

Reflection

Chapter thirteen of St. Matthew's Gospel, which we heard from over the last two Sundays and again today, contains seven parables; the parables of the sower, the dandelion, the mustard seed, the yeast, the treasure in the field, the pearl of great price and finally the parable of the dragnet. Jesus uses them all to describe the Kingdom in various ways. He spoke of them as revealing the *mysteries* of the Kingdom of Heaven.

What do we mean when we speak of Mystery?

There was a light-hearted story of a bishop visiting a confirmation class and asking the children questions. He came to one little fellow and he asked him to explain the Trinity to him. Now the same little boy had a particularly thick accent and the bishop couldn't understand his answer. Having asked him to repeat himself a few times the bishop still couldn't understand and eventually said: I'm sorry young man I don't understand and little fellow shot back: you're not supposed to it's a mystery. That was the height of theological humour when I was in primary school.

In ordinary language we understand the word mystery to mean something unknown or even unknowable. In fact the word mystery comes from a Greek word which means *shut* or *closed*.

In our context however, mysteries are revealed truths that surpass the powers of natural reason. In other words, truths we wouldn't have been able to come to all by ourselves but which have been revealed to us by God.

St. Paul spoke rather eloquently about this when writing to the Corinthians about what he himself taught. He said: "It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known.... we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him."

The mysteries of the Kingdom, the mystery of God, the mysteries of God's plan of salvation are so rich and deep that they defy ordinary human reason and understanding but they have become accessible to us because they have been revealed to us by God. Through our faith, in our reading of scripture and prayer and reflection we can grow in our understanding of God's revealed truth and enter into the mysteries of the Kingdom.

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

All are Welcome

Priests of the Parish
Canon Gerard Garrett
Fr Daniel Tomasik
Fr Peter Claver Emeke Eze
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
Wilderlea Pearse O'Brien
Noelanne O'Brien Cacka
Aaliyah Murphy
We wish them and their
families every blessing.

Recently Deceased
We remember in our prayers
Patsy Ring RIP,
Margaret O'Driscoll RIP
May they rest in eternal
peace.

Split the Pot Draw
Congratulations to
Eoghan O'Sullivan
winner of last weekend's draw.
Draw envelopes available at
the back of the church.

Scan QR code to donate



CHAMPIONS AGAIN! LUIMNEACH ABÚ!

Limerick are once again the kings of hurling after a masterful victory over Galway at Croke Park.

Under the expert stewardship of manager John Kiely and his team the Treaty County delivered a powerful performance to reclaim the **Liam McCarthy Cup**.

A Huge Congratulations to all!

Twilight Thursday at Limerick Milk Market

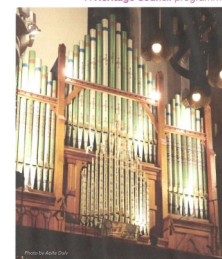


Thursday 30th July @ 5pm - 8pm

Enjoy a lively summer evening at Limerick Milk Market as part of Twilight Thursday this July. Families can meet a variety of friendly animals with The Animal Road Show's Mobile Zoo, enjoy colourful face painting by Little Legends Kids Parties, and unwind to live music from Neil Murray.



National Heritage Week
A Heritage Council programme



© St. John's Cathedral
Cathedral Place
Limerick

A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME
WITH ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL ORGAN

~ 1864 to the present day ~

Join cathedral organists Bernadette Kiely and Pádraig Wallace in a presentation on this historically, culturally and musically significant pipe organ.
Hear the story of the organ from the time of its construction and inauguration in 1864, through 162 years of maintenance by skilled craftspeople, to the current project which will ensure the continuation of this valuable and intrinsic part of the cathedral.
Enjoy performances demonstrating the majesty of this 2,500 pipe organ.

LUKE GRIMES
MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT
SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST
VENUE: PIKE ROVERS START TIME: TBC

PIKE ROVERS B BALLYNANTY ROVERS SELECTION PROSPECT PRIORY ANT & DEC'S XI

COME ALONG AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT ON THE DAY IN MEMORY OF LUKE