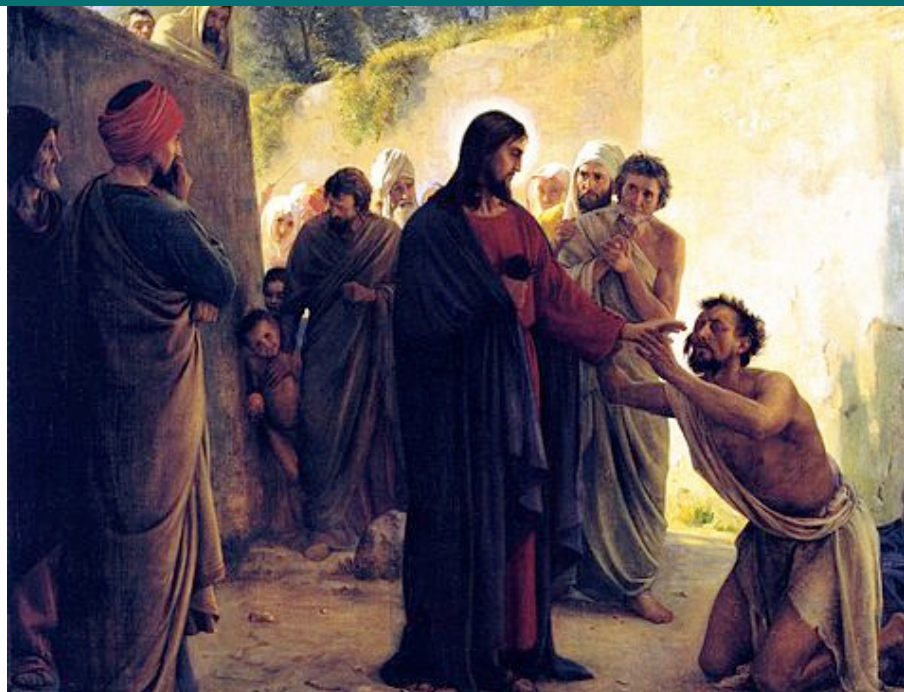




# TO THE Heights

30TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

 [youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie](mailto:youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie)



Healing of the Blind Man by Jesus Christ, Carl Bloch, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Year B

## Sunday Mass Readings

**First Reading:**

Jeremiah 31:7-9

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Psalm 125 (126)

**Second Reading:**

Hebrews 5:1-6

**Gospel:**

Mark 10:46-52

"What do you want me to do for you?"

## Game Changers

The Catholic Church's Liturgical Calendar is crammed full of inspirational saints, or as we like to call them, Game Changers!



If you missed our features on other Gamechangers you can find them on our [webpage](#)!

**24 October** [World Mission Sunday](#)

**27 October** [St Otteran \(Patron of our Diocese\)](#)

**28 October** [Ss Simon and Jude \(Apostles\)](#)

**29 October** [St Colman of Kilmacduagh](#)



## Hear

Grab your Bible and look up the Gospel reading.  
Don't have a Bible? No worries, click the bible image!



1. Why do you think a large crowd was with Jesus (consider at what stage of Jesus' ministry we are at in Mark 10)?
2. How do you think Bartimaeus would have known it was Jesus walking by, when he could not see him?
3. Why do you think the crowd tried to quieten Bartimaeus?
4. What does the healing of Bartimaeus tell us about the nature of Jesus - that even in a large crowd he saw one beggar at the side of a road?
5. What do you think the link is between Bartimaeus' faith and his healing?
6. Can you think of any other times Jesus praised the faith of those who came to Him?



