



St. Joseph's Church
O'Connell Avenue, Limerick
Church Notices, Sunday 20th July 2025

Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Mass Times and Intentions

Day	Time	Name
Sun. July 20 th	10.30am	Joseph Ryan (anniversary); Mary Donnelly (10 th anniversary)
	12.30pm	Anne Driver (month's mind); Sharon McKiniry (27 th anniversary); Joseph Hayes; Mary P Andrews (2 nd anniversary); Cyril Saunders & Joe Dundon
Mon. July 21 st	10.30am	Intention of Clergy
Tue. July 22 nd	10.30am	Intention of Clergy
Wed. July 23 rd	10.30am	Intention of Clergy
Thur. July 24 th	10.30am	Intention of Clergy
Fri July 25 th	10.30am	Intention of Clergy
Sat. July 26 th	10.30am	Brendan & Kitty Barry (anniversaries), daughter Sr Regina & Karina Barry
Sun. July 27 th	10.30am	Aaron Kelly (7 th anniversary); Joseph, Kathleen & Gerry Ryan
	12.30pm	Kathleen Clarke (2 nd anniversary) & her husband Paddy Clarke (26 th anniversary)

RECENTLY DECEASED

We extend our sympathy to their families, and pray for the repose of the souls of **Mona O'Rourke (née Colivet)**, South Circular Road, whose requiem mass was celebrated here last Wednesday, 16th July and **Mary Finnerty** (Fr Paul Finnerty's mother) whose remains, following 12 noon Requiem Mass in Knockvarra, Co. Galway (streamed at <http://www.knocknacarraparish.ie>), will be laid to rest in Castlemungret Cemetery, at 3pm approximately on tomorrow, Monday 21st July. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

POPE LEO XIV ON X

Jul 17: I am deeply saddened to learn of the loss of life and injury caused by the military attack on the Holy Family Catholic Church in #Gaza. I assure the parish community of my spiritual closeness. I commend the souls of the deceased to the loving mercy of Almighty God, and pray for their families and the injured. I renew my call for an immediate ceasefire. Only dialogue and reconciliation can ensure enduring peace!

Jul 13: In order to live eternally, we do not need to cheat death, but to serve life, by caring for others in this, our time together.

Jul 13: Looking without walking by, halting the frantic pace of our lives, allowing the lives of others, whoever they may be, with their needs and troubles, to touch our heart. That is what makes us neighbours to one another, what generates true fraternity and breaks down walls and barriers.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE

St. Mary Magdalene's feast day falls on next Tuesday 22nd July. She is one of the greatest saints of the Bible and a legendary example of God's mercy and grace.

The precise dates of her birth and death are unknown, but we do know she was present with Christ during his public ministry, death and resurrection. She is mentioned at least a dozen times in the Gospels.

Mary Magdalene has long been regarded as a prostitute or sexually immoral in western Christianity, but this is not supported in the scriptures. It is believed she was a Jewish woman who lived among Gentiles, living as they did.

The Gospels agree that Mary was originally a great sinner. Jesus cast seven demons out of her when he met her. After this, she told several women she associated with and these women also became followers.

There is also debate over if Mary Magdalene is the same unnamed women, a sinner, who weeps and washes Jesus' feet with her hair in the Gospel of John. Scholars are sceptical that this is the same person.

Despite the scholarly dispute over her background, what she did in her subsequent life, after meeting Jesus, is much more significant. She was certainly a sinner whom Jesus saved, giving us an example of how no person is beyond the saving grace of God.

During Jesus' ministry, it is believed that Mary Magdalene followed him, part of a semi-permanent entourage who served Jesus and his Disciples.

Mary likely watched the crucifixion from a distance along with the other women who followed Christ during His ministry. Mary was present when Christ rose from the dead, visiting his tomb to anoint his body only to find the stone rolled away and Christ, very much alive, sitting at the place they laid Him. She was the first witness to His resurrection.

After the death of Christ, a legend states that she remained among the early Christians. After fourteen years, she was allegedly put into a boat by Jews, along with several other saints of the early Church, and set adrift without sails or oars. The boat landed in southern France, where she spent the remaining years of her life living in solitude, in a cave.

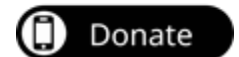
She is the patroness of converts, repentant sinners, sexual temptation, pharmacists, tanners and women, and many other places and causes.

Taken from https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=83

*If it wasn't for the struggles, you
wouldn't be as strong as you are today.
God is always building you up, even
when it feels like He's breaking you.*

PSALM 28:7

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