

FAITH

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31 JULY 2022 | VOL. II ISSUE 35

Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

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



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18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year C

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 94(95):1-2, 6-9

Second Reading:

Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

Gospel:

Luke 12:13-21

"A man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs."



Parable of the Rich Fool, Rembrandt, 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 instruct His disciples against storing up treasures but instead looking how to serve others.

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- Elsewhere in Matthew's Gospel Jesus says, where your treasure is there your heart is also". Reflect this week on where your treasure is. Are you caught up with material wealth and trying to ensure security for yourself and your family, but leaving God out of the equation?
- What in your life can you be grateful for? How has God blessed you abundantly already? Pray in thanksgiving for all that your Heavenly Father does for you each day.

Talk

In today's readings we hear Jesus teaching His disciples about caring for others and not storing up treasures for ourselves.

- What kind of things are treasures for our family?
- Are we good at sharing our wealth with other people? Do we give our time or money or possession to charity?
- How could we do more as a family to help those who are less fortunate than us? What situations in the world are causing people to suffer? Pray together as a family for these people and situations, and also look for ways to practically help, even if it means going without a treat this week!

Family Challenge!

There are so many things we can be grateful for. Start each day this day with an attitude of gratitude! Thank God for ten things each morning that He has done for you in your life and in your family! Then ask Him how to share your blessings with others.

Mission: Jesus tells us this week not to store up more things than we need and not to forget to help others who have less than us. Have you some toys or clothes (in good condition!) that you could give away to share with those who need help?

Song of the Week!
LOVE ONE ANOTHER
LULLABY



God does not create poverty.
We do because we do not share.
St Teresa of Calcutta

RICH TOWARDS GOD

Are you someone who likes to have the latest phone, or football jersey? The latest trend in makeup or fashion? There's nothing wrong with owning possessions, the problem arises when what we own begins to own us, and to distract us from allowing God to be first in our lives.

God has given us so, so much in our lives. The very breath we breathe, food and water, a home, a family, friends, school, college or work, the ability to work, to have fun, to enjoy life.... we are so blessed!

We can be blessed with material wealth and goods too, but it's important that we don't store up riches just for ourselves like in the Gospel story today. The rich fool in this parable didn't think about the needs of others, or how he could bless the lives of others through his fortune. And yet, when it came to the moment of his death, he had to leave it all behind and it was useless to him. Jesus teaches us that he could have used his wealth to make the lives of those around him easier, to alleviate the suffering or hardship of others. Instead, he chose selfishness and greed.

This week, take a look around your room - is there anything you're storing up, things that you don't need that you could bless the lives of others with? Could you give money to charity instead of spending it on something you really don't need (no matter how much you want it)? Say a prayer for guidance, and see what the Holy Spirit is calling you to do!

- My worth is not in what I own (Keith & Kristynn Getty).

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



Family Prayer

*Lord Jesus,
take from me
all desire for worldly wealth
and immerse me
in love for your people.
Amen.*

EVENTS

Queen of Peace Retreat: 4-day Medjugorje-style retreat at Glencomeragh Retreat Centre. Thurs 18 - Sun 21 Aug Cost: €260. For more info or to book contact info@holymission.ie or (052) 6133181

"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

CD Launch: Tradoration with a Father's Heart Feast of the Assumption, 15th August in St Mary's Church, Pope's Quay, Cork after 6pm Mass. There is no charge for this concert. Official Cork launch of the new music CD based on the Rosary.

DON'T STORE UP TREASURE FOR YOURSELF

In Chapter 12 of Luke's Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples and the crowd on how to be ready for the coming judgment. A crowd of many thousands has gathered to hear Jesus. At first he speaks only to the disciples, reminding them that it is not persecution they should fear but the judgment that is coming for all who do not acknowledge the Son of Man. Suddenly a man in the crowd shouts out to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." He seems to have grown tired of Jesus speaking only to the disciples. Jesus offers the man no help. Instead he uses the question to teach what, in light of the coming judgment, life really consist of.

Jesus tells the crowd a parable. A rich man's lands have yielded more crops than expected. His response is not to consider how he might share all the extra food with others but to wonder how he can possibly store it all. He has what he thinks is a brilliant idea: to tear down his present barns and build larger ones. Then he will have many things stored up for years of eating, drinking, and making merry.

"You fool" is God's response to this man because that very night his life will be taken away. To whom will everything belong then, God asks. The rich man's world is small, just him and his possessions, and now he learns that he is to lose his life. What good are his possessions now? Jesus states the moral of the story. This is how it will be for everyone who stores up treasure for himself or herself but is not rich in what matters to God.

