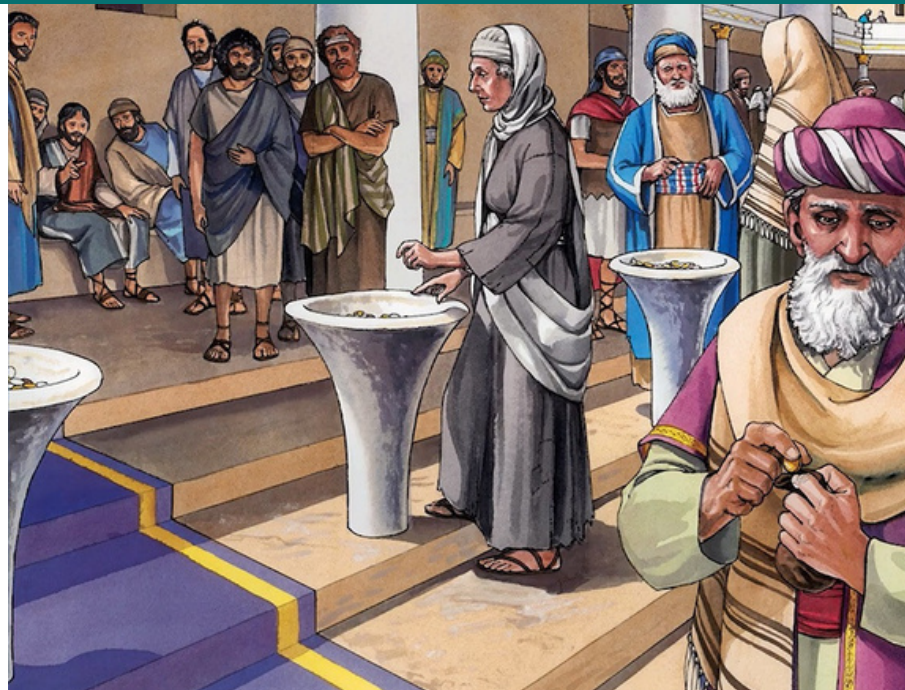




TO THE Heights

32ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

 youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie



The Widow's Offering, Paula Nash Giltner, www.theglobalgospel.org

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

"...she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on."

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](#), including last week's Cloud of Witnesses bumper resource pack!

9 November [Dedication of the Lateran Basilica](#)

10 November [St Leo the Great](#)

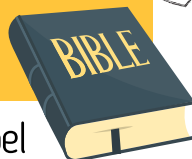
11 November [St Martin of Tours](#)

12 November [St Josaphat](#)



Hear

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



1. Literacy: What does the word obsequiously mean? Why would Jesus have a problem with the scribes being greeted that way?
2. What other actions of the scribes does Jesus object to? Why does he speak so severely about these actions?
3. Numeracy: research how much the widow's mite would have been worth.
4. Why was the widow's tiny offering worth so much in the eyes of Jesus that He pointed it out to the disciples?
5. What does this tell us about how Jesus views our actions and our intentions?
6. Personal challenge: when you give to charity or to the church collections, do you give a few spare coins, surplus money, or do you make a genuine sacrifice?



Gospel Reflection: THE HEART OF THE MATTER



It is not always easy to fade into the background, is it? Our human hearts can crave affirmation, praise and recognition. It's tempting to be generous and kind when others are looking, so we will be rewarded by approving words of acknowledgement. We can also crave security and control over our lives, something that the pandemic has shown us is not always possible.

As Jesus taught us in last week's Gospel, the greatest commandment is to love God first, then our neighbour as ourselves. Here in today's Gospel, we see this principle in action, and also ignored. Widows, at the time of Jesus, were in an extremely vulnerable position. There was no social welfare, no state benefits. A woman without her husband's wealth and protection was in a vulnerable position. Care of the widow, the orphan, the sojourner was commanded by God in Deuteronomy, yet the scribes in today's Gospel ignored this law. Wordly honour, the appearance of holiness and eloquent speech was of greater concern than caring for the needy. They prayed impressively, but not interiorly. They gave much, materially, but not from their hearts. In stark contrast, this poor lady gave materially a tiny sum, yet it was all that she had, and given out of genuine love and reverence for God. "People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7)

It is easy to gloss over and romanticise that part of the story, to praise her generous heart and leave it at that. Jesus draws our attention to her for a reason, however. His Words and actions should always challenge us. Can we see ourselves acting as that woman did? Are we willing to give God everything we have, trusting that God will provide for all our needs? That's a dramatic gesture, and incredibly challenging. How about trusting in God to provide for all our needs, material or otherwise? Do I trust God only when things are going well, or do I praise Him in the storms of life too? Do I believe that "in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28)

Let's allow the Widow to inspire our prayer, reflection and action this week. Maybe we are not called to sign our life-savings over to God, but we certainly are called to a child-like trust in a loving Father. He is the only One whose opinion we need to be mindful of.



"It is love alone that gives worth to all things."
St Teresa of Avila

WHAT AM I WILLING TO GIVE?

