



MATTHEW 25:1-13



DO YOU LIKE SURPRISES?

"Jesus will come at the end of time to judge all the nations, but he (also) comes to us every day, in so many ways, and asks us to welcome him."
Pope Francis

CHECK OUT THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH SAYS ABOUT THE SECOND COMING CCC 668-679

SENIOR RE-NON-EXAM: A1 / A3 / E1 / E3 / G2 / G3 / H3

JCRE: LO 1.5 / 1.6 / 1.8 / 2.2 / 2.7 / 2.8 / 2.9 / 3.1 / 3.2

ARE YOU SOMEONE WHO LIKES SURPRISES? DO YOU LIKE BEING SURPRISED? DO YOU LIKE SURPRISING OTHERS?



Examples:

- Do you like to know what gifts you are getting?
- Do you like Haunted House experiences?
- Do you prefer more control over experiences?

Watch the Granny and Grandad water bottle prank!



CAN YOU THINK OF ANY PRANKS YOU SAW ON YOUTUBE / TIKTOK THAT WERE FUNNY (BUT HARMLESS!!)? WHAT MADE THEM WORK / BE SO FUNNY?

WATCH FR MIKE SCHMITZ EXPLAIN JESUS' SECOND COMING IN HIS VIDEO: "THE GREATEST SURPRISE" AND REFLECT ON THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW:



St Paul uses an unusual image to describe Jesus: He will come again like a _____ in the night. (1 Thessalonians 5:1-11) What does that suggest?

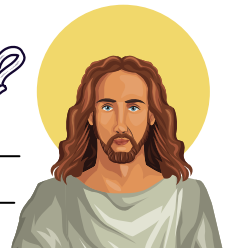
Fr Mike talks about the difference between a surprise being a GOOD surprise and a BAD surprise. He suggests that for Christians, two things will make the difference in Jesus' Coming being a good or a bad surprise for people?

- Living like we _____ it.
- Living _____



What do you think Fr Mike means by this question?

Do I live everyday as if He (Jesus) is already with me?



SCRIPTURE TIP: WHEN YOU SEE "THEREFORE" IN A PASSAGE, ASK YOURSELF: _____

We have three options in our dealings with others:

T _____ **I** _____ **B** _____

WHAT IS YOUR PERSONAL RESPONSE TO THIS VIDEO?

I'm happy to die because I've lived my life without wasting even a minute of it doing things that wouldn't have pleased God. Blessed Carlo Acutis

- ASCEND YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY (DIOCESE OF WATERFORD & LISMORE) -

DO YOU LIKE SURPRISES?

MATTHEW 25:1-13



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH TEACHES ABOUT "THE FOUR LAST THINGS". CAN YOU GUESS WHAT THEY ARE?

eatdh

aevhne

lelh

utnjegmd

CAN YOU FINISH THESE MASS RESPONSES?

- When we eat this Bread, and drink this Cup, we proclaim your death O Lord, until You _____.
- We proclaim Your death O Lord, and profess Your Resurrection, until You _____.



Now Read Matthew 25:1-13



Normally the thought of bridesmaids and weddings is a cheery, exciting one, but this parable from Jesus is far from talk of dresses and bouquets! The bridesmaids in this parable have one job, to have the torches lit for the arrival of the groom, even though they do not know exactly when he will be there. As with all of Jesus' parables there's a lot more going on than a simple wedding feast here: it's the heavenly banquet, and Jesus himself is the bridegroom. He asks us, are we ready for when He comes? It's a sobering question!

Every year, as we approach the end of the liturgical year, we get that shake up! Ever since Jesus ascended into Heaven, the Church has taught that Jesus will come again, even if we don't know when it will happen. Whether or not we witness that event in our lifetime, we know that we will also meet Jesus at our death. We should be prepared - it should be a good surprise!

St Dominic Savio, the young Italian saint was playing football with his friends one day when he was asked by St John Bosco: "If you knew you had only an hour to live, how would you spend it?" St Dominic replied, "I'd continue playing football" - because he was living his life completely prepared for meeting Jesus. I'm not sure how many of us would have that same certainty and confidence, but it's completely possible for us too if we are living united with Jesus. Is there anything in your heart or in your life you think needs to change if St John Bosco asked you that question?



MISSION!

THIS WEEK, REFLECT ON HOW READY YOU ARE TO MEET JESUS, AND WHAT THAT EVEN MEANS TO YOU. ARE WE LIVING OUR LIVES WITH HIM, TRYING TO BE THE BEST VERSION OF OURSELVES? OR ARE WE PUTTING OFF CHANGE, AND SETTLING FOR MEDIOCRITY?



PRAYER TIME!

Take some time in silence, on your own, and allow yourself to reflect on the following. Imagine you are sitting at home in your bedroom, on a normal day, when you hear a gentle knock at your bedroom door. When you open it, you find yourself looking into the loving and tender smiling face of Jesus. What is your immediate reaction? Are you excited, happy? Do you hug Him, welcome Him to your home? Or are you worried, frightened for some reason? Do you hesitate to welcome Him in? Do you feel distant from Him, and unsure how to react? Talk to Him honestly in this moment about what His presence means for you. When you have finished talking, imagine His eyes looking into yours. What do you think He would say to you in this moment? How would He tell you that He loves you, that He gave His life, for you? How do you respond to His love? Do you need Him to help you accept it? Allow yourself, as much as you can, to feel His love for you.

Lord Jesus, I know that You see me as I am, that You know my heart, and You love me completely. You are the one constant in this life. Help me to trust You totally, and to build my life on Your Word and Your Love. You are the Way, the Truth and the Life. Amen



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON MEETING JESUS FACE TO FACE



- Hosanna (Hillsong)
- All Creatures of Our God & King (Sovereign Grace)
- When the stars burn down (Philips Craig & Dean)
- I can only imagine (Mercy Me)
- Even so come (Chris Tomlin)
- The Great Day (M W Smith)
- All My Hope (Hillsong)
- Hope for Everyone (Matt Maher)



The Lesser Known Last Judgment (Fr Mike)
Ascension Presents



Fr Patrick Cahill: **Judgement and Purgatory**