LIMERICK CITY PARISH

SAINT MARY'S CATHEDRAL LIMERICK

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Saint Mary's, Saint Michael's and Ss John & Ailbe II Sunday Before Advent (Proper 28), 15th November 2026

COLLECT AND READINGS

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

THE FIRST READING ZEPHANIAH 1:7,12-18

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm.' Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

PSALM 90:1-8, 12

1 Lord, you have been our refuge ♦
from one generation to another.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the earth and the world were formed, ♦
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

3 You turn us back to dust and say: ♦
'Turn back, O children of earth.'

4 For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday, ♦
which passes like a watch in the night.

5 You sweep them away like a dream; ♦
they fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; ♦
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

7 For we consume away in your displeasure; ♦
we are afraid at your wrathful indignation.

8 You have set our misdeeds before you ♦
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

12 So teach us to number our days ♦
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

EPISTLE I THESSALONIANS 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

THE GOSPEL SAINT MATTHEW 25:14-30

'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope. Bring us at the last to that pure life for which we long, through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

HYMNS					
Saint Michael's	214	105	81	529	
The Cathedral	346	ROTB	567		

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 15th November II Before Advent	09.30	Morning Prayer	Ss John & Ailbe, Abington
	10.00	Morning Prayer	Saint Michael's
	11.15	Holy Communion	The Cathedral
Monday 16th November	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Tuesday 17th November	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
	13.15	**Lunchtime Concert**	The Cathedral
	13.15	**Tuesday Social**	The Cathedral
Wednesday 18th November	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Thursday 19th November	10.30	Holy Communion	The Cathedral
Friday 20th November	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Saturday 21st November	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Sunday 22nd November Sunday Before Advent / Trinity 25 (Proper 29)	9.30	Morning Prayer	Ss John & Ailbe, Abington
	10.00	Morning Prayer	Saint Michael's
	11.15	Holy Communion	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.

Lunchtime concert: Tuesday 17th November at 1.15pm, Paulo Alonso (viola), Ana Armadans (flute) and Ellen Jansson (piano)

Christmas Raffle: Saint Michael's Church are looking for donations of items suitable for a Christmas hamper e.g. wine, biscuits, chocolates, crackers, crisps, jam, napkins etc., etc., (please ensure all donations of food items are within best before dates). Unwanted gifts would also be welcomed. A basket is placed in the back of the church for all generous gifts commencing Sunday this Sunday. The raffle will take place in December at the Christmas Carol Service.

Villiers Christmas Market Stall – taking place in Villiers School on Friday 5th December from 12noon to approximately 4pm **-** we need to collate preserves, home baking, unwanted gifts, etc for this event.

Appeal for Christmas Trees: To celebrate the completion of the restoration at Saint Michael's Church, we are hosting a Christmas Tree Showcase this December. We warmly invite parishioners, local businesses, schools and community groups to donate/sponsor a tree and help make this a special celebration of our community. To get involved, speak to the Curate or email curate@limerick.anglican.org.

Volunteers Needed – Saint Michael's Christmas Tree Showcase: As restoration at Saint Michael's nears completion, we are delighted by the positive feedback and grateful to everyone involved. This December, our Christmas Tree Showcase will celebrate our community's creativity. We are seeking volunteers to welcome visitors on Sunday afternoons. If you can help, please email the Curate your name. Thank you! – curate@limerick.anglican.org

Christmas at Limerick City Parish: We are pleased to announce our programme for the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Please see attached document listing upcoming events and services.

Used Stamps Collection: A large consignment of used stamps was recently delivered to and most gratefully received by the Barnardos Head Office in Dublin. Thank you to all those who took the trouble to collect the stamps and then to leave them into St Mary's Cathedral for the attention of Claire Jackson . Please continue to do so...

