

FAITH @Home

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"To the Heights" Post-Primary Schools / Youth Edition also available
15 MAY 2022 | VOL. II ISSUE 24

Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

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



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5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Year C

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Acts 14:21-27

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 144(145):8-13a

Second Reading:

Apocalypse 21:1-5

Gospel:

John 13:31-33, 34-35

"I give you a new commandment: love one another, just as I have loved you"



Duccio di Buoninsegna, 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 listening to Jesus' farewell discourse to His apostles.

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- What does it mean to you to love others as Jesus loves them? Reflect in prayer on how Jesus showed His love for us; how He prayed for us, served us and sacrificed Himself for us. How might He be calling you to act this week? Are there specific people you feel drawn to praying for, serving or making sacrifices for?
- Do you think that others can see you are a disciple of Jesus by the way you live your life? Thank God for the opportunity to witness to Him, and ask for the grace to model Christian joy and hope in your life.

Talk

In today's Gospel we see Jesus explaining a new commandment to His apostles.

- It's not easy to get on with everyone, is it? Even at home sometimes it's hard to get on with our family. But Jesus calls us to love everyone.
- What kind of ways can we show our love for our family, in the way we speak, think and act? Come up with as many concrete ways as you can!
- Would people know that our family follow Jesus by the way we live? Think of examples that show that we are witnesses to Jesus and the joy and hope He brings.
- How can we help each other to be more loving too? How can we encourage each other?

Family Challenge!

Pray the Act of Love (over the page) together, and choose one person in your family each day to show your love for in a special way this week. Be as creative as you can, but make sure you are sincere!

Mission:

Do you find it hard to love everyone? It's not easy! But Jesus asks us to do this, because He loves you and me and everyone else! Make a big effort this week to be more loving: maybe smile more at people, or share your toys or sweets, or sit with someone at school who is lonely!

Song of the Week!
LOVE ONE ANOTHER
LULLABY

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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Love one another:
just as I have loved you

A NEW COMMANDMENT

"Love one another: just as I have loved you, you also must love one another."

Jesus called this a new commandment, not a suggestion or something on a wishlist, but a commandment. Do you ever wish Jesus had given a simpler commandment? I mean, loving everyone sounds fine until that one person who drives you insane is in front of you again, or you're let down by someone you trusted, or someone is just being nasty mean to you for no real reason... that's where the rubber hits the road!

Why would Jesus ask us to do something like this? Doesn't He know how hard it is? There's the thing: Jesus knows exactly how hard it is because Jesus suffered the weight of our sins, He was innocent and yet crucified. Jesus knows what frustration is like; He understands betrayal, suspicion, ridicule and suffering at the hands of others all too well. He also knows how weak and broken we are, and still He commands us to love as He has loved. The good news is we don't have to do it on our own: the love we need to show others we can draw from Him - frankly, we HAVE to draw it from Him because we won't have it in us otherwise.

This week, pray the Act of Love everyday and offer it especially for one particular person who you find it difficult to love. Ask Jesus to fill you with His love as He blesses both them and you!

VIDEO: [Struggling to hear God's voice \(Fr Mark Mary\)](#)

TUNE: [Love Each Other \(Graham Kendrick\)](#)

Check out "To the Heights" full resource



Family Prayer

Act of Love

*O my God, I love you above all things with my whole heart and soul, because you are all good and worthy of all my love. I love my neighbour as myself for the love of you. I forgive all who have injured me and I ask pardon of those whom I have injured.
Amen.*

EVENTS

ANIMA: 3 week zoom series on Wednesday nights beginning on May 4th @8pm: video, chat, fellowship, prayer. Email events@waterfordlismore.ie or call 087 4042784

Lightfever: Time of Adoration - Music - Reconciliation in Ss Peter and Paul's Church Clonmel, Sat 21 May: 2-5pm

Monastic Craft Sale: May 14-15, 10am-5pm: Sisters of Mary Morning Star, The Friary, Lady Lane, Waterford. Fundraiser for Ukraine.

Queen of Peace Retreats: 4-day Medjugorje-style retreat at Glencomeragh Retreat Centre. Spiritual Director: Fr Patrick Cahill. Full Board Accommodation - limited places, book now! Thurs 21 - Sun 24 July / Thurs 18 - Sun 21 Aug / Thurs 1 - Sun 4 Sept. Cost: €260. For more info or to book contact info@holymission.ie or (052) 6133181

Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Medjugorje: August 3rd - 10th, Cost: €725pp, Open to those aged 16 - 35. For more info: Roisin Browne 083 3002123 <https://waterfordlismore.ie/pastoral/pilgrimages/>

SEE HOW THEY LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Today's Gospel again comes from the Gospel of John. Like last week, today we hear words spoken by Jesus before his death and Resurrection. Jesus is teaching at the Last Supper.

