

FAITH



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Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

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



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30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Year B

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 125 (126)

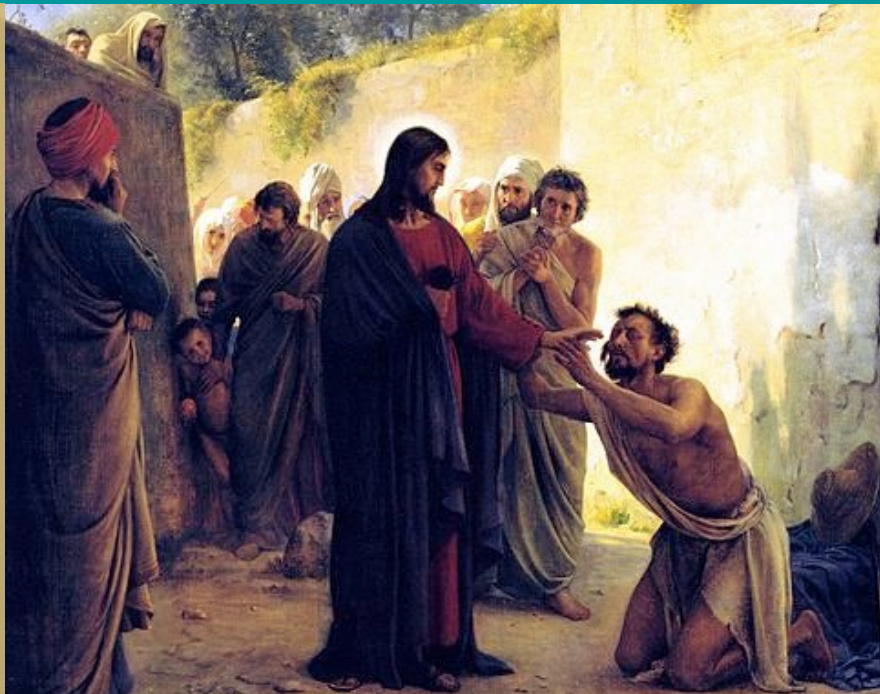
Second Reading:

Hebrews 5:1-6

Gospel:

Mark 10:46-52

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



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

Hear

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

Check out [this video](#) of the Gospel for children.

Pray

In the Gospel today we hear a familiar story of Jesus healing the blind man, Bartimaeus. Bartimaeus needs Jesus' help and is insistent in crying out to Him, despite attempts at quietening him.

Take some time this week to reflect on the key message of this week's Gospel. Think about the following:

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do Jesus' words resonate with you personally?
- Do you call out to Jesus with confidence when you need help? Do you believe that He really wants to heal you, to help you? Do you believe that He really listens?
- Bartimaeus' faith saved him, according to Jesus. Do you need to ask Jesus to strengthen your faith more this week?

Talk

Jesus was surrounded by a large crowd as he left Jericho in today's Gospel, yet he did not overlook the needs of one blind beggar by the roadside.

Jesus is always compassionate, and always sees our needs.

Discuss the following as a family:

- Can you think of a time when you really needed help, and someone stopped what they were doing to help you?
- When you pray, do you really believe Jesus is listening, or has it become more of a habit? What do you really need Jesus' help with this week?
- What would it be like to be blind, or deaf? What would you miss the most?
- What kind of things make it difficult for us to see Jesus, or see the needs of others? What distractions are keeping us from prayer?

Family Challenge!

Try to cut out one thing this week that is keeping you from time with Jesus. It might be a TV programme, a computer game or scrolling on your phone. Use that time to pray instead!

Mission: In today's Gospel, Jesus healed the blind man, Bartimaeus. He knew Jesus could help him, and that's why he kept shouting until Jesus heard him. Ask Jesus this week to make your faith as strong as Bartimaeus and pray, "Jesus, I trust in You!"

Song of the Week!

OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

Please email us at faithathome@waterfordlismore.ie [or click the [subscribe](#) button] if you would like to receive Faith@Home direct to your inbox each week!

"To the Heights" Post-Primary / Youth Version also available: click [SUBSCRIBE](#) / email youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie

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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

EVENTS

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 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

Please book as limited places

Helen : 086 167802 hellywilliams@gmail.com

Family Prayer

Lord Jesus, increase our faith in You. Show us how to pray with expectant faith, trusting that You always hear our prayers and answer them in the way that is best for us. Amen

"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. 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.

[Why is Faith a Virtue? Do We Need Faith? Fr Mike Schmitz](#)
[Walk by Faith \(Jeremy Camp\)](#)
 Resource: *Do you struggle with faith?*



Why is Faith a Virtue? Do We Need Faith? Fr Mike Schmitz

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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.



What do you want me to do for you?



Mark 10:46-52



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?



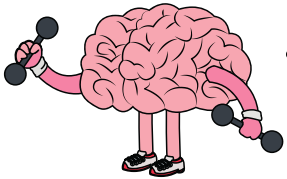
NAME A SITUATION WHERE IT IS EASY TO HAVE FAITH.

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:

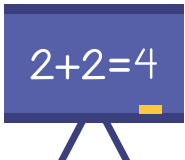


• Finish the sentence: **The only reason to believe anything is if it is** _____.



- 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.

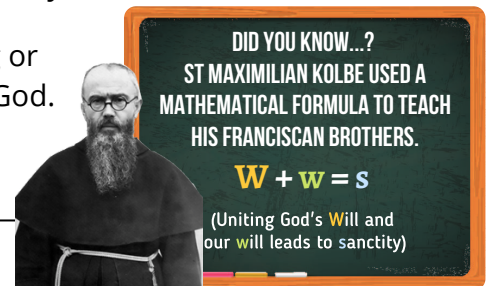
LOOK IT UP: ROMANS 1:5 AND 16:26 BOTH TALK ABOUT O_____ TO THE FAITH.



- 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?

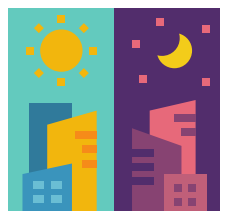


STRUGGLING WITH FAITH: MORALITY

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)