



**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2021**

**Parish Newsletter**



Reflection: [#SeasonOfCreation](#)

The pandemic has highlighted how vulnerable and interconnected everyone is. If we do not take care of one another starting with the least, with those who are most impacted, including creation, we cannot heal the world. **Pope Francis**

---

## Parish News



On hearing of our proposed fundraising initiative for a defibrillator here in the Cathedral the Gorman family have come forward and kindly donated the funds to cover the cost of the defibrillator.

This is in memory of their beloved son Brian who died 9<sup>th</sup> July 2002. We extend our sincere gratitude to the family.

---

### COVID-19 Support Line for Older People



ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.



### Garryowen Residents Association:

We're delighted to facilitate the setting up of a **Mens shed and a Womens shed**, whilst both sheds and the association will be independent of each other there will of course be mutual support between each group. We're looking forward to seeing you there Thursday 9th September @ 12pm in the Market's Field stand for registration.

**Mass times:** **Monday - Friday** 10am & 5.45pm, **Saturday** 10am & 6pm (vigil),  
**Sunday** 8am, 10.30am, 12 noon & 7pm

**Confessions:** each Saturday at 10.30am or at 5.30pm before 6pm vigil Mass.

**Baptisms** can be booked through the Parish Office at 061 414624 or email [admin@stjohnscathedrallimerick.com](mailto:admin@stjohnscathedrallimerick.com)  
Please ensure to have a copy of baby's birth certificate when booking.

**Split the Pot** Congratulations **Emily Downes** the winner of last weekend's draw (Sun 29th Aug).



Both St John The Baptist School and St Johns Infant boys and Girls School have announced that First holy Communion will take place on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2021 here in St Johns Cathedral. Times to be confirmed by the schools.



St John's Community Employment Scheme currently has a number of vacancies free. If you are interested or know of anyone who might be please contact the Parish Office at 061 414624 for further details.

---

## *Snip of Parish History - St John's Cathedral Part 7 .... It is all in the detail*

As the walls of the cathedral rose above the city one can only imagine the conversations and interest that the project garnered. As the year

1861 beckoned and the roof was being erected with massive beams being inched into place to support over 100 tons of Killaloe slates (subsequently replaced in 1950 by 24-gauge dead copper which weighed less than a quarter of the original roof), thoughts turned to the decoration of the internal parts of the cathedral in a way that was fitting for such a building.

It should be noted at this time the Tower and Spire were not in existence and would not, in fact, be completed for another 23 years.

The Gothic architecture of the Cathedral (which reflects much of the same detail as Salisbury Cathedral) lends itself to beautiful stain glass windows. Most of the windows in the Cathedral were donated by Mrs. Harriet O'Brien. She was a very generous philanthropist in her own right and the widow of the Lord Lieutenant of Limerick. An avowed home rule supporter and friend of John Redmond she set up an affordable milk scheme to help ensure that the children of Limerick had access to the nutrition that milk brought. Her residence was at Southill House (former home of Peter Tait). In addition to her generosity, windows were also donated by the family of John Raleigh (he was Town Clerk of Limerick in the 1840s) and by Mr J.J Clery Mayor of Limerick in 1872/73/74. A window depicting St James was also donated in memory of James Barry, a Limerick Magistrate who died in 1856, the year the foundation stone was laid

An interesting addition to the new Cathedral was a painting by a Limerick man called Tim Collopy of the "The Crucifixion" which had adorned the High Altar of the old St John's Church, it still adorns the walls of the cathedral. The pulpit from that old Penal Church, which was donated in 1760 by Helen Stritch in memory of her husband Stephen was preserved in St Patrick's Church on the Dublin Road for nearly 40 years before being transferred to St Joseph's Church when it was constructed in the early years of the 1900s.

According to a plaque on the right of the centre aisle, the High Altar itself is a gift from Mrs. F. McNamara to the memory of her husband Charles. It is made from Limerick marble, alabaster, and coloured marble. Mr. White carried out the stonework of the altar to a design which was commissioned in Belgium probably by Phyggers who was responsible for the work on the Altar Table itself. The beautifully carved pulpit depicts the following scenes from the life of Christ (anti-clockwise) - presentation, resurrection, baptism, transfiguration, and deposition.

According to a plaque on the left of the centre aisle, Denis & Elizabeth Ryan donated the Stations of the Cross in 1872 along with the statue of St John the Baptist at the entrance to the church.

During renovations to the Cathedral in the 1950s, the original Stations of the Cross were sent to the Missions in Africa. The present Stations of the Cross were carved in the Bavarian town of Oberammergau (famous for the Annual Passion Play) and they were erected in 1955.

During the conservation project of 2001-3, the Stations of the Cross were cleaned and restored.

George Lee [drombanna@gmail.com](mailto:drombanna@gmail.com)

---

Cathedral House, Cathedral Place, Limerick. Tel: 061-414624

email: [admin@stjohnscathedrallimerick.cm](mailto:admin@stjohnscathedrallimerick.cm) / web [www.stjohnscathedrallimerick.com](http://www.stjohnscathedrallimerick.com)