

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Saint Mary's, Saint Michael's, and Ss John & Ailbe ~ 26th March 2023: Passion Sunday

COLLECTS AND READINGS

Collect of the week: Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: Grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross, we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Ezekiel 37: 1-14: The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.' So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.'

Psalm 130 (BCP p.747)

Out of the depths have I cried to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice; ♦ let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

If you, Lord, were to mark what is done amiss, ♦ O Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you, ♦ so that you shall be feared.

I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; ♦ in his word is my hope.

My soul waits for the Lord, more than the night watch for the morning, ♦ more than the night watch for the morning.

O Israel, wait for the Lord, ♦ for with the Lord there is mercy;

With him is plenteous redemption ♦ and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

Romans 8: 6-11: To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

John 11: 1-45: Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were

just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?’ Jesus answered, ‘Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.’ After saying this, he told them, ‘Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.’ The disciples said to him, ‘Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.’ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, ‘Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.’ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, ‘Let us also go, that we may die with him.’ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’ Martha said to him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.’ Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’ She said to him, ‘Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.’ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, ‘The Teacher is here and is calling for you.’ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, ‘Where have you laid him?’ They said to him, ‘Lord, come and see.’ Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, ‘See how he loved him!’ But some of them said, ‘Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?’

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, ‘Take away the stone.’ Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, ‘Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?’ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, ‘Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.’ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, and let him go.’ Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Post-Communion Prayer: God of hope, in this eucharist we have tasted the promise of your heavenly banquet and the richness of eternal life. May we who bear witness to the death of your Son, also proclaim the glory of his resurrection, for he is Lord for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Hymns:	Saint Michael’s	627	224	420	226
	Saint Mary’s	484	319	9	652

Service Notes

- Services will be recorded and may be viewed online on: www.churchservices.tv/meridstmarys 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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Services & Events

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Sunday 26 th	10.00	Holy Communion	Saint Michael's
Lent V	10.00	Morning Prayer	Ss John & Ailbe, Abington
Passion Sunday	11.15	Choral Matins	The Cathedral
Monday 27 th	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Tuesday 28 th	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
	13.15	Lunchtime concert	The Cathedral
	14.30	The Evergreens	The Cathedral
Wednesday 29 th	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Thursday 30 th		ICC AGM	The Cathedral
Friday 31 st	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Saturday 1 st	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
	16.30	The Irish Association of Change Ringers (IACR), Southern District AGM	The Cathedral
Sunday 2 nd	10.00	Holy Communion	Saint Michael's
	10.30	Morning Prayer	Ss John & Ailbe, Abington
	11.15	Holy Communion	The Cathedral

THIS WEEK'S NOTICES

From the Dean: The present Deanery in Castletroy has served the parish well since its purchase in 1981; however, a need for an upgrade and the change in living patterns in the Castletroy area the Select Vestry has been exploring the option of a new site for the Deanery. Ideally, the location will be close to the Cathedral and allow for the construction of a new building that will be sustainable, as well as conforming to RCB regulations. In recent times a suitable location has been identified and the Select Vestry agreed for this project to be investigated and a sub-committee was set up to work on this project. Last week, the Select Vestry gave approval to proceed to purchase the site pending Diocesan and RCB approval. Further updates will follow.

VACANCY

The position of Hon. Treasurer of the parish will become vacant shortly.
If you are interested in this role and wish to find out more,
please contact the Dean (contact details below)

ICC AGM: On Thursday, the Cathedral will host the 100th AGM of the Irish Council of Churches. This is the first time it has met in Limerick and will be addressed by the Mayor and Bishop. The meeting gathers representatives from over 14 different Christian denominations across the island. Due to this event, there will be no Holy Communion service and the cathedral will be closed for touring.

Collections: Thank you to those who support our annual 'envelope' appeals. In recent times the following has been collected: - Mission Sunday €795 - Bishops Appeal: €3837 - Priorities €766.10

Come and Sing: A special event will be held in St Michael's on 23rd April at 4pm. You are invited to submit your favourite hymn on the sheet (in St Michael's). The most popular choices will be included in this event to which all are invited.

