

FAITH

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Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

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

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26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year C

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Amos 6:1,4-7

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 145 (146): 7-10

Second Reading:

1 Timothy 6:11-16

Gospel:

Luke 16:19-31

"If they will not listen to either Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead."



Hendrick ter Brugghen, 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 tell the challenging parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus?

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- Put yourself in the Rich Man's shoes: Why do you think he chose not to share with Lazarus? What preoccupied his thoughts? What determined his actions?
- Have you ever found yourself thinking or acting like the Rich Man in this story? Do you ever put off helping others in need, presuming someone else will do it, or getting caught up with your own life?
- Spend some time in prayer and see what the Lord is calling you to this week: how can you care for those in need, whether they are materially or spiritually poor?

Talk

In today's readings we hear Jesus's parable teaching us about sharing what we have with others and not thinking only of ourselves.

- Can you think of any times you shared with someone else, at home or in school? Is it always easy to share things we like with others?
- Can you remember a time when you were in need and someone shared what they had with you? Maybe you forgot your lunch, or needed a pen, or an umbrella! What does it feel like when someone helps you out?
- Jesus wants us to care for those who are in need. There are so many ways we can do this, every single day! Chat about what you could do as a family this week.

Family Challenge!

There are lots of people who need help in our world, and so many ways to help. Could your family donate money, or go through clothes or toys you no longer need and donate those this week? Could you volunteer time helping someone in your locality or a charity?

Mission: Go through your toys this week - do you have some you can give away to charity? Don't just look at the broken or worn out toys - try to pick something another little boy or girl would love!

Song of the Week!
GIVE A LITTLE KINDNESS



"The most beautiful act of faith is the one made in darkness, in sacrifice, and with extreme effort." Padre Pio

THE BIGGER PICTURE

It's hard to like the rich man in today's Gospel - how cruel he was to Lazarus the poor man; only thinking of himself and his own needs, ignoring the plight of the poor who were within his range to help. In life it seemed like the rich man had it all. It seemed like Lazarus was forgotten by God.

Yet God has the bigger picture, and death is not the end, and material possessions are not what matter at the end of the day. Lazarus' heart was pure and he accepted his suffering without bitterness. The rich man who had everything lacked love.

At the end of the day, it is love that matters most. What God will ask of any of us is not what we achieved, or what wealth we amassed, but how much we loved.

There's a lot we can learn from this Gospel. It's a pretty stark parable from Jesus, designed to shake us up a little, and we need that at times!

We have so many opportunities every week to be true Christians and provide for the needs of others, in as much as we can in our own circumstances. It might require some sacrifices, putting ourselves out for the sake of others, but a heavenly reward is worth any difficulty we face here on earth!

Who can you reach out to and help this week? Who can you show love to? Whose life can you make better, by small gestures of love and self-sacrifice?

Saint Series: Padre Pio
(It's his feast day this week!)



From the Inside Out: Hillsong

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



Family Prayer

Jesus, thank you for all the gifts you have given our family. Help us to be generous and loving towards others always. Amen

EVENTS

Lectio Divina with the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Waterford.

Tuesdays, 2:30-4pm- St. John's Pastoral Centre or Thursdays, 7:30-9pm- Sacred Heart Convent, Cedar Lodge (Newtown Rd.) Starting from 13th September. Queries: Sr. Kathryn 087 404 2784.

"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@hollyfamilymission.ie / For more info on the retreat 087 4042784 / www.waterfordlismore.ie

The Chosen: Zoom Series, Season 2: TUESDAY nights, 8 - 9.15pm, 4 - 29 October - www.waterfordlismore.ie for more information or [click here to sign up](#)

CARE OF THE POOR

A major theme in the Gospel of Luke is the importance of the care of the poor in the life of discipleship. In the parable found in today's Gospel, Jesus contrasts the life of a rich man and the poor man, Lazarus, who lives in the shadow of the rich man and his wealth. Both die. Lazarus finds himself in heaven; the rich man in the netherworld. The rich man asks for assistance from Lazarus in his torment. But Abraham reminds the rich man of the good things he had in his life and describes the current situation as a reversal of fortunes. The rich man then asks that Lazarus be sent to warn his family, but this is denied with the reminder that Moses and the prophets have warned of judgment for those who neglect the care of the poor.

In the context of Luke's Gospel, this parable, delivered in the presence of a crowd of listeners, is part of Jesus' response to some Pharisees. These Pharisees are described in Luke's Gospel as "loving money." (Note: The Pharisees were followers of a sect of Judaism active before, during, and after Jesus' lifetime. They taught an oral interpretation of the Law of Moses as the basis for popular Jewish piety. They put less emphasis on Temple worship and more on applying the law to everyday life. Though they are often portrayed negatively in the Gospels, they shared many of Jesus' and the early Church's concerns about the law.) Jesus observed that the actions of some Pharisees betrayed misplaced priorities: they spoke one way, but acted in another. The story of the rich man and Lazarus demonstrates the importance of the care of the poor and is a reminder to those who would follow Jesus of the unimportance of wealth in the eyes of God.

[Loyola Press Sunday Connection](#)

CHECK IT OUT: THE HOOK OF FAITH



The Hook of Faith is brought to you by 'FERN'S C.A.F.É' (Catholic Adult Formation and Education) who are committed to the work of evangelisation and adult faith formation. It seeks to bring the light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to bear on all sectors of society in a way that offers life and meaning to everyone. We recognise the challenge of this task at a time in the Church that needs healing and hope. The mission of 'The Hook of Faith' is to 'Digitally proclaim the Gospel in the Diocese of Ferns and beyond'. Our hope is that the light that comes from our faith will reach a wide audience through this new age of digital media and will help transform lives through the joy of the Gospel.

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



