

Sunday 26th Sept 2021

Parish Newsletter

Reflection: The message and warning that Jesus gives his disciples is also meant for each of us today. As his followers today, we too are called and challenged to be welcoming and accepting of those who are different than we are. We are asked to embrace and promote difference and diversity. We will not be able to share and proclaim message of the gospel by rejecting others because they pray or worship in ways that are different than ours. We will never be able to promote God's Kingdom if we dismiss those whose faith and religion are different than ours.

'You must speak the truth to one another, since we are all parts of one another...let your words be for the improvement of others...never hold grudges against others or call each other names. Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as God forgives you in Christ.' (Ephesian 4.25,29-32)

Feast Day of St. Vincent de Paul



On Monday we celebrate the feast of St Vincent de Paul, Priest, founder of the Congregation of the Mission and the Daughters of Charity, Patron of all the Associations of Charity. On the Feast of St Vincent de Paul, Pope Francis said that Charity is central to the Church's mission, and we are called to share it with the world, especially those in need. "Charity is at the heart of the Church, it is the reason for its action, the soul of its mission."



On-line Donations

Our on-line Donation link has now been updated and can be used to Donate to any of the options listed

For your first donation (only) you will be asked to Sign Up and this will allow you to receive emailed receipts automatically. Enter your details, click "Yes" to the questions and then click "Register" For subsequent donations, just enter your login details, Sign In and proceed with your donation.

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

On Saturday the boys and girls of St John the Baptist School & St Johns Infant Boys & Girls School received their First Holy Communion. We congratulate them, their families and wish them every blessing.



Confessions: Take place each Saturday after 10am Mass.

Baptisms



Can be booked through the Parish Office at 061 414624 or email admin@stjohnscathedrallimerick.com
Please ensure to have a copy of baby's birth certificate when booking.

Split the Pot Congratulations to **Pauline Howard** the winner of last weekend's draw (Sun 19th Sept).
Draw envelopes are available at the back of the church



Community Notices:



Drama Classes Starting: Learn through Fun and Self expression! Starting Tuesday 28th September for 6 weeks. Time - 7 - 9 pm every Tuesday. Location: St. Johns Band Hall, 2 Garryowen Road. Contact John at 061 - 310 - 690 PIs code 314475

Garryowen Music Hub

FIRST STEPS IN MUSIC with St. John's Brass & Reed Band

Come and learn how to play
an instrument with us!

Trumpet, Cornet, French Horn, Trombone,
Tuba, Euphonium, Saxophone, Flute, Clarinet

Beginner classes starting this September



Join a musical group

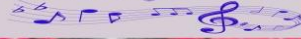


Forge new friendships

Get in touch today!

stjohnsbandlimerick@gmail.com
Email us with a contact number
and we'll get back to you!

Supporting musicians
of the next generation



€5

Subsidised classes
for children



www.stjohnsband.com

Snip of Parish History - St John's Cathedral Limerick Part 10 Windows, Saints and a New Era

We have seen previously that the windows of the magnificent building were donated by various benefactors throughout the building programme. What I find intriguing is that when the building was finished in 1861/62 many of the biggest windows as we know them today were not installed. I presume that the windows were just filled with plate glass which, while it would have made the building much brighter, would certainly have meant that the building lacked the imposing character internally that the windows give. Quite simply the money had run out at this point and when it was announced that Dr George Butler was to be appointed as Co-adjutor bishop of Limerick (the man chosen to succeed the sitting bishop Dr Ryan and to work alongside him through the transition) It was felt that his consecration as bishop would be a fitting way of marking the opening of the cathedral.

The ceremony was planned for the 25th of July 1861 and two days before, the doors of the cathedral were opened to the public for the first time. The "Munster News" reported that Dr Ryan visited the cathedral on the day Saturday before the installation of the new bishop and provided a pen picture of the building that told us that not all the seating was in place but that the altar rails (now removed) High Altar and the organ from the old St Johns Church had been placed in readiness for the first big occasion. Also mentioned is the wonderful statue of The Virgin Mary which was placed on front of the side Altar of the Virgin Mary. Sculpted in Northern Italy by Benzoni, a well-respected native of Bergamo, it was donated by William Maunsell (future Lord Emy) who was a brother-in-law of the Earl of Dunraven and a recent convert to Catholicism.

On that July day thousands thronged the new edifice and wondered in awe at its sheer size and attention to detail. The ceremony was followed by a reception in CBS Sexton Street where over 200 guests were entertained.

We can only assume that shortly after this great event that the old penal church of St Johns was demolished as we are told that in May of that year over 300 children made their first communion in the old church and that it was the final time that the church was utilised for any major event. It was to take 6 years before the great window behind the High Altar was completed and while we all can admire its beauty; its importance takes on a new significance when we can understand its meaning. First, it was donated by the sitting bishop to commemorate his predecessor Dr Ryan who was the man who worked so hard to make the cathedral a reality. It is thought that it was manufactured in Birmingham and much conservation work was completed on it and the other windows in the cathedral in the 1980's by Fr Seamus Power Adm. The window itself is dedicated to the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. This dogma had just been declared in the early 1850's and the centre piece in the centre window is of Our Lady. Above her is the figure of Christ and below her is the Pope of the time, Pius IX. Below him again is bishop John Ryan. It is a little unfortunate that his placement is slightly blocked by the height of the High Altar. The window left of Centre features John the Baptist in the top position with representations of St Munchin and St Ita, the patron saints of Limerick Diocese below him. The window light at the top of the right features St Joseph and St Patrick and St Bridget are below him. On the furthest left window are the figures of St George (After Bishop Butlers name saint) and St Senan. The furthest right window has St Coleman and St Vincent de Paul represented.

The references to St Senan and St Coleman (patron saints of Clare and Cork) may be representative of the fact that some of the diocese stretches into those counties. This was the first stained glass window installed in the cathedral with the others to follow. **George Lee** drombanna@gmail.com

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