

Reflection: When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them. The scripture scholars tell us that the expression “the crowds” used by St. Matthew refers to the “uncommitted masses of Israel who are potential disciples but who are in danger of being led astray.” St. Matthew then goes on to suggest that they are in a sorry state.

He said they were “harassed and dejected” and because they were “like sheep without a shepherd” they lacked direction and focus. They didn’t know what they were doing or where they were going. They lacked meaning in their lives.

Jesus was not happy to see his people in this sorry condition. So, he did something about it. He summoned his twelve Apostles and he gave them authority to carry out his mission - to cast out the power of evil and to cure the sick, to make people whole.

The twelve he chose and commissioned were quite ordinary and flawed. All twelve of them would deny him and run away - Peter in very dramatic fashion, denying that he even knew him at all.

Eleven came back, repented and went on to witness to Jesus, many of them being martyred. Judas didn’t just deny Jesus he betrayed him and didn’t repent and was lost.

When Jesus looks at today’s crowd, what does he see. I expect he see people much like the ones he saw in the Gospel story. The modern world is full of potential disciples of Jesus but who are also very much in danger of being led astray. There are many increasingly bizarre ideologies in the world which play fast and loose with the truth and which promote very unwholesome philosophies and practices. What does Jesus do about it? He sends his modern day apostles - flawed as they are too - into the world to cast out evil and to restore his people to wholeness. We are those apostles by virtue of our baptism. Like the flawed Apostles we should embrace our apostolate, not be put off by our inadequacies but rely on the Lord’s grace to make use of us for His purposes.

The opening prayer bears repeating here: O God, strength of those who hope in you, graciously hear our pleas, and, since without you mortal frailty can do nothing, grant us always the help of your grace, that in following your commands we may please you by our resolve and our deeds.

Recently Pope Leo drew a connection between athletic / sporting life and the Christian journey.

“Lord Jesus, may every sport become a parable of life lived with you, working with joy and effort, living with humility in defeat and with gratitude in the victory you offer in your Resurrection,” he prayed.

“May your Spirit never be lacking in us, making us one team, united with you to build communion and fraternity in history.”

Priests of the Parish
Canon Gerard Garrett
Fr Daniel Tomasik
Fr Peter Claver Emeka Eze
Fr Krzysztof Tyburowski
In residence Canon John Daly

Eucharistic Adoration
Friday's 4pm—5.30pm
in the Adoration
Chapel.

Cathedral Shop
Mon - Sat, 10:30am - 1pm.
Sympathy Mass cards,
Occasional cards,
Candles and other religious
goods for sale.

Mass Times
Mon—Fri 10am, 5.45pm
Sat 10am & 6pm Vigil
Sun 8am, 10.30am, 12 noon

Confessions
Saturday 10.30am
Baptisms
Saturday 4.30pm

Recently Baptised
We welcome into the Christian
Community
Amelia Griffin
James Casey
We wish them and their
families every blessing.

Recently Deceased
We remember in our prayers
Darragh O'Toole RIP
May he rest in eternal peace.

Split the Pot Draw
Congratulations to
R. Lysaght
winner of last weekends draw.
Draw envelopes available at
the back of the church.
All monies go towards the
maintenance of the Cathedral.



St. John's Choir began the "Summer recess" after the 12 Noon Mass last Sunday. As we thank them, and their leader Bernadette Kiely - aided by Pdraig Wallace - for their wonderfully dedicated and faithful service which enhances our Sunday liturgies, we wish them a restful and enjoyable summer and we look forward to welcoming them back in September. Perhaps we might welcome some new members then too. If you are interested in joining, please have a word with Bernadette, one of the priests or Cora in the Parish Office at the presbytery.



Interested in re-entering the workforce?
The Community Employment Scheme is looking for a groundsperson to work 19 1/2 hours per week.
For further details contact Sherry at 061 414646



Knock Pilgrimage 2026

The annual Limerick Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine takes place on **Saturday, 11th July 2026.**

St. Joseph's Church is organising a bus departing **at 10am sharp.**

The cost is **€20 per person.**



The **Mid West Model Railway Club** is holding its annual exhibition in Limerick on **June 20th and 21st** at the Castletroy Park Hotel. It features numerous miniature layouts, diecast models, trade stands, and a large second-hand market.