

FAITH @Home

www.waterfordlismore.ie

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"To the Heights" Post-Primary Schools / Youth Edition also available

24 JULY 2022 | VOL. II ISSUE 34

Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

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



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Year C

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Genesis 18:20-32

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 137(138): 1-3, 6-8

Second Reading:

Colossians 2:12-14

Gospel:

Luke 11:1-13

"Ask and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you."



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](#) on the Gospel for children.

Pray

In the Gospel today we hear Jesus teaching his disciples to pray what we know as the Lord's Prayer or the Our Father.

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- This week, sit with the Our Father and really contemplate the words you are praying. St Therese of Lisieux sometimes found herself unable to get past the words "Our Father" as she was so caught up in God the Father's love for us!
- Are there any areas in your life this prayer shines a light on? Do you trust God to provide for all your needs? Are you struggling to forgive? Are you struggling with any temptations? Bring all those areas to God our loving Father!

Talk

In today's readings we hear Jesus teaching His disciples to pray, and how to trust in God the Father's goodness and care.

- Can you remember a time when you were in need of help and someone in your family noticed and was there for you?
- What kind of ways do our parents/guardians show their love for us?
- Jesus taught His disciples to pray to God as their Father. God is a loving Father who looks after all our needs. Can you think of a time when God helped you or your family when you were in need?
- The Our Father also teaches us that we need to forgive others if we want to be forgiven too. Is it difficult to forgive? What can help us to forgive?

Family Challenge!

The Our Father is such a beautiful prayer, and one that Jesus taught us to pray. Make a special effort each day this week to pray the Our Father together as a family, thinking about each line as you pray it slowly together.

Mission: Jesus teaches us this week that God is our Father in Heaven who loves us and gives us everything we need. Each morning this week, thank God for all the good things in your life, ask Him to bless your day, and pray the Our Father prayer!

Song of the Week!
THE LORD'S PRAYER SONG



"Praying the Our Father and living it will lead us toward saintliness. The Our Father contains everything: God, ourselves, our neighbours..."
St Teresa of Calcutta

PRAYING THE OUR FATHER

How long have you known the Our Father prayer? Have you ever really thought about what you are saying when you pray it? Did you know that St Therese often didn't even get past the first two words when she prayed it, because she got so lost in contemplation of God being our loving Father!

In the Our Father we recognise that God is Father of all, which makes us brothers and sisters, connected to each other as children of God. Do we behave like children of God, or brats of God?! We also pray that God's name will be recognised as holy, and good. We pray for God's Kingdom to come here on earth, but in order for that to happen, our kingdoms that we build for ourselves need to go. We ask that God's will be done, because His Will is the maximum of our happiness. He knows what we need and when we need it and we should trust in Him. Then life on earth will be a foretaste of heaven for us!

We ask God to provide for our everyday needs, remembering Jesus' special presence with us in the Blessed Sacrament too, the source and summit of our faith. We look for God's forgiveness, but must remember that we cannot expect to be forgiven if we are unwilling to forgive others. Lastly we pray not to be put to the test, as we can be weak when faced with temptation, and we need God's protection from sin and evil in our lives.

This week pray the Our Father each day, slowly and deliberately.

- How to pray "Our Father" like never before
- Our Father (Hillsong Worship)

To the Heights Youth Newsletter will return at the end of August



Family Prayer

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

OUR FATHER

In today's Gospel, Luke presents the core of Jesus' teaching on prayer. It consists of Jesus teaching a prayer to his disciples, a parable on the persistent neighbour, and assurances that God hears our prayers.

The disciples notice Jesus praying "in a certain place." They ask him to teach them to pray just as John the Baptist had taught his disciples. Jesus teaches them a simple version of the most famous Christian prayer, the Our Father, or the Lord's Prayer.

We pray that God's name will be recognized as holy and that his rule over all will be established. This is followed by petitions for our needs for bread, for forgiveness, and for deliverance.

Having taught his disciples a simple, daily prayer, Jesus goes on to reassure them that God answers prayers. First he tells a parable about a persistent neighbour who asks a friend for bread at midnight. The friend is already in bed and has no desire to disturb his family by opening the door. But because the neighbour is persistent, the sleeping man gets up and gives him all that he needs. If a neighbour is willing to help us if we are persistent enough, how could God not respond to our requests?

This teaching concludes with the reminder that if we seek, we will get a response. If a human father, with all his faults, knows how to give good gifts to his children, how much more will our heavenly Father give us?

The parable and the concluding teaching in this section should not lead us to think of prayer as a series of requests presented to God. Rather, as Jesus teaches in his model prayer, prayer consists in recognizing God's holiness and his rule over all things.

The Kingdom of God is a society without distinctions and boundaries between its members. It is a society that requires times for seeing and doing and also times for listening and learning at the feet of a teacher.

Adapted from Loyola Press Sunday Connection



CHECK IT OUT:
ONLINE WITH SAINTS



Imagine you could meet and greet a saint, which saint would you choose? Online with Saints (#OnlineSaints) offers a virtual encounter with 100+ saints from all around the world. Get ready to meet and greet the saints through their social media account! The app "Online with Saints" offers a virtual encounter with saints from all around the world: their inspiring life stories are linked to real life modern questions, and together with them answers are found.

EVENTS

Men's Camping Weekend: Fratres in Christo: July 22-24, Riverhollow Wild Campsite, Co. Kilkenny. €10 per night, Self-Catering. An opportunity for adventure, faith & fellowship with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. Seamus: 0877821269 or Michael 0876220327

Queen of Peace Retreats: 4-day Medjugorje-style retreat at Glencomeragh Retreat Centre. 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

Catechism of the Catholic Church Pilgrimage to Knock: Speaker: Fr John Harris OP, Saturday 30 July, beginning at 11.30am. See www.catechism.ie for local contacts.

"Get used to Different" - Weekend Retreat based on "The Chosen" TV Series: Sept 30th - Oct 2nd. Glencomeragh Retreat Centre. Full Board Accommodation €195. To book (052) 6133181 or email info@holymission.ie / For more info on the retreat 087 4042784 / www.waterfordlismore.ie

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- "To the Heights" Youth Newsletter (youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie)
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WEEKLY
WEEKLY
FORTNIGHTLY



Our Father in Heaven,
may Your Name be held holy!

