



# St. Augustine's Church Limerick 2nd Sunday of Advent

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## 9th December 2018

### Mass Times

#### Monday -Friday

7.30am, 8.30am,  
10.15am, & 4pm

#### SATURDAY

8.30am, 10.15am  
3.00pm

(Mass for the Sick)

#### SUNDAY

9.00am, 11.15am  
& 7.30pm

#### CONFESSIONS

#### MONDAY & FRIDAY

10.45am-12 Noon  
3.00pm-4.00pm

#### SATURDAY

10.45am-12noon  
2.30pm-4pm



### Blood Donor Clinic



Wednesday 19th  
December  
Greenhills Hotel,  
Ennis Road  
5.00pm-8.00pm

## Bishops' Conference Statement

### 'Abortion cannot be supported'

The Irish Catholic bishops have issued a statement saying that abortion cannot be supported. The statement came at a conclusion of their Winter General meeting which took place in Maynooth on Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th December.

**Reflecting on the current Dáil debate on the abortion bill bishops said, "We are dismayed that, for the most part, the voices of those who voted against abortion in May's referendum have been ignored.** Even what many people would have deemed to be very reasonable legislative amendments seeking to provide women with information and to prohibit abortion on the grounds of sex, race or disability, have been rejected.

**"As we stated after our Autumn Meeting, Irish society must have respect for the right of conscientious objection for all healthcare professionals and pharmacists. They cannot be forced either to participate in abortion or to refer patients to others for abortion.**

**"Every one of us has a right to life.** It is not given to us by the *Constitution of Ireland* or by any law. **We have it 'as of right', whether we are wealthy or poor,** healthy or sick. All human beings have it. The direct and intentional taking of human life at any stage is gravely wrong and can never be justified.

**"Women's lives, and the lives of their unborn children, are precious, valued and always deserving of protection.** Any law which suggests otherwise would have no moral force. In good conscience it cannot be supported and would have to be resisted.

**"We offer our prayerful solidarity with everyone dedicated to the sanctity and protection of human life at all stages.** We ask everyone of goodwill - whether at home, in parish, in school or at work - to continue to choose and to celebrate the preciousness of life."

During their meeting a delegation of bishops met with individuals representing various pro-life groups from across Ireland, north and south. The aim of the gathering was to acknowledge their on-going commitment to upholding the dignity of unborn human life and to consult on the setting up of a new Council for Life under the **aegis of the Bishops' Conference which will operate from March 2019.**

## St. Augustine's Church Advent Service

This Sunday in St. Augustine's Church we will be holding an Advent Service at 3.30pm. We would like to invite you to join us as we take some time to reflect on how we will welcome Jesus into our lives this Christmas. It will be an afternoon of readings, reflections and singing with a surprise !!!

So come along, bring a friend and allow yourself to be drawn into the spirit of the Advent season.



## Thought for Today

The feats of engineering hinted at in the citations from Isaiah may seem physically daunting but are even more of a challenge on the intended spiritual level. The highway is for our God—and we could ask what in me impedes his way, how do I block the arrival of the Lord in my life? More positively, I could ask myself what do I do so that the Gospel may come alive in my life? With such cooperation from me, the Lord can and will bring to completion what he has begun.

Prayer

O God, you search me and you know me. Help me to know myself better; help me acknowledge and set aside the blocks to your coming. You have indeed begun a good work in me and, in spite of my hesitations and resistance, I too want it to be brought to completion under your graceful care. Amen

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## Advent at the Abbey

'A prophet for our Time—John the Baptist.

The second in the series takes place today Sunday 9th Dec in the Library at Glenstal Abbey at 4.30pm, given by Dr. Jessie Rodgers. These talks will be followed by refreshments, and finally Vespers at 6pm in the church. Donation €5 All are welcome!

## Maranatha Prayer Ministry

You are invited to a Christmas Healing Retreat and Family Tree Mass with Fr. Michael O'Shea Limerick, on Sunday 9th December. It will be an afternoon of Praise & Worship with Confession, Mass and Adoration in St. Pauls Church Dooradoyle at 2.30pm. All are welcome.

## Healing Concert

LaDonna Taylor will give a short Healing Concert in St. Augustine's Church next Saturday 15th Dec. following the 3pm Mass for the Sick. LaDonna spends her life travelling the world playing her violin and sharing the Scriptures.

## Christmas Bric-a-brac Sale

The Sacred Heart Church, the Crescent, Limerick will be having a Bric-a-brac sale of work and Coffee morning on Saturday 15th December from 10am-3pm. The proceeds from this event will benefit the restoration of the Sacred Heart Church. Please support !

## Christmas at the Dominicans

St. Saviour's Dominican Church invites you to a festive Christmas Concert on Friday 14th December beginning at 7.30pm. The concert will feature the St. Saviours Choir, the Adare Choir, and other performers. It will be followed by a reception with spot prizes and festive treats. Tickets are €15 (4 for €50) seniors and students €10 and children are free. You can book in the sacristy of the Dominican Church any day between 12noon and 12.45.