

TO THE Heights

Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

Celebrating and Supporting the Catholic faith in our post-primary schools and amongst our young people.



ascendwaterfordlismore.ym



AscendWaterfordLismoreYM



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT: LAETARE SUNDAY

THE MONTH OF SAINT JOSEPH

youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie



Jacopo Tintoretto, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Year B

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 5-(51):3-4,12-15

Second Reading:

Hebrews 5:7-9

Gospel:

John 12:20-23

"When I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself"

Pier Giorgio Frassati

Aleteia present a short eight chapter fictionalised series on Pier Giorgio Frassati!

Man of the Beatitudes

CHAPTER 1



Frassati Task: Make a special effort this week to be aware of and respond to the needs of those around you: it might just be your time, your smile, a word of encouragement, a word of praise or gratitude.



Hear

Grab your Bible and look up the Gospel reading. Don't have one? No worries, you can find the text here.



Or watch a short animation explaining today's Gospel by clicking here.



- Like in last week's Gospel, Jesus again speaks about what will happen when He is "lifted up from the earth". What does He mean when He says "I will draw all men to myself"?
- Explain the analogy of a wheat grain that He uses in your own words.
- How do you think this image links to the Easter story?
- Think about your own experiences: have you ever felt like things were falling apart, but only when you looked back later could you see the good / growth that came out of that change?
- Jesus prayed "Father, glorify your name!" Jesus glorified God's name by His whole life. What ways can we glorify God's name today?
- Take some time this week to try out Lectio Divina. Watch Fr Josh's video and fill in the Lectio handout to guide you as you begin.

Carlo's Corner

"I TELL YOU SOLEMNLY..."

"When we pray, we speak to God; but when we read God speaks to us." St Jerome

At different points throughout scripture, Jesus prefaces a point with his disciples with: "I tell you most solemnly..." When you see that you can be pretty sure what comes next is important! In this week's Gospel Jesus is talking about His death and Resurrection - you don't get a more important message than that. His disciples didn't know that at the time, but we have 2000 years of scripture and wisdom of the Church to guide us to understand that, not to mind the Holy Spirit working in our hearts too. The Word of God matters: it teaches us how to live, how to love, how to die to our selfish selves when we need to, how to get to Heaven. The Bible is a love letter from God, to each of us individually; the Bible tells the whole story of what we call salvation history, and this is our story. [If you don't have a bible at home, check out www.biblegateway.com]

WEEKLY CHALLENGE:

Listen to Fr Josh explain how to do Lectio Divina. Let God speak to you, to bring healing, encouragement and peace into your life.

[Check out Mark Hart's Podcasts in Discerning Hearts.](#)

[Fr Josh Johnson: What is Lectio Divina?](#)

Use the [handout attached](#) to help guide you

TUNE OF THE WEEK

Word of God Speak

(MercyMe)

REVIVE!
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

REVIVE

your life!

TEACHER'S CORNER

Quo Vadis

Lenten Series for young adults aged 18 - 35 who are seeking purpose and meaning in their lives. Every Sunday from 7 - 8pm, 14th Feb - 28th March.

[Click here to register](#) or email youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie

Stations of the Cross

Please note that this film was produced with senior cycle post-primary students in mind, so parent / guardian discretion while viewing is advised.

Free resource pack for post-primary teachers / youth groups available from youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie

REVIVE Night for Youth

Friday 26th March: 7.30 - 8.30 livestreamed on www.holyfamilymission.ie

See video invite for more information!

Young Person's Prayer

Jesus,

Speak Your Word into my heart, into my life, into my worries, into my plans, into my relationships, into my family situation, into my hopes and dreams for the future.

Speak Your Word, Lord, and open my heart to hear it. Amen

WATCH BISHOP PHONSIE'S MESSAGE FOR SCHOOL COMMUNITIES: MARCH 2021

Gospel Reflection: God Wants Us

As we continue our Lenten journey, the Gospel story this week marks a decisive turning point in the life and mission of Jesus. The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. This line anticipates the impending death of Jesus. Just as a planted seed must decay before it sprouts new life, so Jesus must die before conquering and defeating death in order to give us eternal life with God in Heaven. His death and Resurrection are what we could call the "Grand Finale" in the story of salvation history.

From the beginning of the world, God has been working to bring human beings into relationship with Him. We are created to know God and to love Him. God seeks a relationship with all of us and with each one of us personally. God wants to be a Father to us and for us to be his children. God brings his people into relationship with him through a series of covenants in the Old Testament using people like Moses, Abraham and David. Each of the Old Testament covenants anticipates the new and eternal covenant that Jesus would establish by his death and Resurrection.

But what is so new about the new covenant? In short, it is for everyone! The forthcoming suffering of Jesus will secure blessing not only for the people of Israel (as had been the case in the Old Testament) but for the whole world. The fact that "some Greeks" in today's Gospel were inquiring about Jesus and wished to see him is evidence of this. Their desire to meet with Jesus anticipates his prophesy that "I shall draw all men to myself". At this point, it is helpful to recall the famous line of John 3:16 that we read last week: "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that those who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life." God wants us to be part of his family and he gives each of us the freedom to accept or reject the offer to friendship with him.

CHECK IT OUT: DISCERNING HEARTS

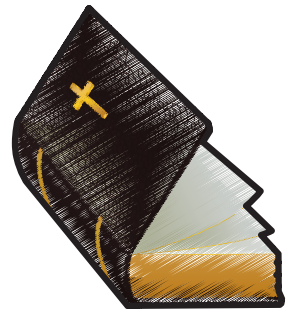
Catholic Podcasts dedicated to those on the spiritual journey. It is dedicated to evangelization and spiritual formation through new media, creating engaging podcasts with top Catholic speakers, faithful to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church and its rich, authentic spiritual tradition. Its mission responds to the Church's call to use the media for evangelization, catechesis, and spiritual renewal. It also features 9 Days with a saint Contemplative Audio Retreats/Novenas.



BASED ON FR JOSH JOHNSON: WHAT IS LECTIO DIVINA? (ASCENSION PRESENTS)

LECTIO DIVINA / DIVINE READING GUIDE

PICK A PASSAGE FROM ONE OF THE GOSPELS



LECTIO = READING

What does the scripture passage say in and of itself, that everyone should understand?



MEDITATIO = MEDITATION

Find something, a line or a word, that sticks out to you and begin it meditate on it. What does the text say to me, today, and to my life? What is it speaking into my heart?



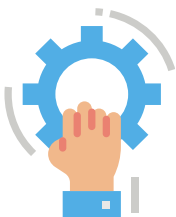
ORATIO = PRAYER

We speak to God about what we read and meditated on. We can intercede for others. We can pray in thanksgiving. We can ask for forgiveness. We can ask God for His grace (help) to live out what we feel called to do.



CONTEMPLATIO = CONTEMPLATION

What conversion of the mind, heart, and life is the Lord asking of me? This step is a gift from God - we can't make it happen! We spend time looking at him and letting Him look at us. If He leads you into deep prayer, go with it. If not, just chill with the Lord.



ACTIO = ACTION

What concrete action can I do based on my time of reading, meditating, praying and maybe contemplating with the Lord.