Today's Gospel is so encouraging because it shows the attention Jesus pays, not just to small acts, but more so to the intention behind them. Others that day would have seen (and heard) the wealthy drop their large tithes noisily and publicly into the collection box. Few saw the humble widow approach and drop her small coin in, and fewer still, most likely only Jesus, knew that she had given ALL that she had, that her offering was more pure, more pleasing to God, more genuine.

Today's Gospel is also incredibly challenging! What is it that God is asking of me? How or what can I give to support the church? It could be the collection at Mass, church charities here at home and throughout the world ... am I willing to sacrifice the price of a weekly coffee, a chocolate bar, new shoes, upgrading my phone, so that I can give with a generous heart? What about my time? Can I get involved in my local church in some way? Maybe you have the Pope John Paul II Awards in your parish? If not, there are plenty of ways to get involved in your church, but you might need to actually offer your time.



CHECK IT OUT: THE ORDINATION OF FR JOHN MCENEANEY



On Mission Sunday, Fr John McEneaney was ordained for the Diocese of Waterford & Lismore. The Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother have produced a short video showcasing highlight of the Ordination Ceremony and Mass. Please pray for Fr John as he takes up his new appointment, and for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

TEACHER'S CORNER

Songs of Joyful Praise: Mount Melleray Abbey on Sunday, November 21st (Feast of Christ the King) All are welcome to attend the joyful Liturgy of Celebration at 5pm!

Pilgrimage through Revelation: Wed 7.30 - 9pm: Oct 20 - Dec 15. Prayer, Teaching / Study, Tea / Coffee at the 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

Ignatian Retreat for Men (aged 18-35), Knockadoon, Co. Cork with the Servant Priests of the Home of the Mother, 11 - 14 Nov. Please email siervoswaterford@gmail.com for more info

TESTIMONY TIME



Young people at Holy Family Mission share how Sr Clare Crockett's life impacts them

Young Person's Prayer



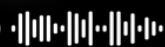
Lord Jesus, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to seek reward, except that of knowing that I do your will. Amen.

- St Ignatius of Loyola -

TUNE OF THE WEEK

Better

Pat Barrett



WEEKLY CHALLENGE:

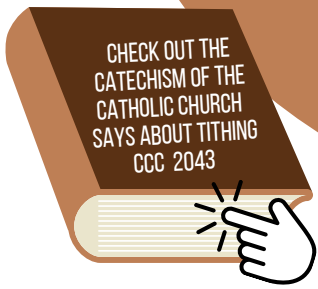


What can you give? Money? Time? Genuine offering from the heart can often hurt a little, it requires sacrifice. It doesn't matter if others don't see your efforts. In fact, it's better that they don't! What matters is the Lord sees your heart! Take some time this week to reflect on what you offer to God.

USE THIS WEEK'S RESOURCE TO HELP YOU!

WATCH: Why we tithe (Jackie Angel)
Ascension Presents





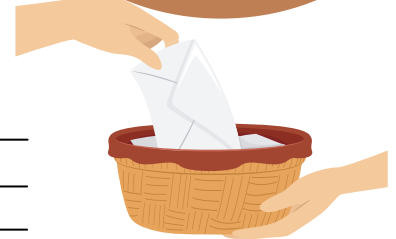
SENIOR RE/NON-EXAM: A1 / A3 / B1 / B2 / E1 / F2 / G2 / G3

Be a Cheerful Giver

JCRE: L0 1.5 / 1.6 / 1.8 / 2.2 / 2.7 / 2.8 / 2.9 / 3.1 / 3.2

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:7

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHY THERE ARE COLLECTIONS AT MASS? WHAT IS THE MONEY USED FOR? WHAT ARE SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SPORTS OR OTHER CLUBS USED FOR?



DID YOU KNOW THAT THE BOOK OF DEUTERONOMY STATES THAT JEWS WERE TO GIVE ONE TENTH OF THEIR EARNINGS TO GOD? AND THAT CATHOLICS TODAY ARE STILL ASKED TO TITHE TODAY? DOES THAT SEEM LIKE A LOT? DISCUSS YOUR OPINIONS

WATCH JACKIE FRANCOIS ANGEL EXPLAIN TITHING IN THIS HER VIDEO: "WHY WE TITHE" AND REFLECT ON THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW:



What realisation did Jackie have at age 18 that led her to begin tithing?



What does the word tithe actually mean?

What are Catholics required to assist with (*rather than simply looking at percentages*)?

What three T's does Jackie mention that we can give?



THE PRECEPTS OF THE CHURCH ARE THE MINIMUM EFFORT WE MUST MAKE IN PRAYER AND IN LIVING A MORAL LIFE.

- [CLICK HERE TO SEE THE 5 PRECEPTS](#)
- [ALSO CHECK OUT CANON LAW 222](#)

Why does Jackie think our money is the hardest one for us to part with? What do we **not** trust? Do you agree?



Name two practical steps Jackie and her husband Bobby make to tithe?

