



**St. Joseph's Church**  
**O'Connell Avenue, Limerick**  
**Church Notices, Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**First Week of Lent**

**Mass Times and Intentions**

Day	Time	Name
Sun. Mar. 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Intentions of Clergy
	12.30pm	Denis Bugler (9 <sup>th</sup> anniversary); Shannon O'Halloran (2 <sup>nd</sup> anniversary); Joe Roche (8 <sup>th</sup> anniversary); Joe Byrne (29 <sup>th</sup> av.), Joan Berkery (26 <sup>th</sup> av.), Rita O'Shea (5 <sup>th</sup> av.) & Aidan Byrne (1 <sup>st</sup> av.); Cora de Freitas (2 <sup>nd</sup> anniversary); Marie Cowhey (3 <sup>rd</sup> anniversary)
Mon. Mar. 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Purgatorial Michael Costelloe (45 <sup>th</sup> av.) & his wife Nora
Tue. Mar. 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Deceased members of Kavanagh & Peacock families
Wed. Mar. 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Paddy, Mary & Jer Hannon (anniversaries)
Thur. Mar. 13 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Deceased members of McGreggor & Dobbin families
Fri. Mar. 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Thomas Boyce (anniversary)
Sat. Mar. 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Gould Geary (month's mind)
	10.30am	Alice Hynes (2 <sup>nd</sup> anniversary)
Sun. Mar. 16 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Kathleen Brosnahan (birthday remembrance)
	12.30pm	Frank Harkins (month's mind)

**THOMISTIC INSTITUTE TALK**

The Thomistic Institute in Limerick presents:

***Suffering and the Narrative of Redemption: Why God Allows us to Suffer***

a lecture by Sr Jane Dominic Laurel O.P. Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia, Nashville on tomorrow, Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> March at 7:00pm in St Saviour's Parish Hall Limerick V94 X2AA This lecture is free and open to the public. Register online at [www.thomisticinstitute.org](http://www.thomisticinstitute.org) **The Thomistic Institute** exists to promote Catholic truth in our contemporary world by strengthening the intellectual formation of Christians at universities, in the Church, and in the wider public square. The thought of St. Thomas Aquinas, the Universal Doctor of the Church, is the institute's touchstone.

**MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND**

The Marriage Enrichment weekend is for any married couple (who have received the Sacrament of Matrimony) who love each other and are open to the possibility of growth in their marriage: Restore, Renew, Rekindle

This residential Catholic Marriage Encounter Weekend, will be held at Knock in Co. Mayo, running from 7.30pm on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March to 4.30pm on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March after closing Mass. The organisers request a non-refundable deposit of €100 per couple (towards the cost of the venue). The cost for each couple will be approximately €450 (including the booking deposit of €100).

Please use the booking form at <https://www.marriageencounter.ie/marriage-encounter-weekend> to register your interest and you will be contacted via email.

**REFLECTION FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

As we celebrate the first Sunday of Lent, we are called to invite Jesus into the deserts of our lives. We call out to God for refreshment and renewal. Lent is a time to do our 'Spiritual Spring cleaning,' a period of introspection and repentance, where we cleanse our hearts and minds of spiritual clutter. It is a time to be renewed and strengthened through faith.

During these forty days, we make an intentional journey deep within ourselves. We ask for guidance as we search for our most authentic selves. God knows us and loves us even in our struggles. He knows our problems, our fears, and our dreams. Now is the time to turn back to God with all our hearts, knowing that He is always there for us, ready to guide us. It is in the deserts of our lives where we are tempted and struggle the most. St. Luke's gospel tells us that Jesus is led into the desert to be tempted by Satan after his baptism by John the Baptist. The Spirit of God was present as reinforcement so that he could resist the temptations in his life. ►Lent is not just another attempt at our New Year's resolution. The idea most of us were given about Lent is that it is a time to 'give up' something. On the contrary, Lent is a time of 'DOING' something to change our lives and the world around us. This could mean volunteering at a local charity, reaching out to someone in need, or making a conscious effort to be more forgiving and understanding. May we find the strength we need to turn back to the Lord through our Fasting, Prayer, and Almsgiving. ►Our FAST is not just fasting from food but fasting from jealousy, anger, hatred, and all the other attitudes in our lives that keep us from truly loving God and our neighbours. It is easier to fast from food when we have an abundance of food. Yet, it is harder to change our attitudes about people around us. PENANCE is our willingness to change and be changed by God's spirit alive in us. Penance is not just saying prayers but living a prayer life in all we do. ALMSGIVING is our awareness of the needs of others who search for life, love, and help in their times of need. ►During the Mass, Lent is referred to as 'this joyful season.' In the past, we often viewed Lent as a sad or gloomy time of the year. However, it is a time of joy when we can rediscover ourselves and turn back to God. In a world filled with sadness and gloom, Lent offers us a time of joy! We must ask ourselves, what are some of Lent's joyful aspects? Have you come to see Lent as a time of joy rather than a sombre time? Let's rejoice in his holy name every time we consider what the Lord has done for us and how he has brought us through so many things.

Extracted from <https://spirants.org/news/reflection-for-the-1st-sunday-of-lent-march-9-2025>

**PARISH CENTRE: ST PATRICK'S DAY FUNDRAISER**

As usual (by now one could probably say traditionally) Saint Joseph's Parish Centre will be open from 11am on St. Patrick's Day. Call in for some sustenance and nourishment to keep you going during the parade; snacks, tea, coffee and minerals will all be available.

Any 'profit' will go towards the operation and maintenance of the Parish Centre.

**"Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord."**  
 —Psalm 27:14

<b>Contact Details:</b>	<b>Fr. Liam Enright</b>	<b>087-7415603</b>
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<b>Office times:</b>	<b>Thursday to Monday</b>	<b>10am to 1pm</b>
<b>Email:</b>	<b>stjosephsparishlk@eircom.net</b>	<b>Website: stjosephsparish.ie</b>



*Simply scan with your camera phone and donate to St. Joseph's Thank You*