

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Saint Mary's, Saint Michael's and Ss John & Ailbe – XVI Sunday after Trinity (Proper 20) – 20th September 2026

COLLECT AND READINGS

O Lord, Hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE FIRST READING JONAH 3:10-4:11

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, 'O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' And the Lord said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.' But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the Lord said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

PSALM 145:1-8

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, ♦
and bless your name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you ♦
and praise your name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; ♦
his greatness is beyond all searching out.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another ♦
and declare your mighty acts.
- 5 They shall speak of the majesty of your glory, ♦
and I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your marvellous acts, ♦
and I will also tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall pour forth the story of your abundant kindness ♦
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.
- 8 The Lord is gracious and merciful, ♦
long-suffering and of great goodness.

EPISTLE PHILIPPIANS 1:21-30

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I

know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God’s doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

THE GOSPEL SAINT MATTHEW 20: 1-16

‘For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, “You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.” So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, “Why are you standing here idle all day?” They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” He said to them, “You also go into the vineyard.” When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, “Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.” When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, “These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.” But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?” So the last will be first, and the first will be last.’

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of mercy, through our sharing in this holy sacrament you make us one body in Christ. Fashion us in his likeness here on earth, that we may share his glorious company in heaven, where he lives and reigns now and for ever.

HYMNS					
Saint Michael’s	6	9	533	365	
The Cathedral	645	672	567		

Services are recorded and may be viewed online [on https://www.churchcamlive.ie/limerickstmarys](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 20 th September Trinity XVI	09.30	Holy Communion	Ss John & Ailbe, Abington
	10.00	Morning Prayer	Saint Michael's
	11.15	Holy Communion	The Cathedral
Monday 21 st September	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Tuesday 22 nd September	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Wednesday 23 rd September	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Thursday 24 th September		No Service	The Cathedral
Friday 25 th September	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Saturday 26 th September	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Sunday 27 th September Trinity XVII	10.00	Morning Prayer	Ss John & Ailbe, Abington
	10.00	Harvest Festival	Saint Michael's
	11.15	Morning Prayer	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.

Midweek Holy Communion: Due to a private event taking place in the Cathedral on Thursday 24 September, there will be no Midweek Holy Communion service on that day.

Harvest Thanksgiving Service: Thanksgiving Service of St. Michael's church will be held on Sunday 27th September at 10.00am. All welcome

Saint Michael's Committee: The Saint Michael's Committee will meet on Wednesday, 23 September, at 8.00 pm.

Harvest Appeal: The clergy are inviting donations of food items as part of this year's Harvest Appeal which will support the charities partnered with the Cathedral, as well as Saint Michael's Food Bank. Donations may be brought to either the Cathedral or the Church and will be presented to the charities before the end of October.

Annual General Meeting: Limerick Protestant Orphan & Childcare Society will take place on 24th September 2026 at 5.00 p.m. in St Michael's Church Hall.

The Tuesday Club: Barbara Mulcahy will give a talk and demonstration on seed-saving using plants that are common in our gardens, on Tuesday, 29th September 2026 at 2.30pm in the Cathedral. Barbara, trained in the Botanic Gardens, Dublin, was the first woman gardener to be appointed in the city. All are welcome.

Calling all crafters! The clergy are seeking donations of handcrafted hearts for use during bereavement services at University Hospital Limerick (UHL). A display of the donated hearts will be featured in the Cathedral during Remembrancetide. Hearts may be knitted, crocheted, painted, sewn, or created using any other craft medium. For further information, please contact the Curate's Assistant.

Confirmation: Please note that the Service of Confirmation will be held in Saint Michael's Church on Sunday, 18 October, at 11.15 am.

Community Awards 2026: Inviting nominations of Limerick residents who have positively impacted the community. Deadline: 30th November. Awards presented in February 2027. Forms available at the Cathedral Office or email at info@saintmaryscathedral.ie

Wanted: Abington are looking for approximately 8 good quality scaffolding planks for use in the church garden (maybe you have some lying around your garage or garden?). Please speak with the clergy if you are in a position to help.

Assisting at Worship: The clergy are seeking expressions of interest from parishioners who would be willing to bring forward the gifts at Holy Communion. If you would like to become more involved in the life and ministry of the parish, please speak to a member of the clergy about the various opportunities available.

Prayer List for the Sick: Please note that the Prayer List for the Sick will be reviewed and updated in the coming weeks. Anyone who wishes to remain on the list, or to have a loved one continue to be included, is asked to contact a member of the clergy. Thank you for your assistance in helping us keep the list current and accurate.

Whist Drives: Whist Drives are back in St. Michael's Church Hall – Starting Time is 7.30pm.
Dates: Saturday 10th October, Saturday 7th November and Saturday 12th December. Contact Gillian on 087 1254687 to learn the game through a refresher/training session of Whist.

Cycles of prayer: *Porvoo: Church of England: Diocese of Sheffield, Church of Greenland: (Diocese of Greenland within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark) | Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of Australia*

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, Deirdre, Olwen, Paddy Sirr, Dick Blennerhassett, Stephanie Narramore, Rev'd Brian O'Reilly

Remembrance Book: Jonathan Shier, Trevor Shier, Patrick Fitzgerald, Christopher Noel King, George Martin, Jean Conconan, Alice O'Connell

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

	20 th September	27 th September	4 th October	11 th October
Refreshments				
St Michael's	Dick & Mary Blennerhassett	Trevor & Tracey Lyttle	Daire McNamara	Nicholas & Annabelle Griffin
Cathedral	Keith O'Neil	Brian Sheppard	Lillian Okechukwu	Alyson McHugh
Readers				
St Michael's	Margaret Schutz	Stephen Fairbrother	Lucy Kavanagh	John Shier
Cathedral	Paul Cable	Muyiwa Okeneye	Frank Sheahan	Heather Peirce

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](http://www.lcp.limerick.anglican.org)

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