

# FAITH

# @Home

www.waterfordlismore.ie

21 AUGUST 2022 | VOL. II ISSUE 36

Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

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



Find us on Facebook



Follow us on Instagram!



Subscribe to us on YouTube

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year C

## Sunday Mass Readings

### First Reading:

Isaiah 66:18-21

### Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 116(117)

### Second Reading:

Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13

### Gospel:

Luke 13:22-30

*"Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed."*



Richard Parkes Bonington, 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 speak in a strong manner about those who can enter heaven.

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- Where do you see the narrow door in your own life? What choices have you had to make because of your faith? What choices do you know you will face in the future because of your commitment to Jesus? Pray for the grace to face those moments.
- Would Jesus recognise you as a follower of His? Would He be able to say to you, "I know where you are coming from"? Pray this week to grow in love and knowledge of Jesus, to act humbly as a follower of His, despite the cost.

## Talk

In today's readings we hear Jesus teaching His listeners about the kind of attitude we need to reach heaven.

- What kind of things have we celebrated as a family? What kind of achievements?
- Do we ever take people in our family for granted, and overlook them or fail to appreciate them?
- Jesus doesn't want us to take heaven for granted, or to assume that we will be saved. He asks us to love Him with all our hearts and spend our lives living as a follower of His. How can we do that more this week?  
How can we show Jesus that we want to follow Him and get to heaven some day?

## Family Challenge!

This week make a special effort to show appreciation to your family members and not to take anyone for granted. Thank God for all the ways your family blesses you, and look for ways to show your appreciation too!

**Mission:** We should never take Jesus for granted, but make a special effort each day to love and serve Him by our prayers and by how we treat others. This week, try to show your family that you love them in the way you speak to them, act with them, and pray for them!

**Song of the Week!**  
**ENTER THE NARROW GATE**



"Our goal must be infinite, not the finite. The infinite is our homeland. Heaven has been waiting for us forever."

**WHAT DOOR DO I CHOOSE?**

## WHO WILL ENTER THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN?

As this parable opens, Luke reminds us that Jesus is making his way to Jerusalem. He is teaching as he goes. A question from the crowd gives Jesus the chance to make a prophetic statement.

Jesus answers that they must strive in the time remaining to enter through the narrow door because many will be trying to get in but won't be strong enough. He then moves to a parable about another door. (The translation says "gate" then "door," but the same Greek word is used.) Once all those entering the master's house are in and he locks the door, there will be no way for others to get in. Those left outside may knock, but the master will say he doesn't know them. Unlike the Gospel reading from a few weeks ago where Jesus was teaching about prayer, and we were told to knock and the door would be opened, in this parable, the master will not open and say he does not know us. People from the north, south, east, and west will take our place inside. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets will take our place in the Kingdom of God. Those who do not make it through the narrow door will be cast out to where there is wailing and grinding of teeth.

The image of the door is replaced in the final verses of the parable with the image of the heavenly banquet. Two passages from the Book of Isaiah influence the conclusion. Isaiah 43:5-6 speaks of God bringing Israel's descendants back from the east and from the west, the north and the south. And Isaiah 25:6 speaks of the Lord providing a feast of rich foods and choice wines for all peoples on his holy mountain. The answer to the question if only a few will be saved is no. In the end, many will be saved, but many who thought they would be saved will not be saved. The parable is a prophetic warning to repentance in order to enter the kingdom.

*Adapted from Loyola Press Sunday Connection*

Did you ever stop and ask yourself what it is you believe about the afterlife? Is Heaven real? Is Hell real? Who goes there? Who decides? Today's Gospel is a pretty sobering one. We can slip easily into believing that all good people go to heaven, without really even asking ourselves what does "good people" mean anyway? Is not being Hitler and dying enough to get you to heaven? Take a look at what Jesus says in this passage from Luke when He talks about the narrow door, or the narrow gate. Not everyone gets through it. Some people knock on the door but the Master tells them He doesn't know them. Obviously Jesus knows everyone who ever existed and where they come from - but His question here is more about our own acknowledgement of who we are and where we come from. Do we live as actual followers of Jesus? Are we actively striving for that great heavenly banquet? Are we spending time with God now?

Watch Fr Mike's video below and spend some time this week reflecting on the loving heart of God who wants to bring all His children to Him for all eternity, and our responsibility to choose that for ourselves by how we live and act!



- Do all good people go to heaven? (Fr Mike Schmitz)
- Narrow Road (Hillsong).

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



## Family Prayer

*Lord Jesus, thank you for the gift of faith. May we never take it for granted, or fail to show our gratitude for all that You have done and continue to do for us. Amen.*

## EVENTS

**Fire Anointing Catholic Bible Conference:** August 20th - Ss Peter & Paul's Church, Clonmel. 4-7pm. Praise & worship, Word of God, Adoration, Vigil Mass.

