

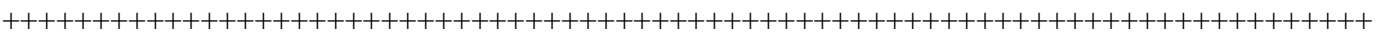
**Sunday 29th August 2021**

**Parish Newsletter**

**Reflection**



Jesus reminded the Pharisees in today's Gospel that good and evil come from what is in our hearts, not from some outside law. Jesus keeps calling us to a change of heart. That is the only way that our actions can truly be holy actions. When we allow ourselves to be open and receive the immense love that God has for us and understand how passionately God desires us to live in his love, then our hearts will profoundly change. As a result, we are better able to hear God's word for what it is – a word spoken to us because he loves us and desires us to be one with him.



**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.



Due to recent events in the Cathedral a group of Parishioners have come together to raise funds so that we can buy and install a Defibrillator in the Cathedral. We are currently selling raffle lines in the Cathedral Gift Shop at €5 per line. We thank you for your support for this venture.



It's that time of year again. **School is back !!!**  
St Johns Infant Boy's and Girl's School and John the Baptist school –  
all classes return on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September @ 9am.  
We wish all the boys and girls a happy and successful school year ahead.

**Split the Pot** Congratulations **to Erin Malone** the winner of last weekend's draw (Sun 22nd Aug).



COVID-19 vaccines will protect you from serious illness from COVID-19 (coronavirus).  
To get a vaccine appointment, you can: [register online](#) or [register by phone](#) or [participating pharmacy](#) Anyone aged 12 or older can now get a COVID-19 vaccine.

## Snip of Parish History - St John's Cathedral Part 6 .....Sweat and Tears

The Cathedral Building as we know it (without the Spire) emerged from the ground over a four-and-a-half-year period from 1856 to 1861. It really was a golden age of Church building all over the country with new Cathedrals opening in St Mel's in Longford as well as Killarney and Ballaghderreen in Co Roscommon finishing their cathedrals during this period. At this time, the church which was to become St Peter's Cathedral in Belfast was also started so the skills of stonework and building on a large scale were very much in demand all over the country.

The original plan from Philip Hardwick for St John's was for a church with a central nave (main aisle door to back wall) measuring 168 feet and a transept (area to the top of the main aisle on front of the Altar) measuring 118 feet. The main aisle was to be 30 feet wide with the side aisles measuring 24 feet each. The actual measurements as they are built are almost precisely the same except that the addition of the front porch added an additional 12 feet to the original plan.

The height of the Cathedral is 80 feet.

The acquisition of the stone for the building work was a mammoth task and we must remember that there was no heavy lifting or transportation equipment available at that time. In that respect all the stone and aggregate for the construction needed, by necessity, to be sourced locally.

Limerick produces an almost unique type of Limestone which is perfectly suited to building. There is a very productive seam of the rock that runs from Groody on the Shannon through the back of the Parkway and Pennywell to parts of Garryowen bisecting the Markets Field and the site of Limerick Prison and running through, Janesboro, Ballinacurra Weston and out past the Crescent Shopping Centre. The Limestone itself is a dark grey colour. It was this stone that formed the basic building material used in the construction of the cathedral.

From contemporary reports, most of the stone used came from the quarry behind Our Lady of Lourdes Church (near Punch's Cross). Some of the stone utilised in the earlier part of the building was also taken, it is believed, from the quarry that was filled in to make way for The Markets Field. There existed at that time massive lime kilns producing slaked lime for making mortar in the general area of Sarsfield Avenue.

To this day we can see that parts of that area are much lower than others indicating the location where the quarry for the lime existed.

Much of the very deep foundations for the church walls (which would have had to be dug out by hand for the most part) probably consisted of clinker from the gas works, ballast from boats in the docks and as I witnessed personally during the excavations for the grave of Bishop Newman, backfill from houses that were knocked around that time.

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

---

### Caretaker Required



Strengthening & caring  
for our community

Volunteer, TUS or CE Position

Light maintenance, cleaning, upkeep of premises,  
preparing hall for classes and activities etc.

Would suit someone with outgoing personality and interest in Community Work

Drop in or call and ask for John on **061 310690**.



Strengthening & caring  
for our community

**Classes Starting in September!!** Call us now on **061 310690**

---

Cathedral House, Cathedral Place, Limerick. Tel: 061-414624  
email: [admin@stjohnscathedrallimerick.cm](mailto:admin@stjohnscathedrallimerick.cm) / web [www.stjohnscathedrallimerick.com](http://www.stjohnscathedrallimerick.com)