



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

*Saint Mary's, Saint Michael's and Ss John & Ailbe: 16th March 2025
2nd Sunday in Lent & Eve of Saint Patrick*

COLLECTS AND READINGS

Collect for the week: Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth that they may return to the way of righteousness: Grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Old Testament: Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the Lord came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then he said to him, 'I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.' But he said, 'O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.'

Psalm 27 (BCP p.619)

The Lord is my light and my salvation whom then shall I fear? ♦ The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

When the wicked, even my enemies and my foes came upon me to eat up my flesh, ♦ they stumbled and fell.

Though a host encamp against me, my heart shall not be afraid, ♦ and though there rise up war against me, yet will I put my trust in him.

One thing have I asked of the Lord and that alone I seek: ♦ that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
To behold the fair beauty of the Lord ♦ and to seek his will in his temple.

For in the day of trouble he shall hide me in his shelter; ♦ in the secret place of his dwelling shall he hide me and set me high upon a rock.

And now shall he lift up my head ♦ above my enemies round about me;

Therefore will I offer in his dwelling an oblation with great gladness; ♦ I will sing and make music to the Lord.

Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call; ♦ have mercy upon me and answer me.

My heart tells of your word, 'Seek my face.' ♦ Your face, Lord, will I seek.

Hide not your face from me, ♦ nor cast your servant away in displeasure.

You have been my helper; ♦ leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.

Though my father and my mother forsake me, ♦ the Lord will take me up.

Teach me your way, O Lord; ♦ lead me on a level path, because of those who lie in wait for me.

Deliver me not into the will of my adversaries, ♦ for false witnesses have risen up against me, and those who breathe out violence.

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord ♦ in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord; be strong and he shall comfort your heart; ♦ wait patiently for the Lord.

Epistle Reading: Philippians 3: 17 - 4: 1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation so that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Gospel: Luke 13:31-35

At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, "Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you." He replied, "Go tell that fox, 'I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.' In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem! "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Post Communion Prayer: Creator of heaven and earth, we thank you for these holy mysteries given us by our Lord Jesus Christ, by which we receive your grace and are assured of your love, which is through him now and for ever.

HYMNS					
Saint Michael's	611	471	665	468	
The Cathedral	59	492	108	566	

Services are recorded and may be viewed online on www.churchservices.tv/limerickstmarys and 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 and 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 16th 2 nd Sunday in Lent	9.30	Holy Communion	Ss John & Ailbe, Abington
	10.00	Morning Prayer	St Michael's
	11.15	Choral Eucharist	The Cathedral
Monday 17 th Saint Patrick's Day	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Tuesday 18 th	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
	11.00	Funeral of Joy Cooper	The Cathedral
	13.15	Lunchtime Concert	The Cathedral
Wednesday 19 th	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
	11.30	Funeral of David McBurnie	Ss John & Ailbe, Abington
Thursday 20 th	10.30	Holy Communion	The Cathedral

Friday 21st	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
	20.00	Consolation and Confidence Concert	The Cathedral
Saturday 22nd	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Sunday 23rd 3rd Sunday in Lent	10.00	Morning Prayer	Ss John & Ailbe, Abington
	10.00	Holy Communion	St Michael's
	11.15	Choral Matins with Baptism	The Cathedral

THISWEEK'S NOTICES

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

Sympathy: We record with sadness the death of Mr David McBurnie, a member of the ministry team for many years. Our condolences go to his wife, Dolores and the wider family.

We also note with sadness the death of Mrs Joy Cooper. We extend our sympathy to her children, Jean, Carol & Paul and their families. We keep both families in our thoughts and prayers at this time.

St Partrick's Weekend: The band parade takes place on Sunday 16th March and this will affect traffic to both city churches. For those attending St Michael's – the School has kindly agreed to us using the carpark (access via Joseph St) – we can then enter Pery Square via the School. At the Cathedral, we shall monitor the timing of the service to allow worshippers a prompt exit from the Cathedral before the parade reaches Bridge St. There will be no refreshments in the Cathedral on Sunday.

Parish Table Quiz: This is your chance to get your brains working for our fun table quiz. For your comfort and safety, numbers will be limited to 15 tables (60 persons) - 4 to each table. Please reserve your place/table by email to pipdoc2@gmail.com. The cost is only €10 per person (which includes supper), which should be paid to your Churchwardens in advance. As of Friday 14th, tables are selling fast and places are limited, so please ensure an early booking to avoid disappointment. There will be a raffle for amazing prizes (tickets available on the night), and we look forward to your support for this. Where: St Michael's Church Hall . When: Friday March 28th at 7.30 pm
If you are unable to attend, perhaps you would be willing to donate a prize for the raffle, please contact Tracey on 086-6486197.