## Gospel Reflection: THE POWER OF PRAYER



Today we find evidence of Jesus' fame in the sizable crowd that accompanies him as he journeys to Jerusalem. Jesus' reputation as a healer has preceded him. When the blind man, Bartimaeus, hears that Jesus of Nazareth is passing by, he calls out to him, asking for his pity. When Bartimaeus calls out to Jesus, the crowd around him tries to silence him. Yet Bartimaeus persists, calling out more loudly and with greater urgency. He will not be silenced or deterred from getting Jesus' attention. We notice how quickly the crowd's reaction changes when Jesus calls for Bartimaeus. Those who sought to quiet him now encourage him. When Jesus restores Bartimaeus's sight, no elaborate action is required. In this instance, Jesus simply says that Bartimaeus's faith has saved him. Throughout Mark's Gospel, the success of Jesus' healing power has often been correlated with the faith of the person requesting Jesus' help. For example, it is because of her faith that the woman with the hemorrhage is healed. When faith is absent, Jesus is unable to heal; we see this after his rejection in Nazareth.

Once his sight has been restored, Bartimaeus follows Jesus on his way to Jerusalem. In Mark's Gospel, Bartimaeus is the last disciple called by Jesus before he enters Jerusalem. Bartimaeus hears that Jesus of Nazareth is passing by, but he calls out to Jesus using words of faith—"Son of David." Many in Jesus' time believed that the anticipated Jewish Messiah would be a descendent of King David. Bartimaeus's words prepare us for the final episodes of Mark's Gospel, which begin with Jesus' preparation for the Passover and his triumphant entry into Jerusalem. As Mark has shown us in our readings over the past few Sundays, however, Jesus will be the Messiah in a way that will be difficult for many to accept. Jesus will show himself to be the Messiah through his suffering and death.

adapted from Loyola Press



"Never doubt in the dark what you knew to be true in the light."

### DO YOU CRY OUT TO GOD FOR HELP?

Imagine being Bartimaeus in today's Gospel: blind, outcast, in a seemingly hopeless situation. You hear that Jesus of Nazareth is passing by. You know what He is capable of. Of course you cry out to Him for help.

Jesus saw the depth of His faith, and moved by His infinite compassion, He healed Bartimaeus and restored his sight.

Sometimes we can be blind, spiritually, emotionally or intellectually. Sometimes we can feel outcast or alone. Do we have Bartimaeus' faith and trust in Jesus? Are we willing to make an effort to really effect change in our lives? When we pray, do we really cry out, do we really pray actually expecting results, or do we assume nothing will really change anyway? God won't always answer our prayers in the way we might like, but He will always answer them. We can be certain of this. We should pray with an expectant faith, faith in a God who knows us, loves us and only wants what is best for us.



### CHECK IT OUT: MISSIO IRELAND

Missio Ireland is the Irish branch of the Pontifical Mission Societies, the Holy Father's official charity for overseas mission. To help build and maintain vibrant Christian communities, Missio Ireland raise spiritual and financial support by highlighting the vital work of missionaries who are living out their faith more fully through their charitable work and projects overseas. World Mission Sunday is the Holy Father's annual appeal for spiritual and financial support so that the life-giving work of overseas mission and missionaries can continue.

## TEACHER'S CORNER

**Lectio Divina:** the praying with the Scriptures, led by the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, beginning Thurs, September 30th. 2 options: **Thurs @ 2pm in St. John's Pastoral Centre / Thurs @ 7:30pm at Sacred Heart Parish Centre.** Please register at [waterford@ascjusus.org](mailto:waterford@ascjusus.org) or call 087-4042745

### Pilgrimage through Revelation

**Wednesdays 7.30 - 9pm:**

**Oct 20 | Nov 3, 10, 17 | Dec 1, 8, 15**

Prayer, Teaching/Study, Tea/Coffee

Venue: Foyer of Charity, Dunmore East, Co.

Waterford, X91 FC65 [www.foyerofcharity.ie](http://www.foyerofcharity.ie)

Please book as limited places

Helen : 086 167802 [hellywilliams@gmail.com](mailto:hellywilliams@gmail.com)

### TESTIMONY TIME



Anna from Cork



"God allowed surgery on my head to give me a new heart."

