



# St. Augustine's Church Limerick

28th November 2021

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## Mass Times

Monday -Friday

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

SATURDAY

8.30am, 10.15am

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

## First Sunday of Advent

Advent is about beginnings – we begin the church's liturgical year; we begin our preparation together for Christmas; and we begin a time of special reflection which we will share during these four weeks. Also, as we will be hearing constantly throughout these four weeks, Advent is also about completions. We will arrive at the celebration of the birth of Jesus; our preparations will come to an end and we will rejoice in his coming; and, as Advent will remind us many times, we will move another bit closer to the end of our own time on earth, and, indeed, the end of time itself.

While the Church's year goes in a circle – it begins, like clockwork, every year, with the First Sunday of Advent - our lives do not. We do not relive the same events each year as if we were in some sort of eternal Groundhog Day. Even though, while we are doing our Christmas shopping, we might well feel that we are going around in circles, in fact, we are not – all of the seemingly separate things that we do will lead us towards our goal. And Advent reminds us that whatever it is we are working towards, it is only another step on the journey to another goal – our definitive encounter with the God who loves us when we will have reached the end of our lives on earth. Each one of us will die and our world will eventually end. Advent puts this reality firmly before our eyes. The message of Advent is that time is passing. As time passes, we often don't notice it.

Advent gives us a different perspective – to use our time as well as we can; to not waste our time by allowing ourselves to become distracted by what does not really matter. And, if we have somehow gotten stuck, Advent encourages us to begin again; constantly begin again; to never feel that we have completed our task of living out our baptismal calling so that when the Lord either calls us, or comes to claim us, we will be ready.

*Fr. N. Hession OSA*



The Month's Mind  
Mass for  
Fr. Liam Ryan OSA  
will take place on  
Sunday 5th Dec.  
at 11.15am. RIP



### 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.

## Presentation Sisters Remembered

Last Sunday Nov.21<sup>st</sup> Feast of the Presentation of Our Lady in the Temple, Presentation Schools remembered and celebrated Nano Nagle Foundress of the Presentation Sisters. Nano gave her life and fortune to provide Education for all and for Nano Education was the key.

This year in Colaiste Nano Nagle, Sexton Street we remembered six young Presentation Sisters and a postulant who left Limerick in 1873 for the ends of the earth never to return home.

They left their convent in Sexton Street and set up several schools and an excellent system of Education in Victoria Australia. They had a long boat journey 58 days but they kept their high spirits and left their mark with Nano's spirit urging them on. These girls lit Nano's lantern and kept it burning bright.





# Advent Calendar

**Advent at Glenstal:** The first of four Advent Talks takes place at Glenstal Abbey today with registration 3.00pm. This event will be 'live streamed' and will also be available as a recording. However if you would like to attend any of the talks you will need to book online [www.eventbrite.com/e/advent-talk-28112021-tickets](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/advent-talk-28112021-tickets). The theme of the first talk is 'Had I not been awake'....The Poetry of Advent—Mark Patrick Hederman OSB.

**Advent at Knock:** With Fr Eamonn Conway, Head of Theology & Religious Studies, MIC, University of Limerick and Julie Kavanagh, member of the National Synodal Steering Committee, Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin. As the initial phase of the Synodal Pathway for the Catholic Church in Ireland is now underway, these talks will offer the opportunity for discussion and reflection to help deepen our understanding of this important subject.

**Thursday 2nd December:** Fr Eamonn Conway – Synodality: What does it mean?

**Thursday 9th:** Julie Kavanagh – Synodality: How does it work?

**Thursday 16th:** Fr Eamonn Conway – Synodality: Why does it matter?

Location: St. John's Rest & Care Centre (Knock) at 8.15pm each evening & live on [www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live](http://www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live)

**Ecumenical Lectio Divina:** To celebrate the season of Advent we will recommence our Lectio Divina gatherings, shared between the congregations of Limerick City Parish (Church of Ireland) and St. Augustine's Church beginning this **Tuesday 30th November at 7pm in St. Michael's Church, Pery Square**. All are welcome!

**Advent Calendar :** The Bishops' online interactive Advent Calendar is going **live today Sunday 28th** November, the first Sunday of Advent 2021. This year's content is aimed at assisting people to pray and to reflect on how best we can keep Christ at the centre of our Christmas preparations during this special liturgical season. Be part of our Advent journey this year by following the daily online resource on: [www.catholicbishops.ie/adventcalendar](http://www.catholicbishops.ie/adventcalendar)

## Advent Sunday 5th December - Cratloe Woods - Walk in the Light

It is well known that walking in day light hours, in particular at this time of year, when there is little light and especially in nature, is not just good for our bodies, but also for our minds and spirits, and our mental health.

The members of the choir would like to invite you to join us for a walk in Cratloe Wood on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December. All are welcome and we encourage you to come along to enjoy fresh air, beautiful greenery, and friendly chatter. There will also be a short time given for some spiritual reflection.

We will leave directly after Mass to catch the brightest time of the day and the best of daylight. Though the days are short, we recognise that in Advent, we are walking towards the light as we look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ. We hope you will capture some of that positivity as you 'walk in the light'.

After the walk, anyone who wishes, is welcome to join us to go for something to eat in a local restaurant (subject to Covid Government Guidelines in place at the time).

Please bring a packed lunch, flask (if you need a hot drink) and rainwear. Please wear comfortable shoes, suitable for walking in the wood. Clothing should be warm and include a scarf, hat and gloves. Please don't forget your face mask, you will need it if you are to be admitted to any indoor facility. Covid cert is also needed to be admitted indoors for those wishing to join us for food. Your own transport is essential and please bring your hand sanitiser. We will assemble outside the church at 12.15 on the day and also outside the gates of Cratloe Woods around 1pm. If you would like to join us, contact any the choir after Mass today or Charlotte in the Pastoral Office at 061 415374. (Office Hours).