John's Gospel does not include an institution of the Eucharist narrative; instead, Jesus washes his disciples' feet. Immediately after, Jesus predicts his betrayal by Judas. Today's Gospel follows that prediction. It can be read as a continuing explanation of Jesus' act of washing his disciples' feet. It begins with the announcement that this is the moment when the Son of Man will be glorified. This theme continues throughout John's Passion. Jesus will be glorified in his death on the cross and in his Resurrection, and the disciples will glorify Jesus in the love they show.

John's Gospel does not present a sentimental view of love. This is a type of love that is shown in service and sacrifice. It is difficult to choose to love when faced with hatred and anger. Jesus tells the disciples that all will know that they are his disciples because of the love they show for one another. This description of the early Christian community will be repeated in the Acts of the Apostles: "See how they love one another." Christian love is the hallmark of Christianity. We see it lived in the witness of the martyrs. We see it in the example of the lives of the saints. We see it in the holy women and men who live and love daily, making small and large sacrifices for others.

from Loyola Sunday Connection



CHECK IT OUT: MAY ALTARS

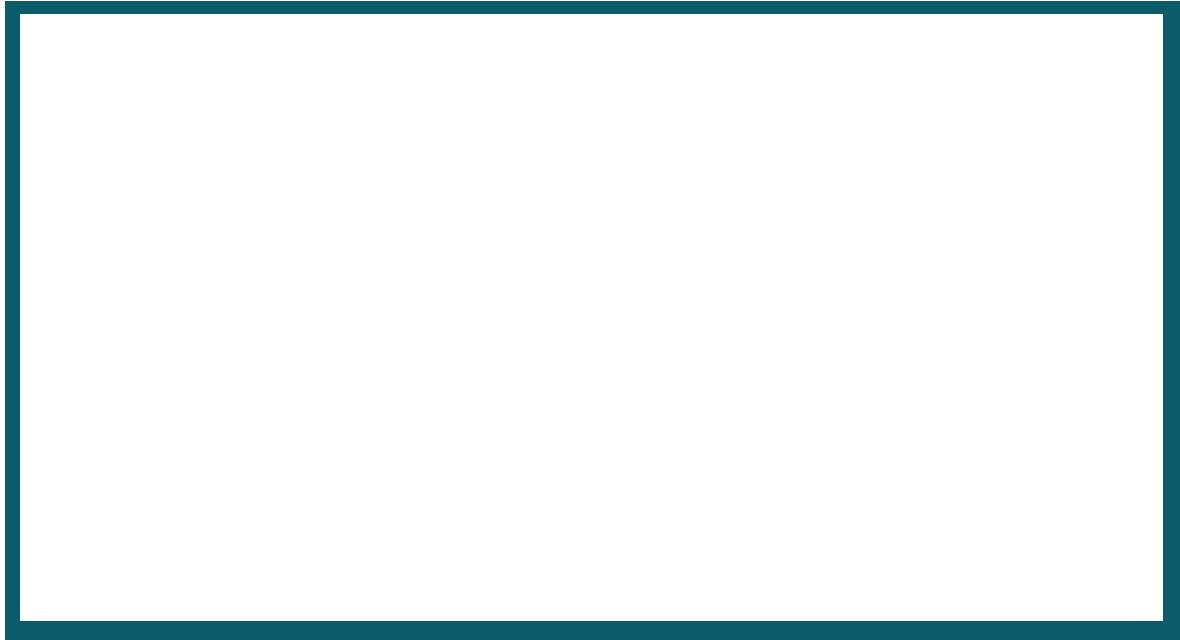
Have you ever created a May Altar in your home? Maybe it's something you did as a child but have fallen out of the practice since. The tradition of honouring Our Lady in our homes during the month of May with a small "altar" or sacred space has been passed down through the generations in our country. You can create a space for your altar on a small table, on a windowsill or on a shelf in your home. Check the links here for ideas on how to prepare your altar!

[Knock Shrine](#) | [Real Life at Home](#) | [Catholic Icing](#)

"Love one another
as I have loved you!"



Draw a picture of your family in the box



**Think of ways to show your love for your family
this week and write or draw them in the hearts**