Reader Training: We are grateful to those who read in our churches, a short course for those who would like to read or receive a 'refresher' will be held in the Cathedral on Monday 3rd April at 6.30pm.

The Evergreens: The next meeting of the Evergreens is on Tuesday, 28th March, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. in St Mary's Cathedral. The speaker will be Perry Keane from Citizens' Information Service (CIS). He will talk in general about its work and will be delighted to answer more specific questions afterwards. Looking forward to seeing you (plus a friend or two) on 28th March.

There will be an outing to the Woodlands Hotel in Adare for Afternoon Tea on Tuesday, 25th April, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. (Please note the time.) Contact Noreen Allen (085 7335855) if you wish to go or let us know at the meeting next Tuesday in the cathedral. The cost of the tea is €30 per person and this amount will be subsidised from our funds, reducing the cost to €20 per person. The final date for a decision to go and to pay Noreen is Sunday 16th April, 2023. If you wish to cancel, let Noreen know by this date as well.

Car show: This will now take place on Saturday 29th April in the Cathedral grounds (as part of Riverfest). If you are still interested in helping out with stewarding, etc, please let the Dean know. Your help will be required from 11am-4pm (lunch provided).

Bishops' Appeal for Turkey & Syria: Thank you to those who have already supported the appeal. Envelopes are available in your service booklets or at church entrance areas should you wish to make a donation. It is our intention to send off monies collected thus far at the end of the month (if you wish to make a donation, we kindly ask that this might be done before then); however, the appeal will remain open for donations until further notice.

Sunday School/Childrens' Easter Services: Parents, please note changes to **Sunday school** times and **special childrens' service** on Good Friday as follows; Sunday, March 26 @ 11.15 - Sunday School, on the meaning of Holy Week. Friday, April 7 – Childrens' (aimed especially for 4 to 9y.o.) service for Good Friday. All are welcome to attend, but at least one parent should accompany the children. Easter day, April 9 @ 11.15 – Sunday school, on the meaning of the Resurrection. NB change in time on Good Friday.

REFRESHMENTS	26 th March	2 nd April	9 th April
Saint Michael's	Justin & Edel O'Connor	Daire McNamara/Jill Storey	Tony O'Connell
The Cathedral	Brian Sheppard	Lillian Okechukwu	Shawn/Carrie Jamieson

Remembrance Book: Please remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time among them: Richard Lennox, Christina Houlihan, David Charles Pragnell, Otto Haselbeck, James Bond, Muriel Howes, Ruth Mc Cann, Samuel Roundtree, John Sparling and Norman Long.

Cycle of Prayer: *Church of Ireland:* the Diocese of Derry & Raphoe and the Rt Revd Andrew Forster. *Anglican Cycle of Prayer:* The Anglican Church of South America. *Diocese:* We pray for schools, colleges and universities within the diocese, including our diocesan schools, for their staff and students, that they may be places of learning and happiness.

Prayers for the Sick: Your prayers are asked for the sick in our community, especially, Harold Armstrong; Sylvia Martin; Emily; Tom, Moira Lowry; Mac; Alan Kennedy; Zandra; Stephen Richards; Kathleen Leddin; Marie O'Connor; Sinead; Martha McDermott; Ava Colohan; Aileen Henderson; Rose McNamama; Dean Sandra Pragnell; Patrick; Brian; Barbara Farnley; Terry Gibson; Susan Whelan; Rosaleen Moloney; Catherine Coulter; Michael Downes; Catherine Slattery; Helen; Oliver Stapleton; Tim; William Downes, and Tim O'Leary.

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.W. Sloane (Dean): The Deanery, 7 Kilbane, Castletroy
Email: dean@limerickanglican.org; Tel: 061-338697. Day off: Friday
- Clergy Emergency Number: Tel: 087-3524046. (Strictly Emergency Calls Only).

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