



Thomond Bridge, Limerick

EASTER VI
Sunday 9th May 2021



A message from the Dean

Happy Easter! On behalf of the chapter and parish I welcome you (albeit virtually) to Saint Mary's Cathedral, Limerick. No matter where you are joining us from, together we celebrate this service from a site of Christian worship and witness for over 850 years.

Niall

The Very Rev'd Niall J. Sloane, Dean.

Devotional Prayers

Before Service

O Lord, open our Lips, that our mouths may proclaim your praise, and purify our hearts that we may worthily magnify your glorious Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Before a Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

Cleanse us, O Lord, and keep us undefiled, that we may be numbered among those blessed ones, who, having washed their robes, and made them white in the Blood of the Lamb, stand before your throne, and serve you day and night in Your Temple. Amen.

After Celebration

O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament left us a memorial of your Passion: grant, we implore you, that we may so venerate the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood, as always to be conscious of the fruit of your Redemption.
You who live and reign forever and ever. Amen.

After Service

Grant, O Lord, that what we have sung with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and may always steadfastly fulfil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Organist is Mr Peter Barley

Order of Service



INTRODUCTION & WELCOME

Christ is risen! **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PENITENCE

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it. You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

Lord, have mercy on us, and write these your laws in our hearts.

The Confession is introduced with appropriate words, such as:

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins, to intercede for us in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace:

Silence

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought and word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may walk in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

The celebrant pronounces the Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Said

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: Grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING THE WORD

THE EPISTLE

Please sit

Acts 10: 44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

At the end the reader may say
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL

THE GOSPEL

Please turn to face the reader

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to St John chapter 15 beginning at verse 9

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

At the end the reader may say
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE SERMON: THE DEAN'S VICAR

Please sit

THE NICENE CREED

Please stand

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please kneel or sit

The Response to 'Lord in your mercy' is 'hear our prayer'

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.

CELEBRATING AT THE LORD'S TABLE [12]

THE OFFERTORY HYMN 372

1

Through all the changing scenes of life,
in trouble and in joy,
the praises of my God shall still
my heart and tongue employ.

2

O magnify the Lord with me,
with me exalt his name;
when in distress to him I called,
he to my rescue came.

5

Fear him, ye saints, and you will then
have nothing else to fear;
make you his service your delight,
your wants shall be his care.

6

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
the God whom we adore,
be glory, as it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us **therefore let us celebrate the feast**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Father, almighty and everliving God, at all times and in all places it is right to give you thanks and praise: Above all we praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, the true paschal lamb who was sacrificed for us; by dying he destroyed our death; by rising he restored our life: And so with all your people, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed are you, Father, the creator and sustainer of all things; you made us in your own image, male and female you created us; even when we turned away from you, you never ceased to care for us, but in your love and mercy you freed us from the slavery of sin, giving your only begotten Son to become man and suffer death on the cross to redeem us; he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world: he instituted, and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again: On the night that he was betrayed he took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks to you, he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we do as Christ your Son commanded:

**we remember his passion and death,
we celebrate his resurrection and ascension,
and we look for the coming of his kingdom.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; and as we eat and drink these holy gifts, grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit that we may be made one in your holy Church and partakers of the body and blood of your Son, that he may dwell in us and we in him: Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ

We being many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God, who has taken away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

The Communion (*Prayer for Spiritual Communion, after the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester*)

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have borne for me. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.

THE GREAT SILENCE

GOING OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: May we also thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

followed by

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

THANKSGIVING HYMN 366

Please stand

1

4

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore his praises sing.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King!

Angels, help us to adore him;
you behold him face to face.
Sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace!

THE BLESSING

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, raise you up to walk with him in the newness of his risen life: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Organ Voluntary

SAINT MARY'S CATHEDRAL, LIMERICK

According to myth, Saint Mary's Cathedral is built on the site of the Viking thingmote, later the palace of the O'Brien kings of Thomond, and was given to the church by King Donal Mór O'Brien in 1168. This myth appears to have no foundation and obscures the extraordinary importance of Saint Mary's Cathedral - probably the most important medieval building to survive intact in Ireland, and still performing its original function.

