

FAITH @Home

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SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Year C

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Genesis 15:5-12,17-18

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 26(27):1,7-9,13-14

Second Reading:

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Gospel:

Luke 9:28-36

*'This is my Son, the Chosen One.
Listen to him.'*



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 find ourselves at the scene of the Transfiguration with Peter, James and John. Think about the following:

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- How well do you think you listen to God? How much space do you create in your everyday life to allow God to speak to you.
- Do you find it easy to spend time in silence? If not, maybe this is an area the Lord is calling you to this week: even just five minutes of silence as you go for a walk, pop into the church, or sit in the garden can help us to create time for the Lord to really speak to the direct needs of our hearts.
- Ask for the grace this Lent to deepen your desire to listen to Jesus.

Talk

In this week's Gospel, we hear about the Transfiguration of Jesus and God the Father saying, "This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to Him!"

- How many pieces of equipment in our house play sound? (e.g. radio / TV / Xbox etc)
- How many people in our house listen to music through their headphones / airbuds?
- Is there ever more than one piece of equipment playing sound at the same? Is the TV or music ever turned up loudly? Does that make it hard for people to hear conversations?
- Do we ever turn off all the noise just so we can chat to each other.
- Is our family life ever too busy to hear Jesus and what He wants to say to us? Do we allow times of quiet and silence in prayer to let Jesus speak?

Family Challenge!

Make an effort this week to have a little more quietness in the house (and not just by putting on headphones!) Allow times of quiet and silence so the family can chat together, play games together, sit together or pray together - even just one evening in the week!

Check out page 3 for a picture to colour from this week's readings!

MISSION:

God the Father told Peter, James and John to listen to Jesus, His Beloved Son. This week, make a really big effort when you pray to listen to what Jesus is saying to you! Maybe He wants to tell you He loves you, or show you who He wants you to help that day, or how you should spend your time!

Song of the Week!
OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART



"Prayer doesn't help our relationship with God. Prayer IS our relationship with God."
Mark Hart

HAVE NO TIME? MAKE TIME!



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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LISTEN TO HIM

On the second Sunday of Lent, we move from Jesus' retreat to the desert and temptation by the devil to the glory shown in Jesus' Transfiguration. On the first Sunday of Lent, our Gospel always tells the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert. On the second Sunday, we always hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration.

The Transfiguration occurs after Peter's confession that Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus' prediction about his Passion. After the prediction there is a discussion of the cost of discipleship in each of these Gospels. The placement of the Transfiguration story close to Peter's confession and Jesus' prediction encourages us to examine the Transfiguration in the larger context of the Paschal Mystery.

The Transfiguration occurs on a mountain in the presence of just three of Jesus' disciples—Peter, James and John. These are among the first disciples that Jesus called in Luke's Gospel. We recently heard this Gospel at Mass, on the fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Only Luke's Gospel, which often describes Jesus at prayer, indicates that Jesus is praying as his appearance changes to bright white. Luke indicates that the three disciples were sleeping while Jesus prayed. They will be sleeping again as Jesus prays in the Garden of Gethsemane before his Passion and death.

As they awake, Peter and the disciples see Jesus Transfigured and Elijah and Moses present with Jesus. Elijah and Moses, both significant figures in the history of Israel, represent Jesus' continuity with the Law and the Prophets.

On witnessing Jesus' Transfiguration and seeing Jesus with Elijah and Moses, Peter offers to construct three tents for them. Having just awoken, perhaps Peter's offer was made in confusion. We also notice that Peter reverted from his earlier confession that Jesus is the Messiah, calling Jesus "master" instead. As if in reply to Peter's confusion, a voice from heaven speaks, affirming Jesus as God's Son and commanding that the disciples listen to him. This voice from heaven recalls the voice that was heard at Jesus' baptism which, in Luke's Gospel, spoke directly to Jesus as God's Son.

In his Transfiguration, we see an anticipation of the glory of Jesus' Resurrection. Not until they also witness his Passion and death will the disciples understand Jesus' Transfiguration. We hear this story of Jesus' Transfiguration early in Lent, but we have the benefit of hindsight. In our hearing of it, we anticipate Jesus' Resurrection even as we prepare to remember Jesus' Passion and death.

