-liturgical-year/baptism-of-the-lord-feast/>

**POPE FRANCIS ON X**

**Jan 11:** The Holy Year is an opportunity to change our life, re-evaluate our thinking, and start anew by learning from Jesus and placing our hope in God. This is the meaning of the Jubilee pilgrimage. #JubileeAudience

**Jan 10:** Unity is the fruit of #Prayer, for prayer allows the Holy Spirit to intervene, open our hearts to hope, shorten distances, and hold us together in difficult times.

**Jan 9:** A diplomacy of hope is, in the end, a diplomacy of justice, without which there can be no peace. The Jubilee year is a favourable time to practice justice, forgive debts, and commute the sentences of prisoners.



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