



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Saint Mary's, Saint Michael's and Ss John & Ailbe – Easter VII (Sunday after Ascension Day) – 17th May 2026

COLLECT AND READINGS

O God the King of Glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Mercifully give us faith to know that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth to the end of time; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

THE FIRST READING ACTS 1:6-14

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.' Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

PSALM 66:7-18

- 1 Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered; ♦
let those that hate him flee before him.
- 2 As the smoke vanishes, so may they vanish away; ♦
as wax melts at the fire,
so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; ♦
let them make merry with gladness.
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his name;
exalt him who rides on the clouds. ♦
The Lord is his name; rejoice before him.
- 5 Father of the fatherless, defender of widows, ♦
God in his holy habitation!
- 6 God gives the solitary a home
and brings forth prisoners to songs of welcome, ♦
but the rebellious inhabit a burning desert.
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your people, ♦
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 The earth shook and the heavens dropped down rain,
at the presence of God, the Lord of Sinai, ♦
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You sent down a gracious rain, O God; ♦
you refreshed your inheritance when it was weary.
- 10 Your people came to dwell there; ♦
in your goodness, O God, you provide for the poor.
- 32 Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth; ♦
make music in praise of the Lord;
- 33 He rides on the ancient heaven of heavens ♦
and sends forth his voice, a mighty voice.
- 34 Ascribe power to God, whose splendour is over Israel, ♦
whose power is above the clouds.
- 35 How terrible is God in his holy sanctuary, ♦
the God of Israel, who gives power and strength to his people!
Blessed be God._

THE EPISTLE I PETER 4:12-14 – 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

THE GOSPEL SAINT JOHN 17:1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal Giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom. Confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

HYMNS					
The Cathedral	285	438	281		
Saint Michael's	250	266	431	281	

Services are recorded and may be viewed online on <https://www.churchcamlive.ie/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 <https://www.churchcamlive.ie/limerickstmarys> 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 17 th May Easter VI (Sunday after Ascension Day)	9.30	Holy Communion	Ss John & Ailbe, Abington
	10.00	Morning Prayer	Saint Michael's
	11.15	Holy Communion	The Cathedral
Monday 18 th May	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Tuesday 19 th May	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
	13.15	Lunchtime Talk	The Cathedral
Wednesday 20 th May	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Thursday 21 st May	10.30	Holy Communion	The Cathedral
	19.30	Concert in Abington	Ss John & Ailbe, Abington
Friday 22 nd May	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Saturday 23 rd May	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral

Sunday 24 th May (The Feast of Pentecost)	10.00	Morning Prayer	Ss John & Ailbe, Abington
	10.00	Morning Prayer	Saint Michael's
	10:30	UN Service	The Cathedral
	11.15	Choral Mattins	The Cathedral

THIS WEEK'S NOTICES

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

Please Note: Items for inclusion in the newsletter must be submitted by 12 Noon each Wednesday for consideration of the Clergy. Items must be kept to 50 words or less.

Photography & Filming: A gentle reminder that photography & filming are not permitted during church services unless otherwise directed by the clergy, i.e. diocesan occasions.

Abington Concert: The Sliabh Feilim Singers' Annual Summer Concert will take place in Abington Church on Thursday, 21st May at 7:30pm. Tickets are €10, with proceeds supporting the work of the Abington Church Development Fund.

Thank You! Claire Jackson would like to thank the many recent donors of used stamps for Barnardos not least the congregation of Adare/Ballingrane Methodist Church who succeeded in collecting an extremely generous sized boxful!

Ordination: Please note that the Rev'd Scott E. Elliott will be ordained Priest by the Right Reverend Michael Burrows in Saint Mary's Cathedral, Limerick, on Saturday, 30th May 2026 at 4:00pm. All are welcome to attend.

Saint Michael's Committee: The next meeting of the Saint Michael's Committee will take place on Tuesday 26th May 2026 at 8pm in the Parish Room.

Wanted for the Cathedral

- 3 new computer harddrives
- A Manual Emergency Lifting Chair

If you are interested in gifting any of these to the Cathedral (perhaps in memory of a loved one), please speak with the Dean.

