

Reflection: The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A centres on a profound and comforting theme: God's universal invitation to a grand banquet of love, grace, and abundance. The readings contrast the overwhelming generosity of God with the varied, often distracted responses of humanity, challenging us to examine how we respond to His daily invitations.

The Readings at a Glance

First Reading (Isaiah 25:6-10a): The prophet Isaiah shares a vision of a lavish feast prepared by God on His holy mountain. At this banquet, sadness is wiped away, and death is destroyed forever.

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 23): We proclaim, "*I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,*" celebrating God as a shepherd who spreads a table before us.

Second Reading (Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20): St. Paul expresses complete confidence in God's providence, declaring the famous words: "*I can do all things in him who strengthens me.*"

Gospel (Matthew 22:1-14): Jesus tells the Parable of the Wedding Banquet, where a king's initial invitations are rejected or ignored by busy elites, leading him to open the hall to anyone found on the streets, both good and bad.

1. The Generosity of the Host

God is not a distant judge rationing out survival packages; He is a king throwing an unconditional, lavish royal wedding. The "banquet" represents salvation, the Eucharist, and eternal joy. It is entirely free, entirely ready, and extended to everyone without exception.

2. The Danger of "The Tyranny of the Urgent"

In the Gospel, the invited guests didn't necessarily commit heinous crimes; they simply ignored the invitation to attend to their own affairs. One went to his farm, another to his business. Our Reality: How often do we allow the busyness of life, work, anxiety, or routine to crowd out our relationship with God? The Lesson: Being too busy for God means missing out on the very peace and fulfilment we are trying to achieve through our striving.

3. The Mystery of the Wedding Garment

The parable takes a sharp turn when a man is cast out for not wearing a wedding garment. Since guests were pulled straight off the streets, this seems unfair on the surface. However, in ancient customs, the host provided the festive attire at the door. To not wear it was a direct insult, showing a lack of respect for the occasion. The Spiritual Meaning: While everyone is welcome in the Church as they are, we cannot remain unchanged. The wedding garment represents our internal transformation—putting on Christ through baptism, living out deeds of love, justice, mercy, and reconciliation. Acceptance of God's grace requires a conversion of heart.

Priests of the Parish
Canon Gerard Garrett
Fr Daniel Tomasik
Fr Peter Claver Emeke Eze
Fr Robert Coffey
In residence Canon John Daly

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
Danny O'Connor

Recently Deceased
We remember today in our
prayers
Lilly Forde RIP
Joseph Breen RIP
May they rest in eternal peace.

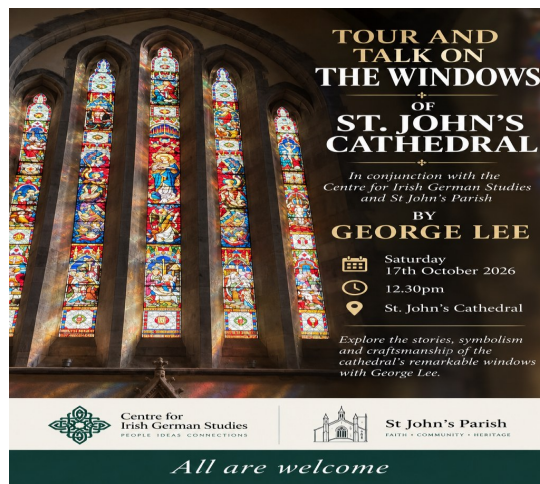
Split the Pot Draw
Congratulations to
Patricia Morrisson
winner of last weekend's draw.
Draw envelopes available at
the back of the church.

[Scan QR code to donate](#)



Funded by
An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council

We are very pleased to update you about the ongoing restoration of the pipe organ in St John's Cathedral. Last week the organ builders Neiland and Creane replaced the blower (the old one being on its last legs) and tuned the 2475 pipes. We wish to express our gratitude to the Heritage Council of Ireland for funding this very important work of restoration. By way of what the children would call a "fun fact", the blower weighed a quarter of a tonne (250kg) and had to be lifted into place by a special crane brought in especially for the occasion.



[Dr. Daniel Tomasik](#)

Heartiest congratulations to our own Father Daniel Tomasik who, having successfully defended his doctoral thesis, was awarded the degree of Doctor of Divinity by the Catholic University of Lublin in Poland.



This weekend we are taking up a (second) collection to make a presentation to Kieran Loughran on the occasion of his retirement as sacristan, a position he held for forty years. This affords us an opportunity to show our appreciation of him. We will let you know the details of the when and where of the presentation in due course.

St Michael's Church, Denmark St



St Michael's Parish
Denmark Street
Limerick, V94 P29V

Sunday Mass Schedule Notice

Please note the update to our **Sunday Mass times**:

Morning Mass: 9:00 am

Afternoon Mass:
at 4.30pm **Cancelled**

(There will be no 4:30 pm Mass)

Telephone No.: 061 423322
Email: stjohns@stjohnscathedral.limerick.ie

[Saints of the Week](#)

Mon 12th St Carlo Acutis

Wed 14th St Callistus

Thurs 15th St Teresa

Fri 16th St Hedwig, St Margaret