Feile Luimnigh Instrumental Prize Winners Concert: Sunday 22nd November at 5pm, a concert to be given by young prize-winning performers from this year's Feile Luimnigh instrumental competitions. Tickets are available at the link below, or on the door - 10 euro for adults, and children can attend for free Link: https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/feile-luimnigh-instrumental-prize-winners-concert-2026-tickets-200425297961 5?aff=oddtdtcreator&keep_tld=true

Tuesday Club Social: The Tuesday Social Club will meet on Tuesday, 17th November 2026, at Saint Mary's Cathedral. This month, instead of a guest speaker, members are invited to attend the Lunchtime Concert, which runs from 1:15pm to 2:00pm, followed by our usual cuppa and chat at approximately 2:15pm. Anyone requiring a lift, whether to attend the concert or just the social gathering afterwards, is asked to contact Noreen Allen on 085 733 5855.

Blood donation clinics will take place at Castletroy Park Hotel on Sunday, 15th November, from 11:50am to 3:10pm and Monday, 16th November, from 4:20pm to 7:40pm, and at St Munchin's College, Corbally, on Thursday, 19th November, from 4:50pm to 8:10pm. To make an appointment, please call **1800 222 111**.

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@saintmaryscatheral.ie

Anam Cara's next Bereavement Information Evening: Open to all bereaved parents, whatever their child's age, circumstances of death, or time since loss, this gentle online event takes place Thursday 19 November at 7pm. Register here: Meeting Registration - Zoom

Sunday Club: Saint Mary's Sunday Club agenda for this Sunday is the making of the Advent wreath
The Sunday Club will next meet for some Christmas themed activities during the service on 20th December.
The annual cinema outing, much enjoyed and kindly sponsored by the Parish, will be on the morning Saturday 12th December. More details to follow**.**

Enrolment – Saint Michael's National School (September 2027): Enrolment applications for Saint Michael's National School will open on 16th November 2026 and close on 29th January 2027. Parents and guardians are encouraged to read the school's Admission Policy, available on the school website, before submitting an application. For further information and to register your application, please visit www.smnslimerick.ie.

Accommodation: Ayomide (Mide) Ogun-Ajala, a 24-year-old parishioner of Saint Mary's Church, Maynooth, has recently secured a position with Verizon in Limerick City. He is seeking an affordable, furnished single room in a shared house, ideally near the city centre, with a budget of €600–€800 per month, preferably including bills. If you can help, please contact Mide directly at ayomide5462@gmail.com or 089 217 3864. Thank you for your support.

UHL Remembrance Badges: The Bereavement Services at UHL have kindly donated free remembrance badges for parishioners and visitors. These badges are a symbol of remembrance for those we love but see no longer. The badges will be available at the back of the churches and the Cathedral for any parishioners or visitors who wish to take one.

Bible Reading Fellowship: Orders for next year's Guidelines and New Daylight are due in Dublin in November. The cost of the three issues in 2027 will be €26. If anyone would like to know more about the booklets, please let me know. Unless I hear to the contrary, I will assume that current readers are happy to renew their orders and will bill them in due course! My contact number is 087 2200216 – Margaret Schutz.

Cycles of prayer: Porvoo: Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church, Church of England: Diocese of Rochester | Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Iglesia Anglicana de Chile

Prayers for the Sick: Irene Trousdell, Terry Gibson, Martin Hogan, Sarah B, David, Elayne and Hilary Noonan, Hazel, Mac, Dean Sandra Pragnell, Layla, Karine Egan, Uzoma Kabi. Lillian O'Connell, Kevin Sullivan, Alan Kennedy, Olwyn, Paddy Sirr, Stephanie Narramore, Rev'd Brian O'Reilly, Mike Sheehan, Philomena

Remembrance Book: Eleanor Cleary, William John Gimble, Ven. Malcolm Shannon, Nora Gray, Martin Clancy, Ray McCormack, Henry Faro, John Copely, James O'Callaghan

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

	15th November	22nd November	29th November	6th December
Refreshments				
St Michael's	Cormac & Ruth Lillie O'Connell	Trevor & Tracey Lyttle	Gillian Cheatley	tbc
Cathedral	Keith O'Neil	Brian Sheppard	Shawn & Carrie Jamieson	Lillian Okechukwu
Readers				
St Michael's	Richard Allen	Daire McNamara	Margaret Schutz	Annabelle Griffin
Cathedral	Bell Ringers' Representative	Lindsay Boyle	Frank Sheahan	Noah Copley Brown

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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