



St. Augustine's Church Limerick

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

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19th January 2020

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th -25th January

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



St. Augustine's Church Child Safeguarding Representatives.

Fr. Noel Hession OSA
Fr. Flor O'Callaghan OSA
Geraldine van Dam
Mr. Robert Ryan
Ms Charlotte Gleeson
Ms Mary Deegan.

At least once a year, Christians are reminded of Jesus' prayer for his disciples that "they may be one so that the world may believe" (see John 17.21). Hearts are touched and Christians come together to pray for their unity. Congregations and parishes all over the world arrange special ecumenical celebrations and prayer services. The event that touches off this special experience is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity which takes place from 18th -25th January.

This year's resources have been prepared by the Christian Churches in Malta and Gozo. On 10th February many Christians in Malta celebrate the Feast of the Shipwreck of St Paul, marking and giving thanks for the arrival of Christian faith on the islands. The reading from the Acts of the Apostles used for the feast is the text chosen for this year's Week of Prayer and the theme is *'Unusual Kindness'*.

'Unusual Kindness'

Acts 28:2

Hospitality is a much needed virtue in our search for Christian unity. It calls us to a greater generosity to those in need. The people who showed unusual kindness to Paul and his companions did not yet know Christ, and yet it is through their unusual kindness that a divided people were drawn closer together. Our own Christian unity will be discovered not only through showing hospitality to one another, but also through loving encounters with those who do not share our language, culture or faith.

.Source www.irishchurches.org/week-of-prayer



This year's Christian Unity Ecumenical Prayer service will take place in St. Mary's Cathedral Limerick on **Thursday 23rd January at 7.30pm**. We warmly invite people from St. Augustine's, the Diocese and other Christian denominations and Fellowships to this service of Prayer with light refreshments to follow.

Sunday of the Word of God

January 26th 2020

In his Apostolic Letter of 30 September 2019, *Aperuit illis* Pope Francis established that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be the **Sunday of the Word of God**. It is a day to be devoted to the celebration, study, and spreading of the Word of God. Pope Francis is clear from the very first paragraph of this letter that the relationship between the Risen Lord, a community of believers, and sacred Scripture is essential to who we are as Christians.

The Sunday assembly gathering to celebrate the Eucharist is the unique moment in the week where a community gathers in a particular place and when their communal identity is nourished by Word and Sacrament. An important advance in 20th century theological reflection is that every sacramental celebration is founded and constructed upon the Word of God, and that every proclamation of the Word of God is sacramental. Next Sunday is a time when the community is called to give greater attention not just to the Word of God. It is also urged to reflect on how we honour that Word in our celebrations, the books that we proclaim the Word from.

Source: Short excerpt from the introduction—resources/ www.catholicbishops.ie

From tomorrow on here in St. Augustine's we will prepare for this coming Sunday, inviting you to join the community in morning prayer in the Adoration Chapel each morning at 9.50am as we share the Word of God together. There will also be information and resources available on the display boards at the back of the church.

On Sunday 26th we will enthrone the Book of the Gospels, highlighting the proclamation of the Word of the Lord, and encouraging people to read and pray with the Scripture daily and especially through the practice of Lectio Divina which is a great resource for this. We invite you to join us at Mass next Sunday as we celebrate the **Sunday of the Word of God**.

Christ Jesus is knocking at our door in the words of sacred Scripture. If we hear his voice and open the doors of our minds and hearts, then he will enter our lives and remain ever with us.

- Pope Francis

Sunday of the Word of God
26 January 2020

www.catholicbishops.ie



Picture source: resources/ www.catholicbishops.ie

Thought for the Day

In John's Gospel, the first thing that any human being says of Jesus is found on the lips of John the Baptist: Look, there is the Lamb of God. We think naturally and correctly of the Passover lamb and of the Passover, the feast which marks the liberation of Israel. To be set free is a wonderful experience and we could reflect on how I experience my freedom in Christ. From what have I been set free? (For example, fear of death, the risk of absurdity, sins and false directions in life...) Even more important, for what have I been set free?

PRAYER

Jesus, Lamb of God, help me to recognise whatever in me is holding me back from life in abundance: give me your life, your forgiveness, your healing. In you, I put my trust.

Source www.tarsus.ie