Centuries later St. Gregory the Great taught that when we care for the needs of the poor, we are giving them what is theirs, not ours. We are not just performing works of mercy; we are paying a debt of justice. Life does not consist in possessions but in sharing what we possess with others. The goods of the earth have been given to everyone.

Adapted from Loyola Press Sunday Connection



CHECK IT OUT:

YOUTH 2000 SUMMER FESTIVAL



Join over 1000 young people between 16 and 35 this August at the Youth 2000 Summer Festival. The festival takes place in Clongowes Wood College, Clane, Co Kildare from Thursday 11th August to Sunday 14th August 2022. You must book online first at www.youth2000.ie. Free buses from around country - [details online](http://www.youth2000.ie). For any other queries, please contact the National Office at office@youth2000.ie or 01 6753690.

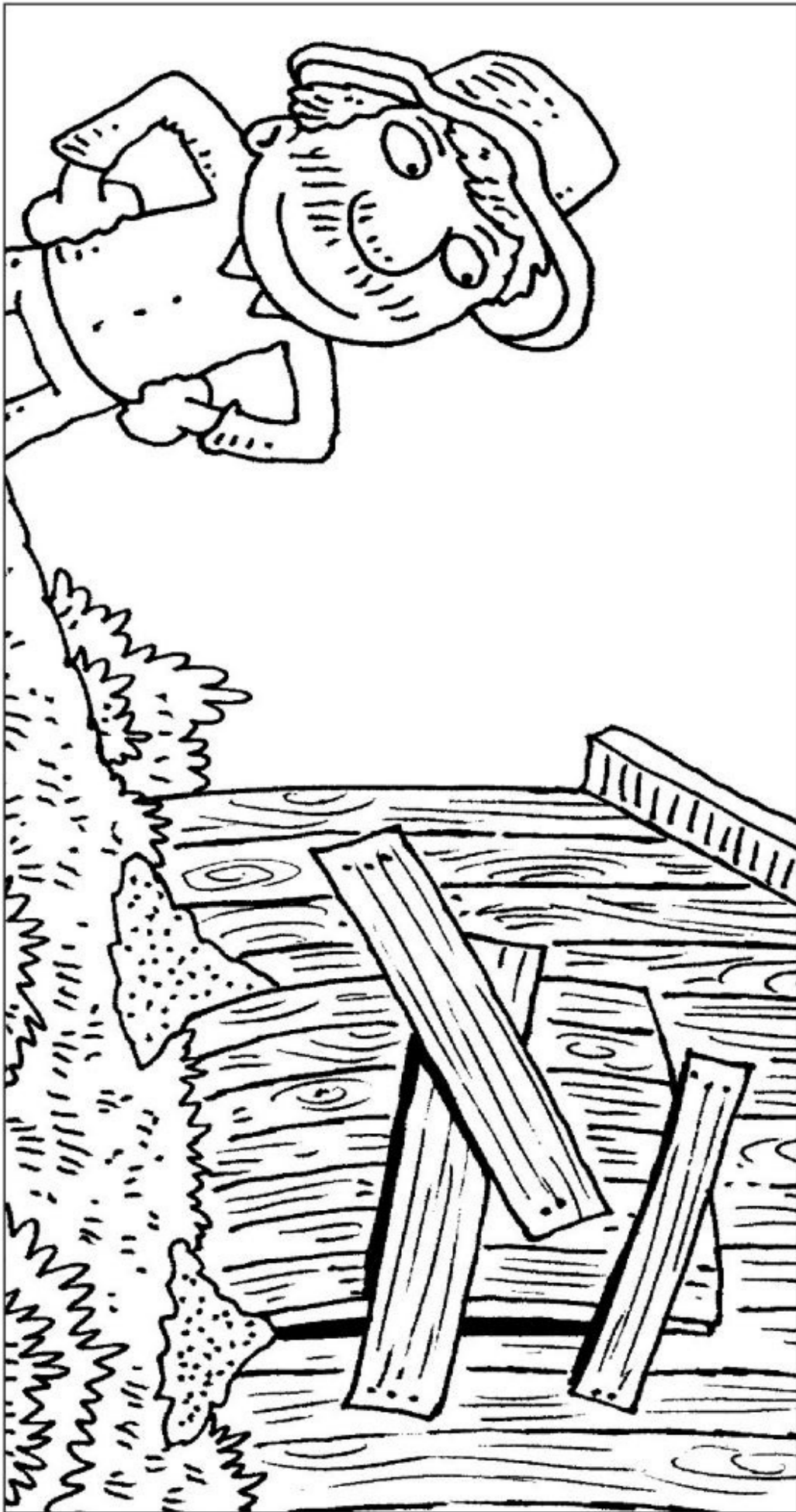
Have you subscribed yet to our Diocesan newsletters and events bulletin? Receive them direct to your inbox!

