

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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*Saint Mary's, Saint Michael's, and Ss John & Ailbe*  
*21<sup>st</sup> May 2023: Easter VII: Sunday after The Ascension*

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### COLLECTS AND READINGS

**Collect of the week:** O God the King of Glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Mercifully give us faith to know that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth to the end of time; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

#### First Reading ~ Acts 1: 6-14

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.' Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

#### Psalm 68: 1-10, 32-35 (BCP p.665)

Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered; ♦ let those that hate him flee before him.

As the smoke vanishes, so may they vanish away; ♦ as wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; ♦ let them make merry with gladness.

Sing to God, sing praises to his name; exalt him who rides on the clouds. ♦ The Lord is his name; rejoice before him.

Father of the fatherless, defender of widows, ♦ God in his holy habitation!

God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners to songs of welcome, ♦ but the rebellious inhabit a burning desert.

O God, when you went forth before your people, ♦ when you marched through the wilderness, The earth shook and the heavens dropped down rain, at the presence of God, the Lord of Sinai, ♦ at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

You sent down a gracious rain, O God; ♦ you refreshed your inheritance when it was weary.

Your people came to dwell there; ♦ in your goodness, O God, you provide for the poor.

Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth; ♦ make music in praise of the Lord;

He rides on the ancient heaven of heavens ♦ and sends forth his voice, a mighty voice.

Ascribe power to God, whose splendour is over Israel, ♦ whose power is above the clouds.

How terrible is God in his holy sanctuary, ♦ the God of Israel, who gives power and strength to his people! Blessed be God.

## Epistle Reading ~ I Peter 4: 12-14; 5: 6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

## Gospel/New Testament Reading ~ St John 17: 1-11

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

**Post-Communion Prayer:** Eternal Giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom. Confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

<b>Hymns:</b>	<b>Saint Michael's</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>281</b>
	<b>Saint Mary's</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>281</b>	

### Service Notes

- Services will be recorded and may be viewed online on: [www.churchservices.tv/limerickstmarys](http://www.churchservices.tv/limerickstmarys) 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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## Services & Events

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.00	Morning Prayer with Baptism	Saint Michael's
Sunday after the Ascension	10.30	Morning Prayer	Ss John & Ailbe, Abington
	11.15	Holy Communion	The Cathedral
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral

	13.15	Lunchtime concert	The Cathedral
	14.30	Evergreens	The Cathedral
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	Morning Prayer	The Cathedral
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> <i>Pentecost</i>	10.00	Holy Communion	Saint Michael's
	10.30	Morning Prayer	Ss John & Ailbe, Abington
	10.30	United Nations Service	The Cathedral
	11.15	Holy Communion	The Cathedral

## THIS WEEK'S NOTICES

### Abington dates:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Mass for Fr Lotti Brennan on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 11.30am in Murroe RC Church.
- Abington clean up: Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June from 2pmff

**Prayers for exams:** As we approach the end of the School year, we hold in Prayer all those sitting exams. For those preparing such events – remember it is only an exam and we are all here to support you. The following prayer is for use by all those sitting an examination –

Dear Lord, I want to do my best to fulfil the potential you have given me. Help me:

- to stay calm
- to keep things in perspective and be content with the best I can do on the day
- to look out for my friends who need a bit of encouragement, and
- to always remember that the real test is how closely I can follow in your way.

**Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland:** is running a free '**Developing a Mindfulness Practice**' course, starting **this Sunday evening (21<sup>st</sup>), on Zoom**. Open to all, it offers gentle ways to welcome Christ's healing presence into our lives, and develop techniques for well-being in mind, body, motions and spirit. These are 30-minute sessions, from 9 p.m. to 9.30 p.m., over the next 4 Sundays. Go to [www.ministryofhealing.ie](http://www.ministryofhealing.ie) to book in, or contact Lydia at [lydia@ministryofhealing.ie](mailto:lydia@ministryofhealing.ie) and she will register you.

