

FAITH



@Home

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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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31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - MONTH OF THE ROSARY

Year B

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Deuteronomy 6:2-6

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 17(18):2-4, 47, 51

Second Reading:

Hebrews 7:23-28

Gospel:

Mark 12:28-34

*"You must love the Lord your God with all
your heart, with all your soul, with all your
mind and with all your strength."*



James Tissot, 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 statement of faith
we're familiar with: love God and love your
neighbour. Maybe we need to let it sink in a little
deeper this week.

Take some time 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?
- What does it mean to love God with all my
heart, my mind, my soul and my strength? Do I
feel that my prayer life and the way I live
reflects that? Ask Jesus to enlighten you in
this.
- Jesus told the Scribe he was not far from the
Kingdom of God. Looking at the way I live
and act, could Jesus say the same to me? What
changes might I need to make?

Talk

The scribe questioned Jesus about the greatest of
the commandments, not to trick Him, or challenge
Him, but because he genuinely wanted to learn, so
he could be close to God.

Discuss the following as a family:

- Looking back on the past week, do you feel
you were trying to be close to God? Can you
give examples?
- Looking forward to the week ahead: how can
we practically love Jesus with our hearts,
minds, souls and strength?
- Who could our neighbours be, apart from the
people who live next door! What ways this
week can we try to love them as much as we
love ourselves?
- We must also love ourselves, because God
loves us! How can we have a loving attitude
towards ourselves this week? What kind of
things should we not say or not think?

Family Challenge!

Make a decision this week that your home will
reflect the Kingdom of God.

Check out [this video](#) for the Feast of All Saints.

Mission: This week try to love Jesus with all your heart (making sure to take time to pray everyday), with all your mind (keep your thoughts focussed on Him and doing good), with all your strength (serve others rather than looking for them to serve you) and with all your souls (try to live as a saint!)

Song of the Week!
LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD

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 GREATEST COMMANDMENT

As we continue to read from Mark's Gospel, our Lectionary skips a chapter that helps set the context for today's reading. If we were to read the sections skipped (chapter 11 and part of chapter 12), we would hear about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, his cleansing of the Temple, and the questioning of Jesus' authority by the chief priests, scribes, and elders. The context, therefore, for this Gospel is Jesus' growing exposure before the Jewish authorities. Jesus is being questioned and tested by the Jewish authorities, yet the scribe who addresses Jesus in today's Gospel seems to be an admirer; he is not testing Jesus.

The question posed in today's Gospel requires Jesus to interpret the Law of Moses. The Mosaic Law consists of the Ten Commandments and many additional commandments, numbering into the hundreds. For a devout Jew, adherence to the Mosaic Law is an expression of faithfulness to God's covenant with Israel. The ranking of these commandments was regularly debated among the teachers of the Law.

Jesus was not the only Jewish religious teacher to connect these two commandments, love of God and love of neighbour. Both of these commandments were central elements of the religious tradition that Jesus learned from his Jewish community. Indeed, these commandments continue to be central aspects of contemporary Jewish religious understanding. Jesus' response to his questioners proposed an integral connection between these two aspects of the Jewish Law. Love of God finds its expression in our love for our neighbour. Many believe, however, that this connection was heard in a new and fresh way when spoken by Jesus.

The scribe who questions Jesus in today's Gospel engages in a positive dialogue with Jesus. He agrees with Jesus' teaching that the commandments to love God and love neighbour stand above the commandment to offer worship and sacrifice in the Temple. With this dialogue, Jesus appears to close the debate with the Jewish authorities. Mark reports that no one dared to question Jesus further.

adapted from Loyola Press

EVENTS

Lectio Divina: led by the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. 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

Remembrance: Praying for our Loved Ones who have died. Holy Family Mission, every Fri in Nov, 7.30 - 8.30pm. www.holyfamilymission.ie

Family Prayer

Lord Jesus, our family wants to be close to the Kingdom of God.

Give us the grace to love You with all our heart, mind, soul and strength this week and always.

Amen



"The saints did not all begin well, but they ended well."
St Jean Vianney

HEAVENLY FRIENDS

On November 1st each year the Church celebrates the feast of All Saints - and it's a pretty big deal! On this day we celebrate all those who are in heaven, the recognised saints who are included on the church calendar, and all the holy men and women (and children) of God who lived good and virtuous lives and are now enjoying their eternal rewards.

We believe in the communion of saints (we profess it in our Creed). This means the whole community of God - those on earth, in heaven and in purgatory.

Those in heaven are continually rooting for us, and cheering us on as we continue to run the race here on earth. Their earthly race is finished, but they continue to support us, pray for us, intercede for us and offer inspiration through the way they lived their lives.

What better time of year to reconnect with the saints: all of us are called to sainthood, but we all know it's not easy either.

Take some time this week to think about what we can learn from and receive from our heavenly family and friends. Use the attached resources to help ground you in a solid and real friendship with them!

All Saint Day Pep Talk: Fr Mike Schmitz
Litany of the Saints (Matt Maher)
 Resource: *Cloud of Witnesses* (Download from www.waterfordlismore.ie/youth-ministry)



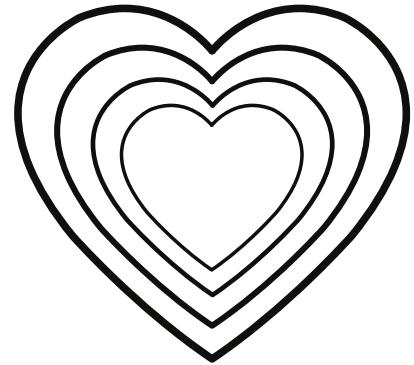
CHECK IT OUT: THE FOYER OF CHARITY, DUNMORE EAST

The Foyer of Charity welcomes those who find a need for peace and truth, and who seek these in the living God and in his love. Through week-long silent retreats the Foyer seeks to give men and women today an opportunity similar to that of those who first heard the Gospel in Galilee: to get away for a time, to focus on Jesus and His word, and to return to the concerns of life enlightened and enriched by Him.



LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD

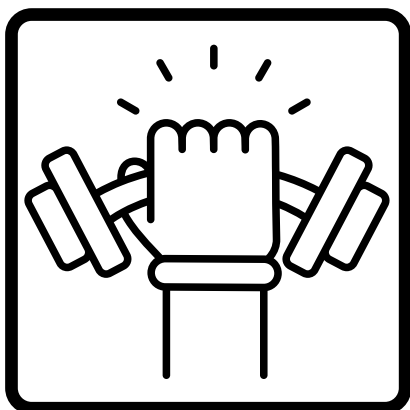
with all
your heart



with all
your soul



with all
your mind



WITH ALL YOUR
STRENGTH

Mark 12:28-34