Loyola Press – Sunday Connection

It's hard to imagine ourselves at the scene of today's Gospel: Jesus' splendour and glory being revealed, the three apostles being utterly dazzled and amazed, trying to comprehend the events unfolding in front of them; Peter desperately wanting to stay there in that glorious moment!

Sometimes prayer comes easily to us and we can feel the presence of God surrounding us. Sometimes it's a lot more difficult and we have to decide to pray because it doesn't come naturally, like a "surge of the heart" as St Therese once called it. Let's not overcomplicate things: What did God the Father tell the three apostles in that scene? "This is my Beloved Son, listen to Him." Be in a relationship with Jesus, dialogue with Him. Speak to Him from your heart and allow Him to speak to you. Actively listen to Him and what He wants to say to you, how He wants to guide you.

Because we're busy people it's important to be strategic about this too: we need to be intentional in developing our relationship with Jesus. It's going to be pretty hard to listen to Him if our days are full of noise and busy-ness, rushing here and there, binging on Netflix or Xbox or Spotify.

Carve some time into your day, especially during this season of Lent when we are encouraged to turn back to the Lord through prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Check out the 3 x 5 Examen in this week's resource and try to build it into your day. You could also set your alarm five minutes early (and not hit snooze!) and begin your day with a morning offering. Tune your mind intentionally to God each day, and you'll see the effects in your life!

VIDEO: [An Easy Way to Do a Daily Examen \(Fr Mark Mary, CFR\)](#)

TUNE: [Keep me in the moment - Jeremy Camp](#)

RESOURCE: Put a 3 x 5 in your day!



Family Prayer

Jesus,
when life becomes too busy
and our home becomes very
noisy, quieten our hearts and
our spirits to hear Your tender
voice. Amen

EVENTS

"Show us the Father" - Lenten Retreat at Holy Family Mission, March 25 - 27. More info: (052) 6133181 / info@holymission.ie

Silent Retreat preached by: Fr. Kilian Byrne, Foyer of Charity at Glencomeragh House, April 18-24, Cost €380 full board. Contact Helen 086 16780277 / hellywilliams@gmail.com

One-Day Healing and Renewal Retreat for Married Couples of All Ages: Sunday 10th April, 10am - 4pm, Holy Family Mission, Glencomeragh House. €75 per couple including three course dinner, teas and coffees. Booking essential. For more info: (052) 6133181 or info@holymission.ie

Arise Family Conference: A Catholic family conference will be held in Tramore from 17th to 22nd April. Booking essential. More details at www.arisefamilyconference.ie



CHECK IT OUT: AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED: UKRAINE APPEAL



ACN is a pontifical Catholic charity serving persecuted Christians worldwide through prayer, aid & advocacy. As Ukraine faces war and crisis, the Catholic Church in the country is determined to remain and minister to the faithful during their hour of need. ACN has worked with the Catholic Church in Ukraine for decades. They are committed to continuing to support the Church in Ukraine during these times and have pledged an emergency aid package of €1 million.



Luke 9:28-36





LUKE 9:28-36

CHECK OUT WHAT CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH SAYS ABOUT THE LIFE OF PRAYER CCC 2697 - 2699

Put a 3 x 5 in your day!

"We cannot pray "at all times" if we do not pray at specific times, consciously willing it ..." Catechism of the Catholic Church #2697



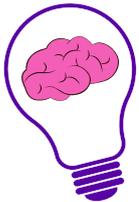
ON A SCALE OF 1 - 10, WHERE ARE YOU AT WITH THESE HABITS / SITUATIONS? (1=REALLY POOR, 10=UTTERLY AMAZING!)

I don't check my phone while in conversation with someone.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I get up immediately and don't hit the snooze button.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



I spend time each day in prayer (consistently!)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I am an intentional person.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I spend time reflecting on day.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

A DAILY EXAMEN



The Daily Examen is a technique of prayerful reflection on the events of the day in order to detect God's presence and discern his direction for us. It is particularly associated with St Ignatius of Loyola and there are many variations of it. The basic strategy is to become aware of God's presence, review the day with gratitude; pay attention to your emotions ; choose one feature of the day and pray from it; look toward tomorrow. Christians are really encouraged to build this practice into their night prayer. Sometimes we need a little help to stay focused throughout the day too though!



