



Sunday 22nd August 2021

Parish Newsletter

Reflection If we accept this challenging call and invitation from Jesus, then we are also asked to accept the responsibilities with which it comes. When Jesus asks us to follow him, he never says that it will be easy. Following Jesus also means that we live our own daily life trying to put his message into practise as best we can. We are asked to love each other as he loves us, to serve each other as he has shown us and crucially to forgive others as he forgives us. He even asks to love our enemies, those we find it difficult to even like.

Today, may we have the courage and faith to pray; 'Lord to whom would we go? You have words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.'

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Best of Luck to our Senior Hurlers today.

GAA Hurling All-Ireland Senior Championship

Sunday 22 August 2021 @ 15:30hrs



Limerick



Cork

Final - Páirc an Chrócaigh

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Snip of Parish History - St John's Cathedral Part 5 ... The Building Commences

Once the decision was made to build, the process really began in earnest. The Bishop visited almost every Church in the Diocese and engaged in a fundraising campaign that raised considerable funds for the construction. A competition was also announced to find an architect and it attracted much local and national interest.

Ultimately though Philip Charles Hardwick was appointed. He was the fourth generation of Architects in his family and his family had designed such eminent buildings as Euston and Paddington Railway Stations in London as well as overseeing much of the work at Althorp the home of the Spencer Family and the ancestral home of Princess Diana.

Hardwick was interested in the job in Limerick because he was, at that time working on the building of Adare Manor for the Dunraven family. The brief he was given by the bishop was simple "build a plain church capable of serving the needs of the 15,000 people in St John's Parish". It was his decision to build it in a "Revival Gothic" style and he modelled it in part on the ancient Salisbury Cathedral. It is interesting that in his original plan the spire of the Cathedral was to be 191 feet which is considerably less than what exists today.

Having experienced some controversy for appointing an English Architect, it was felt that the appointment of a Limerick building firm was wise, and the chosen builders were the very reputable firm of Wallace and Sons. At the beginning of the work, the clerk of works was Mr. Higgins, but he was replaced by Mr Attan before the job was finished.

As we alluded to previously, the foundation stone for the cathedral was laid on the 1st May 1856, and we will recall that great day later in our writings but as with any great building project it is fair to say that the early months of 1856 must have been extremely busy on the site of the Cathedral. It is interesting now to understand the geography of the area as it existed there. Garryowen, as we know it today did not exist. The city had begun to expand with the buildings of St John's Square already 100 years old at that point. The houses in Pery square were only 20 years built and the city Centre as we now know it was just emerging. Pennywell acted as one of the major arteries in and out of the city and Mulgrave Street was beginning to become recognisable. The Prison and Artillery Barracks (now courthouse) were built in the early 1810s as was the Limerick Infirmary (now LCFE). A thriving brewery existed on the site of the houses that now form St Johns Avenue and Villas over to Fairview Terrace. It is interesting that Mount Saint Lawrence Cemetery opened around the same time as the Cathedral construction began. St John's Hospital, which had acted as a Fever Hospital under the guidance of Lady Lucy Hartstonge had served the people of the city well during the worst of the

famine. It was, however falling into dereliction in the 1850s and wouldn't become a major force in the medical life of the City again until the coming of the sisters of The Little Company of Mary under their foundress Mother Mary Potter in 1888. It was against all this canvas that construction on the great cathedral began in late 1855. It can only be imagined how much labour was involved and how much employment must have been generated for an economy just recovering from the worst ravages of the famine. **George Lee drombanna@gmail.com**



Strengthening & Caring
for our community

Caretaker Required

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!!

Class	Starting	Time	
Motivation Mondays	20 th September	1.30 – 3.30	
Mindfulness	21 st September	10.15 – 12.15	
Woodwork	20 th September	2.30 – 4.30	
Cookery, Nutrition and Fitness (Level 3)	14 th September	1.00 – 3.00	
Drama & Personal Devt	TBC	7.00 – 9.00	
Art	23 rd September	3.15 – 5.15	
Knitting and Crochet	16 th September	1.45 – 3.45	
Health and Beauty	23 rd September	10.00 – 12.00	
Basic IT	24 th September	11.00 – 13.00	
Community Music	t.b.c.	Evening	
Confidence Building	Tuesdays (start tbc)	2.00 – 4.00	
Cooking for Fun	tbc	tbc	



Call us now on **061 310690**

Split the Pot Congratulations **to Rachel Murphy** the winner of last weekend's draw (Sun 15th Aug).



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

Confessions each Saturday at 10.30am / **Baptisms** can be booked through the Parish Office at 061 414624 or email admin@stjohnscathedrallimerick.com



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.

Cathedral House, Cathedral Place, Limerick. Tel: 061-414624
email: admin@stjohnscathedrallimerick.com / web www.stjohnscathedrallimerick.com