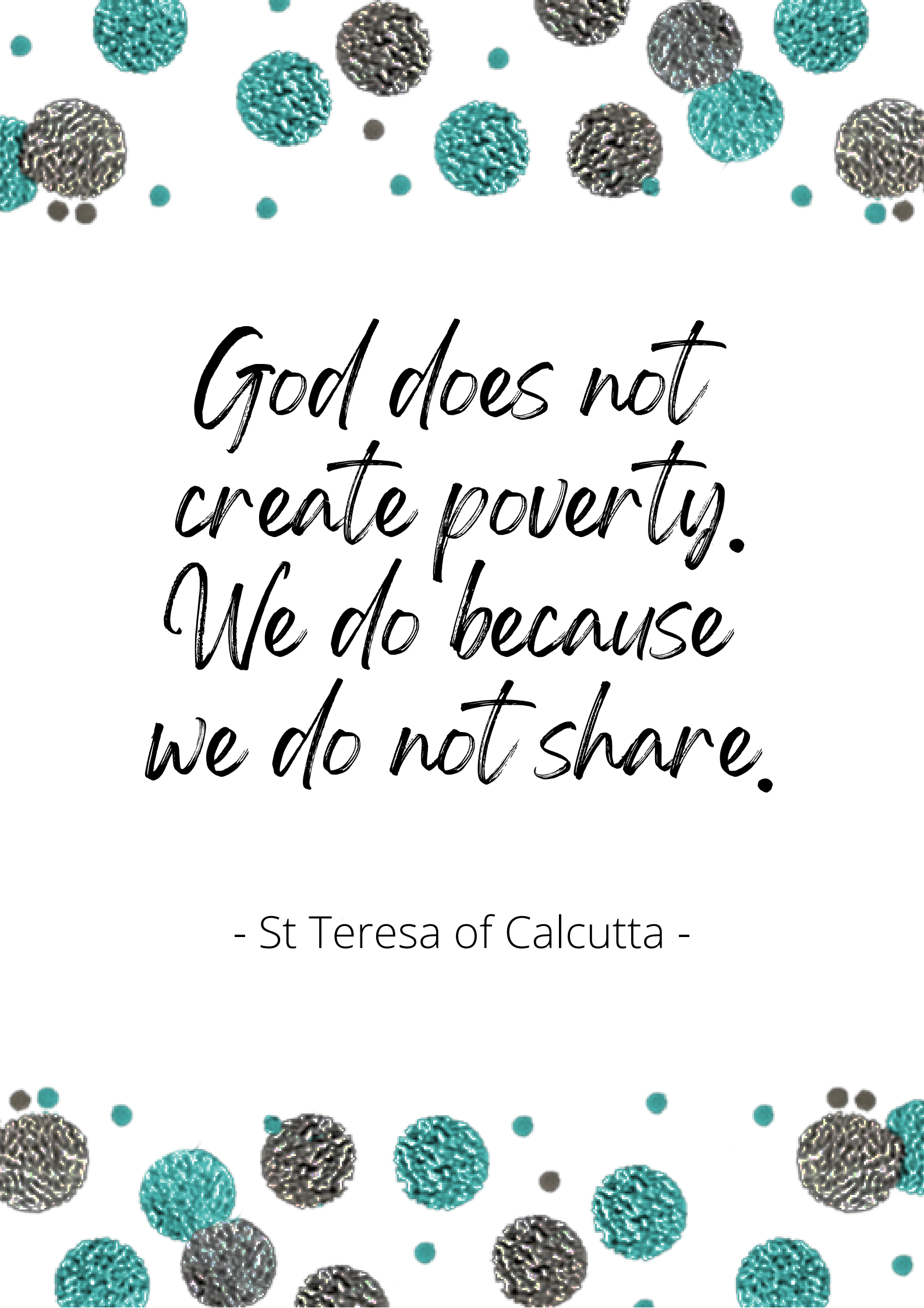
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- Faith@Home Newsletter (faithathome@waterfordlismore.ie)
- "To the Heights" Youth Newsletter (youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie)
- Check it Out! Diocesan Events Bulletin (events@waterfordlismore.ie)

WEEKLY
WEEKLY
FORTNIGHTLY







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create poverty.
We do because
we do not share.

- St Teresa of Calcutta -