

FAITH @Home

3 JANUARY 2020 | VOL. 11

Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

Celebrating and supporting faith, hope and love
in the heart of the family!



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2ND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2, 8-12

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 147: 12-15, 19-20

Second Reading:

Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18

Gospel:

John 1:1-18

*"To all who did accept him,
he gave power to become
children of God"*



By Gerard van Honthorst - Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=13512127>

Hear

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

Talk

Gather together as a family and discuss these questions openly and honestly, respecting where others are at in their journey of faith:

- Who is Jesus to you?
- Who has he been to you in the past and who is he to you now?
- How would you describe your relationship with Jesus?
- What do think of the idea of taking a step of faith? Is it attractive to you? Or what holds you back?

Pray

Take one of the phrases from today's Gospel and spend time with it in prayer:

(a) *In the beginning was the Word; and the Word was with God, and the Word was God*

(b) *The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth*

(c) *No one has ever seen God, it is only the Son, who is nearest the Father's Heart, who has made him known*

Family Challenge!

Watch a movie together as a family. Need a suggestion? Click the Youtube icon on the bottom of the next page for a movie on the life of Sr Clare Crockett. It's free!

LEARN A NEW SONG!
LIGHT OF THE WORLD!
CLICK HERE 

Kids' Corner

Write in the names of people you want to pray for on the rays of light, and ask Jesus to fill their hearts with light and hope in 2021!



JESUS IS WITH US!

Now that the hectic busy-ness of Christmas is behind us for another year, we can take a moment to let St. John cast the light of faith on what we have been celebrating.

Jesus is the Word of God, the Light that shines in the darkness, the Light that the darkness cannot overpower. When we say that Jesus is the "Word of God", we are saying that in Jesus, God is reaching out to us, bringing His life to all who would accept Him. The "Word" is one with God from the beginning, so God is communicating His deepest self to us in Jesus. We all experience moments of darkness, when everything seems to be going against us, or there seems to be no hope. In Jesus we have the eternal Light, a Light of Hope that cannot be overcome, full of grace and truth. Grace is the presence of God at work within us, and truth is what tells us to trust in God, that He can be depended on and will never leave us down. *Jesus is the Word made flesh, who lives among us.* God came among us as one of us! He is with us in every part of our journey in life. We do not have to put Christ into Christmas – or into any other part of our lives – He is already there! But it is not always easy to see Him.

Today's Gospel speaks about the Word who was with God in the beginning, then comes John the Baptist who reveals that the Word is "in our midst". That same Word, Jesus, is the Light that reveals God the Father to us. With the light of faith that comes from Jesus, we, the Children of God, are called to reveal God to the world through our words and actions, through our relationships and our values. God, who came among us in Jesus, has never left, and He wants us all to reveal Him to one another.

By Fr Conor Kelly

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Family Prayer

Jesus, you are the light that came into a darkened world, the light that darkness cannot overpower. As we face 2021 as a family, shine your light into our hearts and our home, to illuminate all the ways we can follow you more closely, and see ever more clearly the hope that you promise. Amen

Carlo's Corner



Blessed Carlo Acutis
- Pray for us!

THE WORD BECAME FLESH

All Christians believe in the Incarnation, but do those words ever strike you as odd: "the Word became flesh"? Well, this is a central mystery of Christianity – that Jesus, the Word of God, became man. We call this the Incarnation. **How** was this possible? Well, that's for God to know. But **why** this happened, that's clearer. Jesus came to us to remove our sin and reconcile us back with God; to show us how much God loves us; to show us how to live; and to give us his divine life. Watch the 5 minute video analogy of the Christmas story below to help understand the mystery of the Incarnation a little better.

[VIMEO: Teaching: The Story of Christmas in 5 Minutes](#)



CHECK IT OUT: "ALL OR NOTHING" (SR CLARE CROCKETT)

A budding actress leaves her career and fame behind to give her life to God as a *Servant Sister of the Home of the Mother*. Sr Clare Crockett was born in Derry in 1982 and was killed in the Ecuador earthquake on 16 April 2016. Watch the YouTube film to hear the incredibly inspirational story of her short but extraordinary life.



New book available from Amazon