



St. Joseph's Church

O'Connell Avenue, Limerick

Church Notices, Sunday 6th April 2025

Fifth Week of Lent

Mass Times and Intentions

Day	Time	Name
Sun. Apr. 6 th	10.30am	Intention of Clergy
	12.30pm	Deceased members of Royal British Legion, Limerick; Daniel McCormack (1 st anniversary)
Mon. Apr. 7 th	10.30am	Bridget Power (anniversary) & remembering her husband Patrick Power
Tue. Apr. 8 th	10.30am	Intention of Clergy
Wed. Apr. 9 th	10.30am	Intention of Clergy
Thur. Apr. 10 th	10.30am	Nora Costelloe (28 th anniversary) & her husband Michael
Fri. Apr. 11 th	10.30am	Intention of Clergy
Sat. Apr. 12 th	10.30am	Pauline Cassidy (10 th anniversary)
Sun. Apr. 13 th	10.30am	Mary Kelly (10 th anniversary); Peggy & Phil Naughton
	12.30pm	Intention of Clergy

Cómeardú / CONFIRMATION

Ὡεαναιμιτο κομηζαιρθεαχας αζυς βεανναχταί τοος να πάιστí ὄν Μhódh Scoil a bhí an cómeardú acu Ὡé hΔoime seo caite 4^ú Δiubreán.

We offer our congratulations and blessings to the children of an Mhódh Scoil who received the Sacrament of Confirmation here on Friday last, 4th April.

RECENTLY DECEASED

We extend our sympathy to their families, and pray for the repose of the souls of **Philomena (Phil) O'Donnell (née O'Donoghue)**, High Meadows, Gouldavoher Estate, whose Requiem Mass was celebrated here yesterday, Saturday, April 5th and **Theresa Hanrahan (née O'Kelly)** Lifford Gardens, whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated here next Tuesday, April 8th at 11:30am.. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

REFLECTIONS ON THE EASTER TRIDUUM WITH THE WOMEN OF SCRIPTURE

With Dr Grainne Doherty from 11th to 13th April (Friday evening to Sunday lunchtime)

During this last weekend of Lent, we are invited to prayerfully reflect on the Easter Story by journeying with the women of the gospels. Through input, guided discussion, prayer and ritual, we will explore the stories of the Easter women and reflect on how they might speak to our lives today. Cost: €255 residential; €140 non-residential

Dr Grainne Doherty is a retreat presenter, an adult faith educator, facilitator, researcher, and spirituality writer. She was part of the theology department of All Hallows College Dublin for many years, and held a variety of roles in pastoral leadership at parish and diocesan levels. The Secretary, Dominican Retreat Centre, Tallaght Village, D24 KA40

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I have called you by name and you are mine (Isaiah 43:1)

DESERT DAY FOR HOLY WEEK

'Stay here and keep watch with me' On next Saturday, April 12th from 10.30am to 5pm at Limerick Diocesan Centre, St Muchin's, Corbally, Limerick V94 925C Silent retreat with Eucharist & Sacrament of Reconciliation Facilitated by Phyllis Moynihan RSM and Dolores Madden Please bring your own packed lunch. Tea/coffee/snacks provided Book your place by contacting Phyllis at 0879636893 or email: Moynihanphyllis525@gmail.com

REFLECTION FOR THE 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT- APRIL 6, 2025

On this fifth Sunday of Lent, Jesus continues to show us that God is full of mercy and forgiveness. God looks beyond our faults and sees what we need. All of us need God's love, which is everlasting no matter what.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman accused of adultery to Jesus. He understood their motives, but he saw the woman who was filled with guilt and shame. Where was the other person? Jesus began to write on the ground as each man walked away one by one. With this action, grace and mercy are given to both the religious leaders and the woman. Jesus is the ultimate expression of God's mercy and commitment to us all.

God knows our strengths and abilities. God knows limitations and weaknesses but always offers mercy as his gift to us all. When we look back over our lives and how far we have come, we know that it must have been the hands of God that saved us from ourselves.

The power of the outstretched arms of Jesus on the Cross is his love that knows us better than we know ourselves and he loves us anyhow. What can we give to God for his grace and mercy to us? Like the story of the prodigal son last Sunday, God waits for our return. Sometimes, it is difficult situations that bring us to him. No matter how we came to him, Jesus waits for us with open arms. He prepares a table for us in the sight of our enemies and calls us blessed. **What part of our life needs God's mercy and grace at this moment?**

POPE FRANCIS ON X

Apr 2: Jesus' gaze is not one of reproach, but of mercy. It is that mercy we sometimes struggle to accept, especially when God forgives those who, in our opinion, do not deserve it. #Catechesis

<https://vatican.va/content/francesco/en/audiences/2025/documents/20250402-udienza-generale.html>

Apr 1: Let us #PrayTogether that the use of new technologies will not replace human relationships. May it respect the dignity of the person, and help us face the crises of our times. #PrayerIntention #ClickToPray
Mar 30: The war in Sudan continues to claim innocent victims. I urge all parties to the conflict to safeguard the lives of their civilian brothers and sisters. I hope that new negotiations will begin as soon as possible, and that they may secure a lasting solution to the crisis.

Mar 30: I am following the situation in South Sudan with concern. I renew my heartfelt appeal to all leaders to do their utmost to lower the tension in the country.

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