



# Limerick City Parish WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



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*Saint Mary's, Saint Michael's and Ss John & Ailbe: 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024 ~ Advent Sunday 3*

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## **COLLECTS AND READINGS**

**Collect for the week:** O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

### **Old Testament Reading: Zephaniah 3: 14-20**

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

### **Psalm: 146: 4-10 (BCP p761)**

Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help, ♦ whose hope is in the Lord their God;

Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them; ♦ who keeps his promise for ever;

Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong ♦ and bread to those who hunger:

The Lord looses those that are bound; ♦ the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; ♦ the Lord loves the righteous;

The Lord watches over the stranger in the land; he upholds the orphan and widow; ♦ but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.

The Lord shall reign for ever, ♦ your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Alleluia.

### **Epistle Reading: Philippians 4: 4-7**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

### **New Testament/Gospel Reading: Luke 3: 7-18**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for

you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

**Post-Communion Prayer:** Father, we give you thanks for these heavenly gifts. Kindle us with the fire of your Spirit that when Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

| Hymns                  |     |     |     |     |     |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <b>Saint Michael's</b> | 125 | 143 | 419 | 152 | 141 |
| <b>The Cathedral</b>   | 492 | 136 | 135 | 124 |     |

Services are recorded and may be viewed online on [www.churchservices.tv/limerickstmarys](http://www.churchservices.tv/limerickstmarys) and [www.saintmaryscathedral.ie](http://www.saintmaryscathedral.ie) within the following 90 days. After that time recordings will be destroyed; however, exceptions may apply and recordings could last longer if the Cathedral requires it. Occasional services may be recorded and will be advertised on [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv) and [www.saintmaryscathedral.ie](http://www.saintmaryscathedral.ie) other Cathedral communication channels. If you would like further information on a particular event, please contact the Cathedral office. If you do not wish to appear in the recording, please advise Churchwardens who will guide you to an area which will not be filmed and will make arrangements for you to receive Holy Communion there. *NRSV (Anglicized Edition), copyright 1989, 1995 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America; Material in this service reproduced from BCP under licence © RCB 2004; One License Number: A738650; Use QR code to donate to Saint Mary's online.*



### Services & Events

| Date  | Time  | Event                         | Venue                     |
|---|-------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec.<br><i>Advent 3</i> | 11.00 | Morning Prayer                | Ss John & Ailbe, Abington |
|   | 10.00 | Holy Communion                | St Michael's              |
|   | 11.15 | Holy Communion                | The Cathedral             |
| Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>                         | 10.30 | Morning Prayer                | The Cathedral             |
| Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>                        | 10.30 | Morning Prayer                | The Cathedral             |
| Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>                      | 10.30 | Morning Prayer                | The Cathedral             |
|   | 8pm   | Community Carol Service       | Ss John & Ailbe, Abington |
| Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>                       | 10.30 | Holy Communion                | The Cathedral             |
| Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>                         | 10.30 | Morning Prayer                | The Cathedral             |
|   | 12pm  | Villiers School Carol Service | The Cathedral             |
| Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup>                       | 10.30 | Morning Prayer                | The Cathedral             |
| Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec.<br><i>Advent 4</i> | 10.00 | Holy Communion                | St Michael's              |
|   | 10.00 | Morning Prayer                | Ss John & Ailbe, Abington |
|   | 11.15 | Holy Communion                | The Cathedral             |
|   | 4pm   | Blue Christmas Service        | The Cathedral             |
|   | 7pm   | Civic Carol Service           | The Cathedral             |

## THISWEEK'S NOTICES

*(Where attachments are mentioned, hard copies are available through the parish office upon request)*

**Cathedral Shop:** Thanks to all those who supported the Cathedral Shop over the past two weeks. The shop will be open on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> after service for anyone who would like to pick some beautiful Christmas gifts.

**Decorating the Cathedral:** We will decorate the cathedral on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December after service. All are welcome to help out and donations of flowers and greenery are welcome!

**St Michael's Church Preserves/Bake Sale** - Following our day at the Villiers School Craft Fair and subsequent sales in St Michael's and St Mary's, our income to date is **€1,200**. This is an excellent outcome and we thank all those who supported it via their purchases. In addition, we very much appreciate and thank all those who donated and made all the various jams, chutneys and homebakes, namely Val Beck, Margaret Brickenden, Gillian Cheatley, Barbara Clayton, Oliver Deegan, Susi Eckhardt, Noreen Johnston, Lucy Kavanagh, Tracey Lyttle, Keith Morrow, Sheelagh Morrow, Pat O'Brien and Alison Wills.

**Healer Prayer Group:** The next gathering will be at 2.30pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January in St Mark's Chapel (Cathedral). For more information please contact the Dean.

**Murroe-Boher Historical Society:** Our next talk is on Thursday, 19 December 2024 at 8 p.m. sharp in the Fitzgerald Room, Muintir na Tíre Hall, Murroe. We are pleased to host Sharon Slater, who will speak to us on "The Hands Behind the Stitches: The Story of Limerick Lace Makers." Admission €5 to non-members including refreshments. All welcome.

**Reminder - The St Michael's Christmas Raffle:** for the lovely hampers takes place in St Michael's Church next Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December after the service. Lines are still available to buy up. Thank you again to everyone for their generosity and support.

