



St. Augustine's Church Limerick

1st Sunday of Lent

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1st March 2020

Listening to Nature's Words of Love Caring for our Common Home

Lenten Pastoral Letter from Bishop Brendan Leahy

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.

Stations of the Cross

We invite you to join us every Wednesday and Friday morning, during Lent for the Stations of the Cross after the 10.15am Mass.

Lent is a special time. It offers us forty days to take stock, take some steps, and take hold of our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. It's a time of conversion. This year I propose we focus on what has been called "ecological conversion".

When in 1968 the astronaut William Anders took a photograph of the earth with some of the Moon's surface also showing in the photo, little could he have imagined the impact it would have. As he himself put it on the fiftieth anniversary of that event, "We set out to explore the moon and instead discovered the Earth". The US Post Office issued a stamp with that Earthrise photo over the words "In the beginning, God...". The awesome and stunning photo of our planet led many in a reverent silence to whisper the word "God". God who is Love created the world. Our planet is indeed beautiful and awesome it is also so vulnerable and so finite. Fifty years on from that photo the words of a Pope jolt us about how we have treated creation. In an interview-film entitled "Pope Francis - A Man of his Word" directed by the German film Director, Wim Wenders (I'd recommend the film as good watching during Lent. It is on Netflix), Pope Francis doesn't mince his words: "If you ask me who is the poorest of the poorest of the poor, I would say Mother Earth. We have plundered her. We have abused her." He goes on to remind us we are called to be caretakers of the earth.

It is his concern for the care of the earth that made him write what has become his most widely read encyclical: *Laudato Si'*. Taking up a phrase from St. Francis "May you be praised" (in poetic Italian that is: "Laudato Si"), Pope Francis dedicates his encyclical to the theme of the environment. Many were astonished at the strength of that encyclical. In it he calls all of us to ecological conversion. He encourages us, as he did at the United Nations, to counter a growing "culture of waste."

In the past year, Greta Thunberg has captured imaginations and minds. Not just her. Many young people have expressed their concern over what is happening our planet. They are really concerned about the world they are inheriting from previous generations. In schools across the Diocese children are enthusiastic about the Green Flag awards. Young adults are searching for new ways to save our planet. It is important for those of us who are older to recognise that young people have the antennae of the future. Their voice is prophetic indicating God's will for us. Source: Excerpt from the Lenten Pastoral Letter from Bishop Brendan Leahy source: www.limerickdiocese.org to read the full letter.

Lectio Divina Ecumenical

Saint Michael's Church
Pery Square
Monday 2nd Mar 7.30pm

Lectio Divina for Lent

A joint initiative of Lectio Divina with St. Augustine's and Saint Mary's Cathedral will take place each Monday evening for Lent at Saint Michael's Church Pery Square. It will be facilitated and led by Fr. Noel Hession and begins this coming Monday 2nd March at 7.30pm. Having had a great response to our last gathering at Advent, we would hope to see many of you return again and join us for Lent.

Thought for the Day

The temptations of Jesus are not at all temptations to this or that sin but rather fundamental options which matter for the direction of his life. Jesus was tempted in the course of his ministry to choose other ways of being God's prophet, the Messiah or anointed one. In a less obvious way, we too can be attracted by choices which can shape the way our life unfolds. We ask ourselves, what do I live on? What's my true goal? Where is my nourishment? The human, no less than the Kingdom, is more than food and drink. Only the Word of God truly nourishes and illuminates.

Prayer Lord, in you we live and move and have our being and we thank you. Help us to place you and your Word at the heart of all we do and, even more, at the core of who we are.



Source: www.tarsus.ie

Lent at Glenstal Abbey First of Six Lenten Talks

„Do not Lead us into Temptation“

Sunday 1st March
Monastery Library at 4.30pm

Theology on Tap

Young adults are invited to Theology on Tap at Bobby Byrnes on Tuesday 10th March beginning at 8pm. Paul César, former convict and gang member will be sharing the story of how God touched him at the moment when all seemed lost. Finger food will be provided. For more information, contact vocations@limerickdiocese.org

Training Refresher Course

There will be a training refresher course for **all in ministry in St. Augustine's Church** Tuesday 3rd March at 7.00pm
Eucharistic Ministers &
Readers of the Word
Thursday 5th March

New Appointment

Those of you who joined us last year for our Advent Lectio Divina will remember our facilitator Rev'd Paul Fitzpatrick from Saint Mary's Cathedral. It was recently announced that Rev Paul has been appointed Priest-Vicar in the parishes of Killaloe and Nenagh to assist the new Dean Rev'd Rod Smyth. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Paul on his new appointment and wish him every success in the future.



'Look for the Fairtrade Logo when you Shop!'

The focus is on Chocolate this year. Cocoa farmers are struggling. The World Bank considers the extreme poverty level to be €1.72 per day. The majority of cocoa farmers earn just 90cent a day. In order to make a proper living wage they need €2.35 a day. Cocoa farmers get just 7% from each bar of chocolate that we buy. They need to get a better price for their cocoa beans and to sell more under Fairtrade terms. Fairtrade guarantees them a minimum for their beans and it also gives them an extra payment called a Premium which can be spent on community projects like wells, schools, literacy classes, updating their farming methods. They depend on us to be 'conscious' consumers and to **look for the Fairtrade logo when we shop!**