### Young Person's Prayer

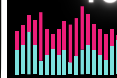


Close your eyes and imagine the following scene: God is there with you, like a Mom or Dad in a swimming pool, arms outstretched and ready to catch you. God looks you right in the eyes, and you hear Him say, "I know you, I love you, I'm going to catch you... so come here, take that step, I will catch you." When you are ready, respond slowly with "You, Father, You, Son, You Holy Spirit, God Almighty, I trust You." Stay with that image; feel secure and loved.

### TUNE OF THE WEEK

Walk by Faith

Jeremy Camp



### WEEKLY CHALLENGE:



Take some time to honestly think about your faith. where are you at in your relationship with God? Are you actively trying to grow in your relationship? Are you stuck in a rut? Have you maybe given up caring or trying to grow? Are there things that are blinding you spiritually or intellectually?

If you can, go to confession this week. If not, spend some time in honest reflection and prayer.

USE THIS WEEK'S RESOURCE TO HELP YOU!

**WATCH:** Why is Faith a Virtue? Do We Need Faith? (Fr Mike Schmitz)



RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS



# Do you struggle with faith?



SENIOR RE NON-EXAM: A1 / A3 / B1 / D1 / E1 / G2 / G3 / H1 / H2 / H3  
JCRE: LO 1.5 / 1.8 / 2.2 / 2.3 / 2.8 / 2.9 / 3.1

IF YOU DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT CS LEWIS AND HIS LIFE, CHECK OUT CS LEWIS: A BITE-SIZE OVERVIEW ON YOUTUBE!

HOW WOULD YOU DEFINE FAITH?



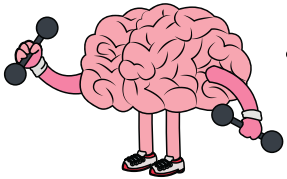
NAME A SITUATION WHERE IT IS EASY TO HAVE FAITH.

NAME A SITUATION WHERE IT COULD BE DIFFICULT TO HAVE FAITH.

WATCH FR MIKE SCHMITZ' VIDEO: "WHY IS FAITH A VIRTUE? DO WE NEED FAITH?" AND REFLECT ON THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW:

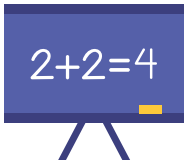


• Finish the sentence: **The only reason to believe anything is if it is** \_\_\_\_\_.



- Before CS Lewis became a Christian, he could not understand why faith would be seen as a virtue. After he converted to Christianity, he found the reason. He found that faith is about more than just i\_\_\_\_\_ assent to an idea.

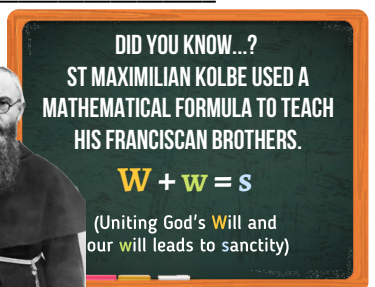
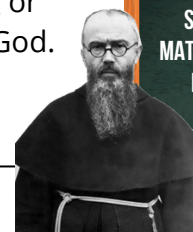
LOOK IT UP: ROMANS 1:5 AND 16:26 BOTH TALK ABOUT O\_\_\_\_\_ TO THE FAITH.



- CS Lewis used the example of the truth of  $2 + 2 = 4$ , and how nothing he came across in the course of his day would tempt him to not live like  $2+2=4$ .
- However, at times, it is easier or more convenient for him **not** to believe truths of faith such as Jesus Christ being fully \_\_\_\_\_ and fully \_\_\_\_\_.



- Faith, then, is not just intellectual assent, but submitting or surrendering your heart and will to the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
- According to Fr Mike, what shows a depth of character?

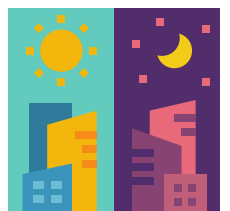


## STRUGGLING WITH FAITH: MORALITY

Fr Mike suggests that people can often find it easier to live as if faith isn't actually true, especially when it comes to moral issues. Can you explain this idea in your own words?