The diocese of Limerick was formally established by the Synod of Rath Breasail in 1111, and the church of Saint Mary, in heart of the Norse city, was declared the cathedral of the diocese – the only cathedral in any diocese named by the synod. That church was replaced between 1150 and 1174 by the core of the present Saint Mary's Cathedral. The great pointed arcade arches of the nave (among the earliest in Ireland) and the round arched windows of the clerestory above them, with the narrow aisles, represent the only intact native Irish church built on a Continental scale to survive intact from before the Norman invasion in 1169 – all the others are in ruins. The design of the nave, aisles and chancel is a native Irish adaptation of the Burgundian style, introduced into Ireland by the Cistercians after 1142, further embellished by the fine Hiberno-Romanesque west door. The tombstone of its first great benefactor, King Donal Mór O'Brien, can still be seen in the chancel.

In the following centuries the cathedral was embellished by the wealthy merchants of Limerick who built the chantry chapels on the north and south sides of the nave - the largest surviving range of medieval chantry chapels in any Irish church. The cathedral boasts Ireland's largest medieval altar stone and Ireland's only surviving medieval choir stalls. These choir stalls, with their charming carved misericords, constitute the largest intact collection of carved woodwork and furniture from medieval Ireland. Thought to date from about 1480, they may actually date to before 1426. The misericords supported the choral posteriors during the long offices the Cathedral Chapter was obliged to perform.

Later centuries saw the installation of the massive 17th century Thomond Monument in the chancel, beside the tomb of Donal Mór O'Brien. In the early 19th century, the Pain brothers designed the Bishop's Throne or Cathedra, the screen to the Glentworth Chapel and the monument to Bishop John Jebb, the precursor of the Oxford Movement with his High Church opinions. The nineteenth century stained glass is particularly fine, the largest window, by the Harry Clarke Studio, was dedicated in 1961 by Michael Ramsey, Archbishop of York. Michael Pearse, the father of the patriot, Patrick Pearse, carved the reredos in the chancel, and the chancel screen was designed by Edward Conor O'Brien in 1921.

Saint Mary's Cathedral is an extraordinarily complex building representing developments from the mid-twelfth century to the later twentieth century – a treasure of Irish religious art. It continues to be a place of prayer and pilgrimage for all who enter its doors and a symbol of faith, hope and love to the city of Limerick.

www.cathedral.limerick.anglican.org

SAINT MARY'S CATHEDRAL – GENERAL INFORMATION

Opening Times

The Cathedral is open every day except the 26th, 27th December and 1st January. No charges are made for those who come to join our worship or who wish to pray privately, and everyone is welcome.

Supporting the Cathedral

Saint Mary's Cathedral is a registered charity, and we do not receive state aid. The average weekly running costs of the cathedral and its ministry to the city is €6,000. By purchasing a ticket or making a donation or legacy, you are contributing towards the maintenance of Saint Mary's Cathedral and helping preserve it for future generations. Thank you!

Become a Friend

The Friends of Saint Mary's exist to support the Dean & Cathedral Chapter in maintaining and enhancing the Cathedral and its surroundings. Assisting and supporting the Dean and Chapter in maintaining and improving the services, music, fabric, fittings, furniture, ornaments, monuments and facilities of the Cathedral. Encouraging the interest and participation of young people through education and activities. Stimulating and maintaining public interest in the Cathedral. Supporting the needs of the Cathedral's mission in the modern world.

There Friends are united in their desire to support and maintain this 850-year-old Cathedral. Joining the Friends helps ensure that we can continue this important work.

Please visit the website for full details – www.cathedral.limerick.anglican.org

Facilities

Car parking is available in the grounds of the Cathedral or in the adjacent Car Park

There are toilets on site.

There is a small gift shop located within the Cathedral where visitors can purchase souvenirs of their visit.

Guided/Public Tours are available. School Groups can be accommodated.