**Camp Creideamh - St Declan's Way: 13-18 year olds.** August 21st - 25th. Full Bed and Board. More info Fr Eamon Roche 086 9972539 / [www.campcreideamh.ie](http://www.campcreideamh.ie)

**37th Anniversary of Melleray Grotto, Cappoquin Parish:** Prayers each night 8.00 - 9.15pm, 15th - 24th August.

**"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](mailto:info@holymission.ie) / For more info on the retreat 087 4042784 / [www.waterfordlismore.ie](http://www.waterfordlismore.ie)

## CHECK IT OUT: DIAL-A-PRAYER

085 7611822 BETWEEN 2 - 3PM EACH DAY

The Sisters of Mary Morning Star in Waterford City offer Dial-a-Prayer for anyone who would like the Sisters to pray for their intentions. Phone 085 7611822 between 2 - 3pm each day with your intentions. The Sisters promise to bring the intentions, thoughts and prayers of people in the Waterford and Lismore Diocese to the Lord in their adoration and daily Mass. Check out the website for the Sisters of Maria Stella Matutina.



Call us

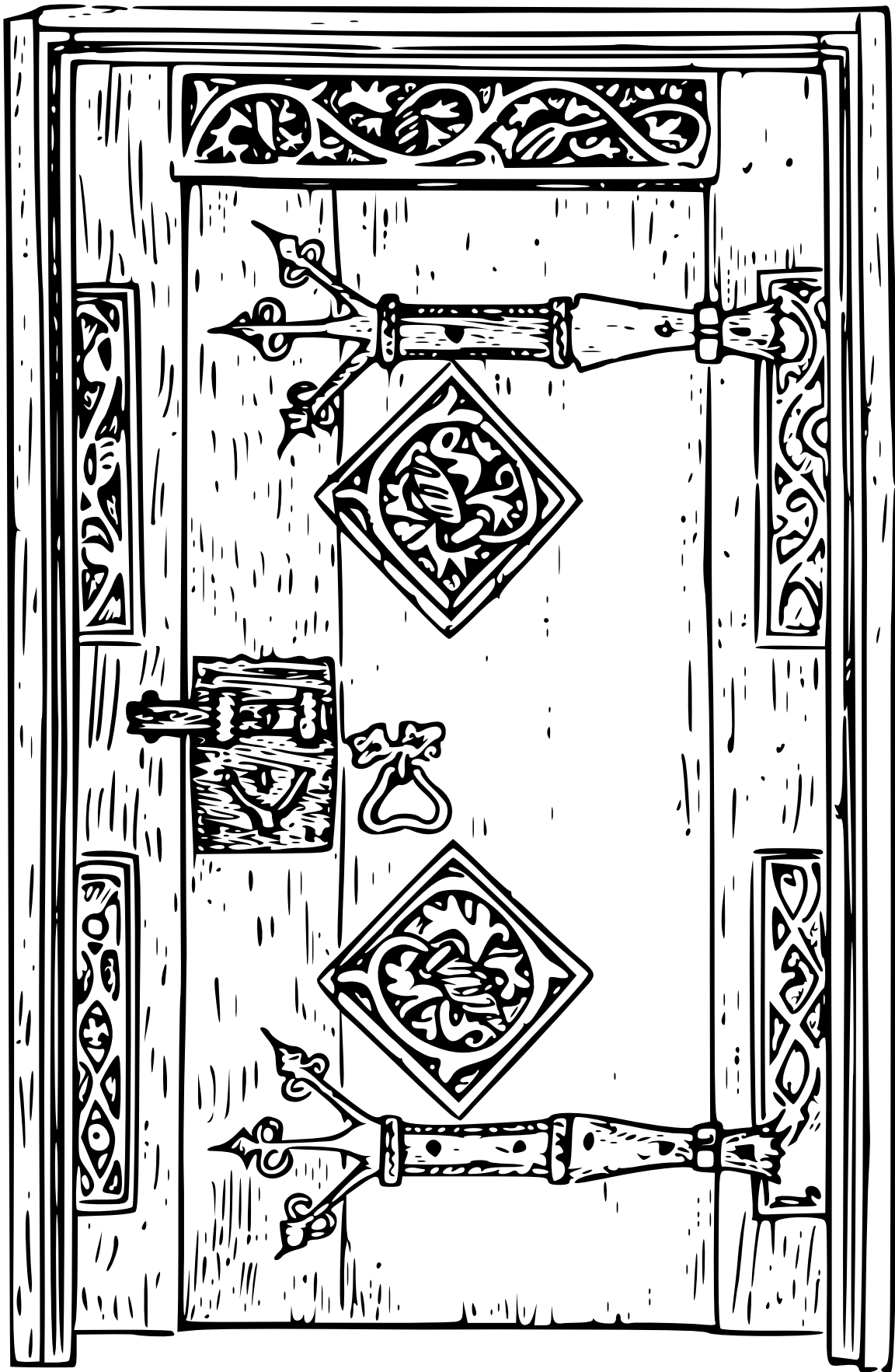
**Have you subscribed yet to our Diocesan newsletters and events bulletin? Receive them direct to your inbox!**

**Click the Subscribe Button OR go to [www.waterfordlismore.ie/resources](http://www.waterfordlismore.ie/resources)**

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

WEEKLY  
WEEKLY  
FORTNIGHTLY





"Try your best to enter by the narrow door."