WATCH THIS REALLY SHORT VIDEO FROM FR MARK MARY, CFR "AN EASY WAY TO DO A DAILY EXAMEN" AND REFLECT ON THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW



Fr Mark Mary calls his method of the Examen the _____ x _____ Method.

He prays this at midday each day, and keeps a card in his breviary (prayer book) to remind him.

WHAT THREE QUESTIONS DOES HE STOP AND ASK HIMSELF EVERY MIDDAY?



HOW TO FACE TEMPTATION LUKE 9:28-36

THINK IN PRACTICAL TERMS...

What do you think could be the value in hitting this kind of **pause / reset button** in the middle of your day?



How could you remind yourself to pray this everyday?



Now Read Luke 9:28-36

It's hard to imagine ourselves at the scene of today's Gospel: Jesus' splendour and glory being revealed, the three apostles being utterly dazzled and amazed, trying to comprehend the events unfolding in front of them; Peter desperately wanting to stay there in that glorious moment! Sometimes prayer comes easily to us and we can feel the presence of God surrounding us. Sometimes it's a lot more difficult and we have to decide to pray because it doesn't come naturally, like a "surge of the heart" as St Therese once called it. Let's not overcomplicate things: What did God the Father tell the three apostles in that scene? "This is my Beloved Son, listen to Him." Be in a relationship with Jesus, dialogue with Him. Speak to Him from your heart and allow Him to speak to you. Actively listen to Him and what He wants to say to you, how He wants to guide you. Because we're busy people it's important to be strategic about this too: we need to be intentional in developing our relationship with Jesus. It's going to be pretty hard to listen to Him if our days are full of noise and busy-ness, rushing here and there, binging on Netflix or Xbox or Spotify.

MISSION!

CARVE SOME TIME INTO YOUR DAY, ESPECIALLY DURING THIS SEASON OF LENT WHEN WE ARE ENCOURAGED TO TURN BACK TO THE LORD THROUGH PRAYER, FASTING AND ALMSGIVING. CHECK OUT THE 3 X 5 EXAMEN IN THIS WEEK'S RESOURCE AND TRY TO BUILD IT INTO YOUR DAY. YOU COULD ALSO SET YOUR ALARM FIVE MINUTES EARLY (AND NOT HIT SNOOZE!) AND BEGIN YOUR DAY WITH A MORNING OFFERING. TUNE YOUR MIND INTENTIONALLY TO GOD EACH DAY, AND YOU'LL SEE THE EFFECTS IN YOUR LIFE!



PRAYER TIME!

Make a 3 x 5 Examen card and place it somewhere you will see it each day (or set a reminder on your phone with it). Get into the habit this week of pausing and asking God:

What five things can I give thanks for so far today?

What five things did I not do as well as I could have?

What five things are coming up that I need God's help with?



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON LETTING GOD BE PART OF YOUR DAY

- [Keep me in the moment - Jeremy Camp](#)
- [God of all my days - Casting Crowns](#)
- [Whatever may come - Jeremy & Adrienne Camp](#)
- [Captivate us - Watermark](#)
- [God works in a mysterious way - Graham Kendrick](#)
- [Waymaker - Leeland](#)
- [Christ be all around me - All Sons & Daughters](#)
- [Lord I Need You - Matt Maher](#)

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



Fr Mark Mary CFR: The Best Way to Get Closer to God



Testimony: Rebecca - "I found God cared for me in all my little daily happenings..."



3 x 5 Examen

Pause in the middle of your day to reflect on these questions:



WHAT FIVE THINGS CAN I GIVE THANKS FOR SO FAR TODAY?

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____

WHAT FIVE THINGS DID I NOT DO AS WELL AS I COULD HAVE?

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____

WHAT FIVE THINGS ARE COMING UP THAT I NEED GOD'S HELP WITH?

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____