## STRUGGLING WITH FAITH: SEASONS OF LIFE

We can struggle with believing at particular times in our lives too, but remember: **"Never doubt in the dark what you knew to be true in the light."** How would you explain this in your own words?



# DO YOU STRUGGLE WITH FAITH?

MARK 10:46-52

## WRESTLING WITH FAITH

We can see the Creed we profess as a list of things we believe, or we can see the Creed as describing \_\_\_\_\_



- Fr Mike proposes that sometimes what seems like blind and simple faith in grandparents is actually a result of them having wrestled with questions throughout their lives, and those questions are no longer objections. Having walked through the questions, they have learned they can still trust the Lord:

- ♥ **There's a God who is \_\_\_\_\_ and you can trust Him.**
- ♥ **There's a God who \_\_\_\_\_ you and you can trust Him.**
- ♥ **You might have \_\_\_\_\_ but you can trust Him.**



Faith is not a blind leap, but rather a \_\_\_\_\_ to the One who has His arms \_\_\_\_\_.



Now Read Mark 10:46-52



In this Gospel Passage, we hear about a well-known miracle of Jesus, when He healed the blind beggar, Bartimaeus and restored his sight. Bartimaeus knew Jesus could help him, and so he didn't stay quiet when the crowd tried to hush him, but called out louder, "Jesus, **Son of David**, have pity on me!" (FYI: This was also a title for the expected Messiah!)

Jesus saw the depth of His faith, and moved by His infinite compassion, He healed Bartimaeus and restored his sight. Do we have this kind of confidence and trust in Jesus? When we pray, do we pray expecting results, or do we assume nothing will really change anyway? God won't always answer our prayers in the way we might like, but He will always answer them. We can be certain of this.



TWO DOCTRINES OF CHRISTIAN FAITH ARE MENTIONED IN THIS VIDEO. CAN YOU NAME THEM?

- GOD IS THREE PERSONS AND ONE BEING, ONE DIVINE NATURE.
- JESUS CHRIST IS FULLY GOD AND FULLY MAN.

THE T \_\_\_\_\_  
THE I \_\_\_\_\_



MISSION!

TAKE SOME TIME TO HONESTLY THINK ABOUT YOUR FAITH. WHERE ARE YOU AT IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD? ARE YOU ACTIVELY TRYING TO GROW IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP? ARE YOU STUCK IN A RUT? HAVE YOU MAYBE GIVEN UP CARING OR TRYING TO GROW? ARE THERE THINGS THAT ARE BLINDING YOU SPIRITUALLY OR INTELLECTUALLY? IF YOU CAN, GO TO CONFESSION THIS WEEK. IF NOT, SPEND SOME TIME IN HONEST REFLECTION AND PRAYER.



PRAYER TIME!

Close your eyes and imagine the following scene: God is there with you, like a Mom or Dad in a swimming pool, arms outstretched and ready to catch you. God looks you right in the eyes, and you hear Him say, "**I know you, I love you, I'm going to catch you... so come here, take that step, I will catch you.**" When you are ready, respond slowly with "**You, Father, You, Son, You Holy Spirit, God Almighty, I trust You.**" Stay with that image; feel secure and loved.



## CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON THE THEME OF FAITH:



- [Walk by Faith \(Jeremy Camp\)](#)
- [What faith can do \(Kutless\)](#)
- [Can Anybody hear me? \(Meredith Andrews\)](#)
- [You invite me in \(Meredith Andrews\)](#)
- [Take a Moment \(Will Reagan\)](#)
- [Waymaker \(Hillsong\)](#)
- [Overcomer \(Mandisa\)](#)
- [Today \(Brian Doerksen\)](#)

Click the links for the YouTube videos to listen to some suggestions!



[What do we mean by Faith?](#)  
(Bobby Angel)



Watch Anna, aged 20, from Cork explain the importance of faith in her life, especially after her diagnosis with a brain tumour. (HM Television)