



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

*Saint Mary's, Saint Michael's and Ss John & Ailbe: December 6<sup>th</sup> 2020 ~ 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent*

### Services:

| Date                    | Time  | Venue                     | Service        |
|-------------------------|-------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.00 | Saint Michael's           | Morning Prayer |
| <i>Advent II</i>        | 11.30 | Ss John & Ailbe, Abington | Holy Communion |
|                         | 11.15 | Saint Mary's Cathedral    | Holy Communion |
| Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> | 10.00 | Saint Michael's           | Holy Communion |
| <i>Advent III</i>       | 11.00 | Ss John & Ailbe, Abington | Morning Prayer |
|                         | 11.15 | Saint Mary's Cathedral    | Morning Prayer |

### COLLECTS AND READINGS

**The Collect:** Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: Give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Isaiah 40: 1-11:** Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

### Psalm 85

Lord, you were gracious to your land; ◆ you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

You forgave the offence of your people ◆ and covered all their sins.

I will listen to what the Lord God will say, ◆ for he shall speak peace to his people and to the faithful,  
that they turn not again to folly.

Truly, his salvation is near to those who fear him, ◆ that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth are met together, ◆ righteousness and peace have kissed each other;

Truth shall spring up from the earth ◆ and righteousness look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed give all that is good, ◆ and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before him ◆ and direct his steps in the way.

**2 Peter 3: 8-15:** But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given to him.

**Mark 1: 1-8:** The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight"', John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

**Post Communion Prayer:** Lord, here you have nourished us with the food of life. Through our sharing in this holy sacrament teach us to judge wisely earthly things and to yearn for things heavenly. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Prayers about the Coronavirus outbreak:** Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

### Service Notes

- Services will be recorded and may be viewed online on: [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv) and the Cathedral website ([www.saintmaryscathedral.ie](http://www.saintmaryscathedral.ie)) within the 90 days following the service. After that time recordings will be destroyed however exceptions may apply and recordings could last longer if the Cathedral required it. Occasional services may be recorded and will be advertised on both websites [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv) and [www.saintmaryscathedral.ie](http://www.saintmaryscathedral.ie) and/or other communication channels of the Cathedral). If you would like further information on a particular event, please contact the Cathedral office.
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## THIS WEEKS NOTICES

**Advent Course in LCP:** The short weekly course during Advent entitled 'Finding meaning in Advent', continues this Tuesday at 8pm. Each week will last a max of 30 mins and will be conducted via Zoom. A guest speaker will talk on a chosen piece from Art, Music, Drama and Poetry and its relationship to the Advent story. Each talk (which lasts a max of 15mins) will be followed by 15 min group discussion/comment. If you are interested in joining this, please email [dean@limerick.anglican.org](mailto:dean@limerick.anglican.org). Please see attached notice for more information. A link for the course will be emailed to all interested parties on Tuesday afternoon. Attendance at all sessions is not a requirement for signing up.

**The Adventures of Mary & Joseph:** The Road Movie tells the Christmas story in 9 entertaining episodes which may be found here - [www.barnabasinschools.org.uk/resource/making-most-paperlesschristmas](http://www.barnabasinschools.org.uk/resource/making-most-paperlesschristmas)

**Sincere Thanks:** Sincere thanks to the Whist Drive Committee at St Michael's, Tracey, Gillian, Noreen and Val for the very generous donation of nearly €700 which was made to church funds! This was the result of the various Whist Drives which they organised before the Covid Pandemic struck. In such a difficult year this donation is especially appreciated!

**Mothers' Union Christmas Appeal:** We are again collecting dry goods for the larders in three hostels in the City: Thomond House, St. Patrick's Men's Hostel, Clare Street and Brother Stephen Russell Home. Toiletries and small items of clothing such as gloves, socks, scarves, etc. are also most welcome. Collection baskets will be in the Cathedral and St. Michael's this Sunday and on Sunday 13th December but other arrangements for collecting items can be arranged. Please call Margaret on 087 2200216.

**Cathedral pop-up shop:** Saint Mary's Cathedral is delighted to announce a 'Christmas pop-up shop' on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> and Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December from 11am to 3pm each day. Handmade crafts, toddlers knitwear, stocking fillers, gifts and Christmas cards will be available.

**Saint Michael's Click & Collect:** Further to requests from a few people for these items, a few ladies in St Michael's have decided to do a small fundraiser for St Michael's by way of providing food items for sale. If you would like to order or have any questions, please email [traceylyttle@gmail.com](mailto:traceylyttle@gmail.com) or call her on 086-6486197. This is only running for the next two weeks so please get your orders in early so that we can facilitate the same. We would be very grateful for your support and hopefully you will enjoy the products on offer.