"Choose Your Pot": Saint Michael's Church is planning to repaint the church and is seeking donations to assist with the associated expenses. Your support would be sincerely valued.

National Epilepsy Week 2026 takes place from 18th May - 25th May. For further information, please visit www.epilepsy.ie/content/national-epilepsy-week-2026-epilepsyweek.

Ministry of Healing Online Series: Join The Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland for a four-week online series of reflection on the places we inhabit and a gentle exploration of our true belonging. Led by Carol Casey and Lydia Monds, these sessions will include silence, prayer, scripture, and poetry. They offer a space for wondering, rest, and reflection — a healing balm for mind, heart, and soul. **Thursdays, 11.00am – 12.00pm:** May 14th, 21st, 28th, and June 4th. Booking: www.ministryofhealing.ie

Certificate in Christian Studies: Enrolment now open for the 2026/27. Two-year online course validated by St Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth. It costs €300 a year. Applications and enquiries to: The Very Rev'd Dr Richard Marsh, Dean of Killaloe. Email: dean@stflannanscathedral.com / mob: 089 245 1601.

The Prayer Tree: Parishioners and visitors are warmly encouraged to write a prayer and place it on the Cathedral Prayer Tree, located in Saint Mark's Chapel.

Sunday Clubs: The Sunday Club is open to those of primary school age. It meets regularly with appropriate vacation breaks. Accompanied by a carer those not yet attending Primary School are welcome too. Clubs meet in all three churches throughout the month (Cathedral 1st and 3rd, St Michael's 2nd, Abington on 2nd and 4th).

Youth Activities: Looking for ways to keep children entertained at the weekend? Saint Mary's Cathedral offers a variety of free activities, including LEGO trails, colouring sheets, activity booklets, and guided tours. All activities are inclusive, and participants receive a certificate in recognition of their efforts.

Weekday Services: Did you know weekday services are held in Saint Mary's Cathedral at 10.30am? Services normally last around 20 minutes with a midweek Holy Communion held on Thursday. All welcome to attend!

Accommodation (2 appeals)

- Abiola needs accommodation with budget between €450-550 (bill inclusive). Contact on 0899525219.
- Adeola, a mother of two delightful teenagers, is looking for a 2/3 bed apartment in Limerick city or any of its suburbs. Contact on 0899791976.

Cycles of prayer: *Porvoo:* Church of England: Diocese of Southwark, Church of Norway: Diocese of Björgvin
Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Episcopal Church in the Philippines.

Remembrance Book: John Ruddock, Joe O'Connor, Madeline Brislane, Veich Maiden, James Bond, Ben Carroll, Detective Garda Nicholas Dennihan, Kosta Urban, Lee Rigby, Elizabeth Franke.

Prayers for the Sick: Irene Trousdell, Terry Gibson, Martin Hogan, Sarah B, Mary Alicia Downes, David, Elayne and Hilary Noonan, Hazel, Mac, Dean Sandra Pragnell, Layla, Karine Egan, Uzoma Kabi. Lillian O'Connell, Kevin Sullivan, Alan Kennedy, Noah Copley-Brown, Deirdre, Olwen, Paddy Sirr

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

	17 th May	24 th May	31 st May	01 st June
Refreshments				
St Michael's	Keith & Sheelagh Morrow	John & Kayt Shier	Richard & Maragaret Brickenden	TBC
Cathedral	Keith O'Neil	Brian Sheppard	Shawn & Carrie Jamieson	TBC
Readers				
St Michael's	Annabelle Griffin	Sheelagh Morrow	Cormac O'Connell	Richard Alan
Cathedral	John St George	Noreen Ellerker	Alan Bunworth	Paul Cable

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

The Rev'd Scott E. Elliott (Curate): The Curatage, 50 Ballinvoher, Fr Russell Road, Dooradoyle
 Email: curate@limerick.anglican.org; Mob: 0871951766. Day off: Monday

Clergy Emergency Number: Tel: 087-3524046. (Strictly Emergency Calls Only).
 The Parish Office: Saint Mary's Cathedral, Bridge Street, Limerick, V94E068.
 Limerick City Parish
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