Service Notes

- Services will be recorded and may be viewed online on: www.churchservices.tv and the Cathedral website (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 and 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

Reopening: We are delighted to confirm that our church buildings will reopen for public worship on Sunday 16th May. Services on the 16th will be as follows:

10am: St Michael's (Morning Prayer) : 11.15am: St Mary's (Holy Communion)

12 noon: Abington (Holy Communion)

We would like to remind those attending church services of the government guidelines in relation to acts of public worship and would kindly encourage you to take time to consult the guidelines below. We look forward to welcoming you back to our church buildings next Sunday.

Church Services from May 10 2021

Religious Services:

Currently Services remain online and Places of Worship open for private prayer.

From May 10:

50 are permitted to attend Places of Worship for recommencement of Religious Services. As with previous reopening for services, the following protective measures continue to apply:

- 2m social distancing guidelines adhered to (members of the same household can sit/stand close together)
- Wearing of face coverings
- Where possible separate points of entrance and exit, clearly marked
- No congregation by people outside the premises before and after any service
- Stewards on site to assist in this regard

It is advised that other religious ceremonies such as First Holy Communions and Confirmations should not take place at this time.

Saint Michael's Committee: The Committee will meet online on Monday 10th May at 8pm (please note change of time). Please email limerickcityparishnews@gmail.com for the Zoom link which will be sent out on the day of the meeting.

Easter General Vestry: Please note that the Easter General Vestry (ie the AGM) of the Parish will take place in the Cathedral on Sunday 30th May at 11.15am, it will be preceded by a short united parish service at 10.30am. Whilst it is not ideal to have two of our churches closed so soon after re-opening, it is necessary to hold the EGV as soon as possible and to minimise the amount of gatherings we have within the parish. In advance of the meeting, the annual report and accounts will be emailed to parishioners during the week.

Lunchtime talks: The Cathedral is delighted to announce a series of free on-line lunchtime talks. Full details may be found in the attached poster.

The Leamy Protestant Board of Education Limerick: The Board is a long-established Trust which provides education grants to those who meet the necessary criteria set down by the Trust's Constitution. If you or a family member wish to make an application, please contact the Hon. Secretary, Pearl Mitchell – pearlcmitchell@gmail.com. Closing date for applications is Wednesday 30th June 2021.

Livestreaming: Log onto www.churchservices.tv/limerickstmarys Sunday services will air at 11.15am.

Bishops' Appeal Sunday – 16th May 2021: The Bishop writes, "Night after night our TV screens tell of one disaster after another, and our hearts go out to the victims and the suffering. But how do we respond? What's the best way? Emergency relief or long-term aid to prevent further disasters? Bishops' Appeal can help by receiving donations from across the Church of Ireland and then channelling funds direct to whatever agency is on the ground in a disaster, and supporting long-term sustainable projects to bring meaningful change. A donation to Bishops' Appeal is the most effective way to respond to tragedy and need in the developing world." For those in the envelope scheme, a donation envelope is included in your box. Alternatively, you may wish to place something aside that can be included in the collection when church services resume. Thank you.

Remembrance Book: Please remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time among them: Art O'Leary, David Hayes, Maureen Gaffney, Wilfrid Maduchor, Eddie Ryan, Sean Deegan & Winnie Barrington.

Cycle of Prayer: *Church of Ireland:* Diocese of Connor and Bishop George Davison. *Anglican Cycle of Prayer:* The Anglican Church of Kenya. *Diocese:* The Skreen Union of parishes in the Diocese of Killala, Rev Canon Noel Regan, and the congregations of Christ Church Dromard, St Mary's Kilmacshalgan & Skreen church.

Prayers for the Sick: Your prayers are asked for the sick in our community, especially, Rose McNamara, Andrew Prior, Dean Sandra Pragnell, Harold Armstrong, Lorraine McCarthy, John Nix, Archie Brown, Sylvia Martin, Joe Boyle, Emily, Moira Lowry, Jim Curson, Mike, Betty, Alan Kennedy and Victor Barley.

NOTE ABOUT PRAYER LIST: If you wish to place a name on the list, please email your prayer request to 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 ; 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 ; 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 ; 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

www.lcp.limerick.anglican.org