The **annual Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland service of thanksgiving**, which is a service of Holy Communion with prayers for wholeness and healing, will be held on **11<sup>th</sup> June at 3 p.m., in St Mary's Church of Ireland, Maynooth**. The Rev Eugene Griffin will be the celebrant, and Mrs Gillian Kingston, of the Methodist Church in Ireland, will preach. All are welcome!

**From Irina:** With my apologies for not doing it sooner (I am recovering from ridiculously busy end of April ... and beginning of May): I would like to say big thank you to everyone who have been involved in preparing and helping in our first hymns festival at the end last month. "Now thank we all our God" was a wonderful event, who brought together people from different congregations and it was lovely to hear comments like, "We've sung out hearts out," "Those were my favourite hymns," and "This hymn brings so many lovely memories." I am thankful for all the great support, help and fabulous singing on the day to each member of St Michael's choir, as always greatly appreciated by all my heart, to everyone who submitted the hymns, to Margaret and Peter Schutz for all the caring support and welcome to all attended, to Dean Niall for his support and leading the festival, and for his amazing research on hymns history, and for many people who hosted the lovely tea afterwards with delicious baked treats! I hope it was the first of many future festivals in the wonderful and welcoming settings of St Michael's church.

**United Diocesan Youth Council:** Will hold their AGM on 10<sup>th</sup> June in St. Nicholas N.S., Adare at 2.30 p.m. All Welcome.

**U.D.Y.C.:** The United Diocesan Youth Council of Tuam, Limerick & Killaloe are organising a weekend for Emerging & Existing Youth Leaders and invite you to come along if you are over 16 years on the date of the event. The weekend will cost €80 per person. The fee will include all transport, activities, food and accommodation. Final date for bookings by text, call or e-mail is Mon 22<sup>nd</sup>. For further information please contact Valerie at 085/2832487 / [udyc.info@gmail.com](mailto:udyc.info@gmail.com) or Edward at 087/2907553 / e-mail at [edhardy70@gmail.com](mailto:edhardy70@gmail.com)

**World premiere in the Cathedral:** On June 18<sup>th</sup> at 11.15 a.m., the world premiere of Brendan Moir's "Mass of Reverence" in the Anglican Tradition will be held in Saint Mary's Cathedral.

REFRESHMENTS	21 <sup>st</sup> May	28 <sup>th</sup> May	4 <sup>th</sup> June
Saint Michael's	Nicolas Griffin	Susi Eckhardt	
The Cathedral	Keith O'Neil	Brian Sheppard	Lillian Okechukwu

**Remembrance Book:** Please remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time among them: James Bond; Ben Carroll; Det. Garda Nicholas Dennihan; Lee Rigby; Elizabeth Franke; Kenneth (Ken) Graydon; Nevitt Fogerty; Clement Thompson; Elizabeth (Rita) Harris, and Marjorie Rolf.

**Cycle of Prayer:** *Church of Ireland:* the Diocese of Connor and the Rt Revd George Davison. *Anglican Cycle of Prayer:* the Church in the Province of the West Indies. *Diocese:* for the Aghrim Group of parishes; for the Ven. John Godfrey; for the congregations of St Catherine's, Ahascragh; Holy Trinity, Aghrim; St John the Evangelist, Ballinasloe; St Matthew, Clontuskert; Kilconell, Woodlawn, and Ardahan church.

**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; Pat O'Donnell; Trevor Richmond; Terry Gibson; Rosaleen Moloney; Catherine Coulter; Michael Downes; Catherine Slattery; Helen; Tim; William Downes; Anne Plowman; Michael Plowman; Maureen Bramwell; Daniel O'Connell; Jim K; Stephanie K, Marie M; John Heaton, and Sarah B.

**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

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- The Rev'd Dr Leonard Madden (Curate-Assistant): The Curatage, 50 Ballinvoher, Fr Russell Road, Limerick  
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- Clergy Emergency Number: Tel: 087-3524046. (Strictly Emergency Calls Only).
- The Parish Office: Saint Mary's Cathedral, Bridge Street, Limerick, V94 E068.  
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