What kind of things should Catholics **discern* in relation to tithing?

Why do you think God cares whether we give cheerfully or not? Why does it matter?

**Discernment:*
a decision-making process that honours the place of God's Will in our lives.
[Click here to learn more!](#)

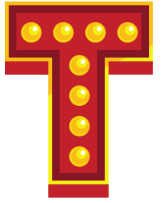


BE A CHEERFUL GIVER!

MARK 12:38-44

THINK ABOUT THE THREE T'S!

- **Time:** How much free time do you have each day, each weekend? How do you spend this time? Could you put some time aside to get involved in your parish, or with a charity?
- **Talents:** What are the things you enjoy doing? What are your skills? Is there a way you can put these to use for the good of others, not just yourself?
- **Treasure:** What money do you have? Do you have a job and you are earning? Do you get pocket-money, or earn money for doing chores at homes? How do you spend that money? Can you put some aside each week?



BRAINSTORM

What practical suggestions can you make for someone your age to get involved in their parish and local community? Check out the Pope John Paul II Awards for ideas too if you're aged 16-18, or your local parish website/newsletter to see what is going on, or maybe what could be started!



Now Read Mark 12:38-44



We see in this passage the attention Jesus pays, not just to the smallest acts, but more so to the intention behind them. Some tithed large amounts, and made sure everyone saw them, yet this money was surplus to their needs anyway. The humble widow dropped her small offering in, even though it was all that she had to live on, yet she did it with a generous heart. God sees the heart, not just the outward appearance. Check 1 Sam 16:7.

Can you imagine the trust that widow had, that God would still provide for her, when she had nothing left? If you have time, compare this story with 1 Kings 17:10-16 and reflect on how God is never outdone in generosity; He will never abandon us. He's a loving Father who provides for His children. Let's pray for that confidence in faith!



CAN YOU REMEMBER THE THREE TRADITIONAL PRACTICES CHRISTIANS ARE ENCOURAGED TO FOCUS ON DURING LENT?

P _____ F _____ A _____



MISSION!

TAKE SOME TIME THIS WEEK TO EXAMINE THE THREE T'S IN YOUR OWN LIFE. PRAY, ASKING GOD TO SHOW TO YOU HOW YOU CAN DEVELOP A MORE GENEROUS HEART, ONE THAT TRUSTS MORE IN HIS LOVING CARE. REFLECT TOO ON HOW ATTACHED YOU ARE TO MATERIAL THINGS; ARE THERE SOME THINGS IN LIFE YOU DON'T ACTUALLY NEED AND CAN DO WITHOUT? (HOMEWORK DOESN'T COUNT!)



PRAYER TIME!

Lord Jesus, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to seek reward, except that of knowing that I do your will. Amen. - **St Ignatius of Loyola** -



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON HAVING A GENEROUS HEART FOR GOD



- [Better](#) (Pat Barrett)
- [I shall not want](#) (Audrey Assad)
- [I will offer up my life](#) (Matt Redman)
- [Prayer for Generosity](#) (St Peter's Prep Vox Alumni)
- [I surrender](#) (Lincoln Brewster)
- [Take my Life](#) (Chris Tomlin)
- [Your Promises](#) (Elevation Worship)
- [The Blessing](#) (Kari Jobe)

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



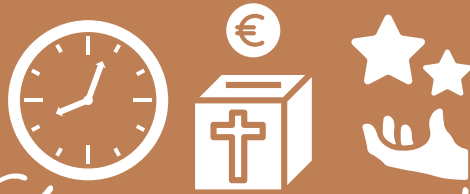
Do you really trust God? (Fr Mark Mary)
Ascension Presents



Revive: All or Nothing (the Life of Sr Clare Crockett)
Ascend YM / Holy Family Mission

SEIZE THE DAY

Cheerful Giver: Weekly Record

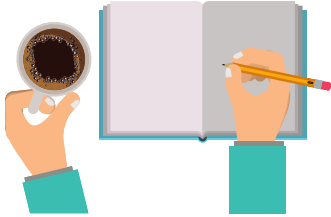


MARK 12:38-44



TO HELP YOU REFLECT ON THE THREE T'S IN YOUR LIFE, KEEP A RECORD THIS WEEK OF HOW YOU SPEND EACH OF THE FOLLOWING. AT THE END OF THE WEEK, SEE IF THERE IS ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT ANYWHERE!

"There is no place for selfishness and no place for fear! Do not be afraid, then, when love makes demands. Do not be afraid when love requires sacrifice"
St John Paul II



JOT DOWN ACTIVITIES AND AMOUNT OF TIME OR MONEY SPENT

	MY FREE TIME	MY MONEY	MY TALENTS /SKILLS
Monday			
Tuesday			
Wednesday			
Thursday			
Friday			
Saturday			
Sunday			

REMEMBER TO ASK GOD TO BLESS YOUR WEEK AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO BE A CHEERFUL GIVER!

- ASCEND YOUTH MINISTRY (DIOCESE OF WATERFORD & LISMORE) -