

Reflection:

Today, the fourth Sunday of Lent, is called "Laetare" Sunday. Laetare means "to rejoice". This Sunday, the Church exhorts us to be joyful because Christ our shepherd illuminates us, and heals our blindness.

There is much to learn today from our first reading. Samuel obeyed God by going where he was sent. Then, humbly and patiently, he followed and obeyed God's instructions. He waited patiently until David, Jesse's youngest son, appeared and then anointed him at God's command. The lesson for us is to await the Lord's will in our choices.

In the second reading St. Paul reminds us of our former state in darkness before Christ illuminated and liberated us. So he admonishes: "...live as children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth." St. Paul is saying plainly that Christ is the light that illuminates our life and living outside Him means living in darkness.

Today's gospel passage presents us with the incident in which Jesus restored the sight of a man born blind. Here Jesus demonstrates that he cares for the well-being of his flock and especially for the sick, the weak and the marginalized. By healing him on the Sabbath, Jesus broke yet another cultural and religious barrier in order to save the blind man. Without attending to the consequences, he saw to the very important need of the blind man.

Jesus' disciples asked him: "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" From this question, we learn that they believed that all misfortune and suffering was caused by sin. However, Jesus' response proved otherwise. God permits some things to happen for the manifestation of his glory. In other words, this miracle revealed the power and glory of God.

What lessons can we learn from the man healed by Jesus. He was obedient to the instruction given to him: "Go wash in the pool of Siloam." Second, he stood by the truth. In spite of all the intimidation heaped on him by the Pharisees, the man remained truthful and firm without denying Christ. He insisted that it was Jesus who healed him. According to St. John Chrysostom: "The Pharisees cast him out of the Temple; but the Lord of the Temple found him."

Finally, Christ himself, who was obedient unto death, is our light. Whoever believes and accepts this illumination into his life is like one whose eyes were opened. The good news is that Christ liberates and heals our spiritual blindness or, to use the words of the psalm: "The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want."



St Patrick Day Mass Times:

Vigil Monday 16th 5.45pm,

Tuesday 17th 8am, 10am. No evening Mass.

Collection will be taken up at all Masses for the Upkeep of the Cathedral.

Scan QR code to Donate



Priests of the Parish

Canon Gerard Garrett
Fr Daniel Tomasik
Fr Peter Claver Emeka Eze
Fr Krzysztof Tyburowski
In residence Canon John Daly

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

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
Jack Egan, Amber Coll, and Willow Heffernan
We wish them and their families every blessing.

Recently Deceased

We remember in our prayers
Peggy Dunne RIP
Dermot O'Rourke RIP
Peggy McMahon RIP
Eugene Finnan RIP
Margaret O'Halloran RIP
May they rest in eternal peace.

Cathedral Shop

Mon - Sat, 10:30am - 1pm.
Sympathy cards, 1st holy communion and confirmation cards & other religious goods available to buy.

Split the Pot Draw

Congratulations to **John O'Halloran** winner of last weekends draw. Draw Envelopes available at the back of the church. All proceeds go toward the maintenance of the Cathedral.

HOLY HOUR FOR **VOCATIONS**
PRIESTHOOD - MARRIAGE - RELIGIOUS LIFE

ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL LIMERICK
7:00 - 8:00pm
2026-
21 January
18 February
18 March

GERALDINES A.F.C.
GOLF CLASSIC 2026
on **Friday 3rd April**
Adare Manor Golf Club
Limerick Road Adare V94 D588

Fantastic Prizes
Nearest to Pin

4 Ball Scramble
€300 per Team of 4 - Including Meals
Tee Box Sponsorship €50
Tee Times from 8.30am to 2.30pm

For further information on booking of Tee Times / Teams

Phone Contact
Noel Kelly 087-9113238 or Joe Mc 085-2734314

BREDA CASHE AND PAT MOYLAN PRESENT
Mitch Albom's **TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE**
by Jeffrey Hatcher and Mitch Albom based on the book by Mitch Albom

DAVID HAYMAN
FIONN FOLEY
DIRECTED BY ANDY ARNOLD

LIME TREE THEATRE, LIMERICK
WEDS APRIL 1ST, 8PM

TICKETS: €28/€25
BOX OFFICE: 061-953400
LIMETREEBELTABLE.IE

Daffodil Day,
Fri 20th Mar

A donation today will help so many families during their hardest times.
<https://donors.cancer.ie/>
You can also [donate today](#)

Bishop Brendan Leahy invites you to attend the **Mass of Chrism on Wed, 1st April at 7:30 pm** here in **St. John's Cathedral, Limerick**

Anam Cara
Supporting Parents After Bereavement
ONLINE BEREAVEMENT INFORMATION EVENING
Thursday 19 March
7pm - 8.30pm
For all bereaved parents
register at <https://bit.ly/3NntfOW>

GUEST SPEAKER: DIANE CLABBY



Enjoy an afternoon at Hunt Museum

Monday, 16 March at 1pm
Hunt Café, Hunt Museum
Free admission
Booking required. All welcome.

Join us for a special screening of *Brave*, Set in the rugged Scottish Highlands, the film follows the spirited princess Merida as she challenges tradition and embarks on an unforgettable journey of courage, family, and self-discovery.
Perfect for families and film lovers of all ages.

Phone: 061 312 833