



St. Joseph's Church
O'Connell Avenue, Limerick
Church Notices, Sunday 26th January 2025

Third Week in Ordinary Time **Mass Times and Intentions**

Day	Time	Name
Sun. Jan. 26 th	10.30am	Intentions of clergy
	12.30pm	John King (1 st anniversary); Mary Kelleher (4 th anniversary); Paul Manching Tsang (2 nd anniversary); David Hogan & Úna Hogan
Mon. Jan. 27 th	10.30am	Purgatorial
Tue. Jan. 28 th	10.30am	Albert, Mai, Bryan & Dermot Walsh; Maura O'Regan (birthday remembrance); Deceased members of Hayes & McElligott family
Wed. Jan. 29 th	10.30am	Intentions of clergy
Thur. Jan. 30 th	10.30am	Deceased members of the Kavanagh & Peacock families
Fri. Jan. 31 st	10.30am	Intentions of clergy
Sat. Feb. 1 st	10.30am	Deceased members of the McGregor & Dobbin families
Sun. Feb. 2 nd	10.30am	Tess Gloster (10 th anniversary); Michael Holmes (4 th av.) & Eilis Cunningham (av.); Breege Cosgrove (1 st anniversary)
	12.30pm	Marie McGrath (1 st anniversary)

RECENTLY DECEASED

We extend our sympathy to her family, and pray for the repose of the soul of **Rita Curtin (née McNamara)**, Upper Carey's Road whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated here next Tuesday 28th January at 11.30am. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time • 26 January 2025 • Sunday of the Word of God

The branches of growing trees not only reach higher, but their roots grow deeper. It's impossible for a strong tree to have high branches without having deep roots. It would become top-heavy and topple over in the wind.' The same is true with Christians. It's impossible for us to grow in the Lord without entwining our roots around His Word and deepening our life in His commands.' – *Joni Eraeckson Tada*

I've experienced His presence in the deepest hell that man can create. ... I have tested the promises of the Bible, and believe me, you can count on them. — *Corrie ten Boom*

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

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

The Missionaries of the Sacred Heart are organising a pilgrimage to Lourdes from 25th to 30th May 2025 (leaving from Cork).

For more details please ring Mary at 021 454 6691 or email mary.morrish@mscmissions.ie

God's Love Shines Brighter than any Darkness

POINTS TO PONDER

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time • 26 January 2025 • Sunday of the Word of God

Many organisations have a mission statement. A mission statement could be said to have a two-fold purpose. One purpose is to state clearly to those outside the organisation what is the primary aim of the organisation, its significant values, its vision for the future. Another purpose is more internal, to help those within the organisation to stay focused and to live by the values that the statement proclaims. As we know, it is one thing having a mission statement and another matter to live by it. In the opening paragraph of our gospel reading this morning, we find Luke the evangelist's own brief mission statement. He declares to Theophilus, probably Luke's patron, why he is writing his gospel. Luke's mission in writing his gospel is to give people greater assurance about the faith in which they have been instructed. He is going to tell the story of Jesus in such a way that he will be able to confirm believers in their faith. That is what the gospel of Luke has been doing since it was written about fifty years after the death and resurrection of Jesus. It is many people's favourite gospel. If we did not have the gospel of Luke, we would not have such memorable parables of Jesus as the good Samaritan, the prodigal son, the rich man and Lazarus. We would not have the story of Jesus in the home of Mary and Martha or the story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. Our faith would certainly be the poorer without Luke's gospel. Luke did what he said he would do in his mission statement.

Fr Martin Hogan, Curate in the parishes of Finglas, Finglas West and Rivermount

<https://www.veritasbooksonline.com/32301/intercom-points-to-ponder/>

POPE FRANCIS ON X

Jan 25: I appeal to communicators around the world to tell stories of hope. Let your storytelling be #HopeTelling. Seek out the hidden crumbs of good, even when all seems lost, and allow people to hope against all hope.

Jan 25: In this Jubilee for the World of #Communication, I call for the release of all journalists unjustly imprisoned. Freedom of the press strengthens the freedom of us all. Their freedom means freedom for everyone.

Jan 25: I want to thank all #Communication professionals who risk their lives to seek the truth and expose the horrors of war. Let us #PrayTogether for those who have lost their lives over the past year, one of the deadliest for journalists.

Jan 24: I dream of a #Communication that does not peddle illusions or fears, but is able to give reasons for our hope.

Jan 24: I dream of a #Communication that can help us recognize the dignity of each human being and work together to care for our common home.

When you go through deep waters, I will be with you.
 [Isaiah 43.2]

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