Gazette: The Select Vestry has agreed to support the Church of Ireland Gazette by purchasing 3 subscriptions (one for each church). A copy will be left in each church for parishioners to read and pass around. This initiative is designed to encourage people to take out their own personal subscription.

Baptism: We welcome into our Christian family Noah and Michael who were baptised in the Cathedral, last Sunday.

Dea Scéala: The new diocesan magazine is now available free of charge in all of our church buildings.

EGV: Notice is given that the annual Easter General Vestry (in effect the AGM of the Parish), will be held on Sunday 6th April 2025 in St Mary's Cathedral at 12noon. The meeting will be preceded by a united service of Holy Communion beginning at 11.15am.

Free lunchtime concert in the Cathedral: A Lunchtime Concert will be on Tuesday 18th March at 1.15pm with Leila Clarke-Carr (violin) and Yonit Kosovske (harpichord) - Faith and Fantasy, as part of the Limerick Early Music Festival. The next concert will be on Thursday 27th March at 1.15pm with the ICO Academy.

Limerick Early Music Festival

Friday 21st March at 8pm - *Consolation and Confidence*: Concert as part of the Limerick Early Music Festival, including Cantatas BWV 44 and 111 by J.S. Bach. Featuring St Mary's Cathedral Choir, alongside Ancor and the Limerick School of Music Senior Choir, together with soloists and orchestra. Tickets can be purchased through the "Programme" page at limerickearlymusic.com or directly from the Belltable's site for the festival: <https://limetreebelltable.ie/events/#filter=.limerick-early-music-festival-96>

Postage Stamps: During the past week I left a large consignment of used postage stamps into the Barnardos offices near Christ Church Cathedral in Dublin. They were very gratefully received. Please continue to collect and cause the stamps to be left in the Cathedral Office! Many thanks, from Claire Jackson.

The Evergreens: The next meeting of The Evergreens is on Tuesday, 25th March, 2025 at 2:30 pm in Saint Mary's Cathedral. The speaker will be Derek Mulcahy and he will talk about Saint Mary's Pipe Band. Please bring along a friend and publicise the meeting. Looking forward to seeing you there.

The Church's Ministry of Healing Ireland: Dr Jessica Brown, is facilitating its online Lenten course, "Invitation into Wholeness". This will be held on Zoom at 7.30pm on March 19th, 26th, April 2nd & 9th. These are gentle, reflective and nourishing sessions exploring the concept of wholeness in new ways: Week 1: Brokenness and Newness; Week 2: Trees, Stone, Seas; Week 3: Sounding out the Heart and Trusting our Voice; Week 4: Joy & Sorrow on the Same Page. Go to our website, www.ministryofhealing.ie, for the Eventbrite link to book a place or email lydia@ministryofhealing.ie if you have any problems with Eventbrite.

Cathedral Flowers: The flower rota is being updated. If you wish to have your name added or removed to the list of arrangers; or would like to 'sponsor a Sunday'/donate flowers. Please contact the Cathedral office on 310293 or speak to the flower co-ordinator, Adrienne Baron.

Whist Drives: Villiers Square - Saturday 22nd March @ 7.15pm.

Choir Supervision: The Dean and Organist are looking for volunteers to help occasionally 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 individual.

Cycles of prayer: *Porvoo:* Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia, Church of England: Diocese of Lichfield, Church in Wales: Diocese of St David's. *Anglican:* The Church of the Province of Central Africa.

Remembrance Book: John Boyle, Tom Marsden, Robin Wakely, Mabel O'Toole, Michael Holland, Connie Gardiner, Teresa Barry, Marianne Fenner, Harold Gordon Brown, Ruth Di Girolamo and John Gordon Brickenden.

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

NOTE: If you wish to place a name on the list, please email it to 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

	16 th March	23 rd March	30 th March	6 th April
REFRESHMENTS				
St Michael's	<i>Keith & Sheelagh Morrow</i>	<i>John & Kayt Shier</i>	<i>Richard & Margaret Brickenden</i>	<i>Justin & Edel O'Connor</i>
Cathedral		<i>Brian Sheppard</i>	<i>Shawn & Carrie Jamieson</i>	<i>Lillian Okechukwu</i>
READERS				
St Michael's	<i>Richard Allen</i>	<i>Margaret Schutz</i>	<i>Daire McNamara</i>	<i>Sheelagh Morrow</i>
Cathedral	<i>Muyiwa Okeneye</i>	<i>John St George</i>	<i>Heather Peirce</i>	<i>Frank Sheahan</i>

CONTACT DETAILS

The Very Rev'd Niall J.W. Sloane (Dean): The Deanery, 7 Kilbane, Castletroy

Email: 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.

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Limerick City Parish ~ Weekly Newsletter – Deadline for notices 12 noon every Wednesday.

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