**Help!** We are looking for some missing items belonging to St Michael's

- The Travelling Posada Nativity Set
- A medium sized teapot from the kitchen
- About a dozen mugs from the kitchen

No reward available, but information on whereabouts would be appreciated!!

**Mothers' Union Hamper Appeal:** It's that time of year again when we are asking for donations for our Christmas Hampers for Thomond House, Women's Refuge, Adapt House, Women's Refuge and Br. Russell House for Men. We are asking for non perishable food items, toiletries, biscuits, sweets etc. We also give items of **NEW CLOTHING** to the men's hostel, i.e. socks, tracksuit bottoms or underwear if you have any that are not needed. We are blown away with the generosity of everyone in the parish so "thank you" in advance! There will be a basket at the back of St. Michael's and St. Mary's or ring Lucy, 087 2078850 and I can collect from you. Many thanks!

**Christmas Whist Drives:** Please note St Michael's next Whist Drive is on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm. Villiers Square is on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 7.15pm. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

**Batteries for Barretstown:** Recycling tubes for your used batteries can be found in each of the three churches.

**Notice of the annual revision of the register of vestry members:** Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the select vestry of this parish has been arranged for Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2025, to revise the register of vestry members, by adding the names of any qualified persons, and removing the names of those no longer qualified, since the last revision of the register.

**Parking Bollard:** As many readers will be aware this has recently been installed in the Cathedral grounds. It will not be in action until the New Year. More details attached.

**Choir Supervision:** The Dean and Organist are looking for volunteers to help with supervision (a panel of adults that can be present in the room to adhere to Safeguarding guidelines) of the Junior Choir. Enquires to either individuals.

**Sunday Club:** If any post primary children would be willing to help out with children's activities, please speak with the Dean. Sunday Club meets during the 11.15am Service in the Cathedral on the First and Third Sundays of the month with vacation breaks. Normally on the First Sunday of the month it takes the form of Godly Play. It is open to primary school going children. Preschoolers are welcome if accompanied by a carer and the assistance of post primary schoolers would be greatly appreciated.

**Sunday Club Cinema Outing:** This is being penned on emerging from Paddington in Peru! The 10 am screening on Saturday 7th December, hot on the tail of the Late Late Toy Show, caused great excitement and was much enjoyed by children and adults equally! Thank you to the parish for funding this pre Christmas treat. I wonder which film we'll see next year?

**Cycles of prayer:** *Porvoo:* Church of England: Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. Church of Norway: Diocese of Borg. *Anglican:* The Anglican Church of Tanzania.

**Remembrance Book:** Syliva Morrow, Joe Connally, Bridget Casey, Roy McCormack, Marie Louise Kearney, Aurther Barley, Olive Stanley-Wetzel, Jo Ischner, Edward Richardson, Jean O'Connor and Anne Woodrow.

**Prayers for the Sick:** Terry Gibson, Martin Hogan, Jerry Murphy, Sarah B, Mary Alicia Downes, Kathleen Leddin, John Sparling, Pat & Mary O' Donnell, Patricia Bourke, David, Elayne and Hilary Noonan, Hazel, Mac, Dean Sandra Pragnell, Pascal and Karine Egan.

*NOTE: If you wish to place a name on the list, please email it to [limerickcityparishnews@gmail.com](mailto:limerickcityparishnews@gmail.com). Under GDPR please ensure you have the consent of the named person(s). For confidentiality reasons the clergy would appreciate NOT being asked on the status of people. Whilst we appreciate people are showing care and concern, it can compromise the relationship between pastor and parishioner. Thank you.*

### ROTAS

|                     | 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec    | 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec         | 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 25 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 29 <sup>th</sup> Dec          |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>REFRESHMENTS</b> |                         |                              |                      |                      |                               |
| <b>St Michael's</b> | Keith & Sheelagh Morrow | John & Kayt Shier            | No Service           | None                 | Richard & Margaret Brickenden |
| <b>Cathedral</b>    | Keith O'Neil            | Karen Wilson & Evelyn Sloane | None                 | None                 | Cathedral                     |
| <b>READERS</b>      |                         |                              |                      |                      |                               |
| <b>St Michael's</b> | Annabelle Griffen       | Stephen Fairbrother          | No Service           | Richard Allen        | Oliver Deegan                 |
| <b>Cathedral</b>    | Paul Cabel              | Tamasin Plowman              | TBC                  | Noreen Ellerker      | Tony O'Connell                |

### CONTACT DETAILS

The Very Rev'd Niall J.W. Sloane (Dean): The Deanery, 7 Kilbane, Castletroy  
 Email: [dean@limerick.anglican.org](mailto:dean@limerick.anglican.org); Tel: 061-338697. Day off: Friday

Clergy Emergency Number: Tel: 087-3524046. (Strictly Emergency Calls Only).

The Parish Office: Saint Mary's Cathedral, Bridge Street, Limerick, V94 E068.

Email: [cathedral@limerick.anglican.org](mailto:cathedral@limerick.anglican.org); Tel: 061-310293. [www.lcp.limerick.anglican.org](http://www.lcp.limerick.anglican.org)

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