**SeniorLine:** Since March, SeniorLine has been dealing with the large increase in call volumes, with some callers very negatively affected by Covid. SeniorLine volunteers are supporting callers often on a daily basis and offer strategies to help with their physical, emotional and mental health. Christmas is coming when these negative feelings may be magnified. Some callers cannot see family members, others may be spending Christmas alone. SeniorLine is open every day of the year from 10am to 10pm and will be open on Christmas Day and throughout the Christmas holiday season. We would be delighted to offer company and companionship to those you work with over the following weeks. Our Freefone number is 1800804591. For further information, log on to [www.thirdage.ie](http://www.thirdage.ie) ; [www.facebook.com/seniorline/Ireland](https://www.facebook.com/seniorline/Ireland) , or phone Anne Dempsey Communications Manager 087-7450721

**Newslink 2021:** As you are aware, the Newslink magazine covers news and information from the churches and schools around the United Dioceses of Limerick, Killaloe and Ardfert, it's a bright colourful magazine which is full of news and events.

Advance Notice: This year we have an option in how we receive the Newslink 2021:-

COST : €40 for the Magazine this includes delivery 'to the pew' for 10 issues in 2021.

Or €30 for the new e-Newslink (PDF) for 10 issues in 2021.

Booking forms will be sent out with the December edition to our regular subscribers, if you need more information or would like to receive Newslink 2021 please contact Gillian Cheatley (LCP Local

Distributor) or The Dean. The Newslink team of Ros, Janet and Gordan are working very hard to improve the magazine, please continues to support them. Consider a Gift Voucher for an annual subscription to your person of choice, If interested, Contact Janet Bray on [newslink@limerick.anglican.org](mailto:newslink@limerick.anglican.org) – it's a great Christmas Gift for someone special.

**Shopping Local:** Please remember the importance of buying Irish and supporting local shops and businesses, they really need our support and goodwill this year! Remember shopping local, rather than online, provides jobs for local people and keeps money in the community. We can make a difference by supporting one another!

**A thought:** The Select Vestry are extremely grateful to all those who continue to support our work and witness in Limerick. In the lead up to Christmas they have suggested (taking an example from other organisations) that parishioners who choose not to send Christmas Cards this year or who 'have everything they want' may wish to give/request a gift in lieu to Limerick City Parish.

**Livestreaming:** Log onto [www.churchservices.tv/limerickstmarys](http://www.churchservices.tv/limerickstmarys) Services will be on air at 11.15am on Sundays and 10.30am on Thursdays.

**Remembrance Book:** Please remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time among them: Stuart Gray, Olive Casey, Robert Evans, Adelaide Sirr, Jack Shorten, Muriel Williams, William Carey, Peggy Stockil, Tommy Hayes, Jimmie Keays, Gladys Blackledge, Margaret Mc Donnell and Gloria Bezundenhout.

**Cycle of Prayer:** *Church of Ireland:* Our own Diocese of Limerick & Killaloe as we prepare to unite with the Diocese of Tuam, Killala & Achonry, for our Bishop Kenneth Kearon & for Bishop Patrick Rooke. *Anglican Cycle of Prayer:* The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain and Rt Revd Carlos López-Lozano, Bishop of the Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church. *Diocese:* The victims of abuse and all engaged in Safeguarding.

**Prayers for the Sick:** Your prayers are asked for the sick in our community, especially, Rose McNamara, Andrew Prior, Anne Greenaway, Dean Sandra Pragnell, Harold Armstrong, Lorraine McCarthy, John Nix, Archie Brown, Terry Cusack, Sylvia Martin, Norman Lynas, Joe Boyle, Pat Fogarty, Frank Sheahan, William Morrissey and Alice O'Connell.

*NOTE ABOUT PRAYER LIST: If you wish to place a name on the list, please email your prayer request to [limerickcityparishnews@gmail.com](mailto:limerickcityparishnews@gmail.com). Under GDPR regulations please ensure you have the consent of the named person(s) before submitting a name. 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.*

## CONTACT DETAILS

- The Very Rev'd Niall J. Sloane (Dean): The Deanery, 7 Kilbane, Castletroy  
Email: [dean@limerick.anglican.org](mailto:dean@limerick.anglican.org) ; Tel: 061-338697. Day off: Friday
- The Rev'd Bernie Daly (Dean's Vicar): The Vicarage, 50 Ballinvoher, Fr Russell Road, Limerick  
Email: [deansvicar@limerick.anglican.org](mailto:deansvicar@limerick.anglican.org) ; Tel: 061-302038. Day off: Monday
- 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.

## LIMERICK CITY PARISH ~ WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Deadline for notices 12 noon every Wednesday.

To be added to the email circulation list: Please email [limerickcityparishnews@gmail.com](mailto:limerickcityparishnews@gmail.com)  
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