

FAITH @Home

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

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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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30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year C

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Ecclesiasticus 35:12-14, 16-19

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 33 (34): 2-3, 17-19, 23

Second Reading:

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel:

Luke 18:9-14

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted."



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 readings for children.

Pray

In the Gospel today we hear the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector.

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- Who do you identify more with in this parable, the Pharisee or the Tax Collector, or a bit of both?
- Do you struggle with humility? Have you a healthy awareness of your limitations and where you need to improve in your spiritual life?
- "God, be merciful to me a sinner" - a beautiful and simple prayer to adopt this week.

Talk

In today's readings we hear the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector, a lesson in the dangers of pride and the necessity of humility.

- Do you ever compare yourself to someone else, in your family or in your class? Is it a good thing to compare yourself to others? Is it always a bad thing? When can looking at someone else as a role model be helpful?
- The Pharisee compared himself to the Tax Collector and felt He was doing a great job, but his heart was full of pride and judgment. The Tax Collector was actually really humble and knew He needed God's mercy.
- Jesus knows what goes on in our hearts - that's what is most important for him, and that's what is most important for us to focus on.

Family Challenge!

Pick a saint this week to find out more about and to learn from. The saints are great role models for us. We don't have to be exactly like them, we're called to be who God created us to be. However, we can learn a lot about how to love and serve God and others through their stories.

Mission:

Jesus is reminding us in this Gospel not to judge others or be filled with pride. Every good thing we have and do comes from God, so remember to thank God every day this week for all that He helps you do!

Song of the Week!
EVERY MOVE I MAKE



There is something in humility which strangely exalts the heart.
St Augustine

HUMILITY MAKES US WHOLE

REMEMBER OUR NEED FOR GOD

The second parable that Jesus tells in Luke 18 addresses attitude in prayer. In contrasting the prayer of the Pharisee with the prayer of the tax collector, Jesus teaches his disciples to pray in humility before God. Jesus again surprises his listeners by showing the tax collector as the example of faith, rather than the Pharisee. Remember that Pharisees were members of a sect of Judaism active in Jesus' time. They taught an oral interpretation of the Law of Moses as the basis for Jewish piety. If anyone would be a model for prayer, a Pharisee was a likely candidate. In contrast, Jesus offers the tax collector as a model for prayer. Tax collectors were collaborators with the Roman authorities in a system that allowed the tax collectors to line their own pockets by charging in excess of the defined taxes. Yet, in this parable, Jesus offers the humility of the tax collector as a model for the prayer of a disciple. The parable reminds us that when we pray, we must remember our need for God in our lives. If we are too full of ourselves, there is too little room for God's grace to work in us.

Loyola Press Sunday Connection

We might be tempted to laugh at the Pharisee's pompous prayer in today's Gospel. Is he for real? Does he not know how ridiculous he sounds? Yet, I think if we probe a little bit, and maybe not even too deeply, we can find elements of his attitude in our own attitude and behaviour at times. Do we ever legitimise or excuse our own behaviour by comparing ourselves to someone we think is worse? "I know my room is messy, but my brother's is way worse...", "Ok, I drink a bit too much, but come on, look at X and how much he drinks every weekend - I'm not that bad!" or "I might lose my temper a bit, but at least I'm not a gossip like X..." Where's the humility in that?

Without humility there can be no growth. If we determine where the standard is, or if we set the bar for ourselves, we'll almost always find ourselves above it. Thankfully for us (and for our souls!) God is the one who sets the bar, and He sets it out of love for us, because striving for that standard is how we strive for heaven and eternal happiness with him. Let's try this week to have a humble heart like the tax collector: one who is aware of his weakness and his need for God's mercy. We need God. Having an awareness of that is so important for lives that are balanced and whole.

The Litany of Humility
(Thomas Muglia)

Check out our new Bl. Chiara Luce Badano resource in our Gamechangers section!

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



Family Prayer

"God, be merciful to me, a sinner." Thank you Lord for your mercy. Keep us humble and mindful of our need for you. Amen

EVENTS

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](#)

All Saints Vigil: Do not be afraid to be holy:
Monday 31st October, 8pm with the Sisters of Mary Morning Star at the Franciscan Friary Church, Lady Lane, Waterford,.

All Saints Festival: Girls Get-Together for ages 8-12 Tues 1 November, 12-5.30pm. Parochial House, Pearse St., Cahir. Organised by the Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother. Contact Sr Rachel Maria 052 7443588 / cahirshm@homeofthemothor.org

Family Day at Holy Family Mission: Sun 6th Nov, 10am - 3pm. All Saints Costume Party. Bring a packed lunch. Book essential. Email info@holymission.ie

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.



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

WEEKLY
WEEKLY
FORTNIGHTLY







Litany of Humility

THE LITANY OF HUMILITY IS ATTRIBUTED TO CARDINAL MERRY DEL VAL WHO WAS THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO POPE SAINT PIUS X (1903-1914)

O Jesus, meek and humble of heart,
From the desire of being esteemed,
From the desire of being loved,
From the desire of being extolled,
From the desire of being honoured,
From the desire of being praised,
From the desire of being preferred to others,
From the desire of being consulted,
From the desire of being approved,
From the fear of being humiliated,
From the fear of being despised,
From the fear of suffering rebukes,
From the fear of being calumniated,
From the fear of being forgotten,
From the fear of being ridiculed,
From the fear of being wronged,
From the fear of being suspected,

hear me.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

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deliver me O Jesus.

That others may be loved more than I,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be esteemed more than I,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That, in the opinion of the world,
others may increase and I may decrease,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be chosen and I set aside,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be praised and I go unnoticed,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be preferred to me in everything,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may become holier than I,
provided that I may become as holy as I should,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

