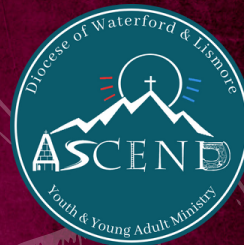




To the Heights



Year B 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Download from www.waterfordlismore.ie/resources or subscribe to receive by email!



ENCOUNTER AT ST JOHN'S CHURCH

November's Encounter Gathering for 18 - 35 year olds at St John's Church, Waterford. A time of sharing, music and prayer followed by pizza and chat! Next Encounter - 19th January. Check out www.waterfordlismore.ie/youthministry for more info!

HEAR: Sunday Gospel

Mark 13:33-37



If you don't have a Bible handy, click the image here to access the Mass readings for this Sunday!

Fr Mike Schmitz



WATCH:

PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

PRAY:



Son of God, You are the light of the world. Shine your light on all our choices this day. Create in us the ability to let your light shine forth for others. We ask this in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Ave Maria Press

WEEKLY CHALLENGE:

If you were to take Fr Mike's advice, and decide to live this Advent season differently, what changes could you make? Did any of Fr Mike's suggestions resonate with your heart? Reflect in prayer, and ask God to guide you. He knows your heart and your deepest desires. He knows too, the wounds our pasts can cause us and areas where we need to choose healing. Choose one thing this week, a small or a big step - that's up to you!

TUNE!

Come Thou Long-expeted Jesus
Meredith Andrews



GROW:

RESOURCES: CATHOLIC ICING

"The icing on your Catholic Cake!" Lacy, a Catholic mom of 4, runs this resource site to help educate Catholic kids! Arts & crafts ideas, craft ideas for saints, the Mass, the rosary, ideas for how families can celebrate the sacraments and the liturgical calendar, resources for Covid-19 and much more! With an online shop to purchase material, but many resources are also free to download! Updated regularly with new material.



EVENTS

Youth 2000 Christmas Retreat: Newbridge College, 8 - 10 December. For 16 - 35 year olds. Donation only. More info on www.youth2000.ie

Live Crib in St. Mary's Parish, Cahir: December 16th, Saturday, 4-8pm with the Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother.



GAMECHANGERS!

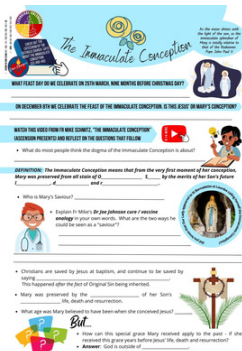
FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8 December

Click the image to discover more about this feast

The Catholic Church offers us so many examples of inspirational saints and heroes, or as we like to call them here, **Game Changers!**

More Gamechanger resources available on our website.



www.waterfordlismore.ie/youth-ministry



AscendWaterfordLismoreYM



ascendwaterfordlismore.ym



Ascend Youth Ministry

PUZZLE

FIND THE WORDS FROM THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL IN THE WORDSEARCH BELOW



Advent
asleep
cockcrow
coming
dawn
disciples
evening
Jesus
master
midnight
servants
stay awake
time
unexpectedly

X	J	G	I	K	A	Q	G	J	O	S	G	D	C	R	J	C
P	S	T	U	S	U	T	N	A	I	E	U	N	A	C	P	L
J	B	S	L	N	N	I	I	C	E	L	N	Q	I	W	M	W
Y	M	E	T	E	C	R	N	G	K	P	E	B	C	M	N	A
X	E	U	V	A	I	D	E	D	Z	I	X	A	Z	S	O	U
P	U	D	L	A	Y	G	V	S	E	C	P	N	B	F	U	C
K	A	B	D	H	E	A	E	S	U	S	E	J	M	F	S	P
R	E	T	S	A	M	R	W	E	K	I	C	B	T	R	L	F
C	O	C	K	C	R	O	W	A	E	D	T	K	G	L	X	S
O	O	P	D	D	H	T	X	Q	K	Y	E	R	U	A	E	T
Y	S	F	K	P	Z	O	A	U	Q	E	D	P	Z	R	H	E
C	B	Y	L	S	C	I	N	L	M	O	L	L	V	G	Y	J
A	L	T	K	O	M	J	J	N	U	G	Y	A	I	V	Y	H
R	V	I	R	V	Y	X	R	D	B	V	N	N	W	H	Z	Z
S	L	M	G	E	Y	S	E	R	B	T	D	F	M	M	Z	K
X	C	E	D	O	A	S	F	V	S	I	R	P	U	I	N	G
L	H	N	S	M	X	N	Y	X	M	R	Z	V	I	Q	T	N

Can you explain how any four of these words relate to the message of the Gospel?

What do you think God could be saying to you in this Gospel? What speaks to your heart? Maybe it raises questions, maybe it's a little uncomfortable, maybe it offers hope... what matters is that we are open to hearing God speak to us individually.

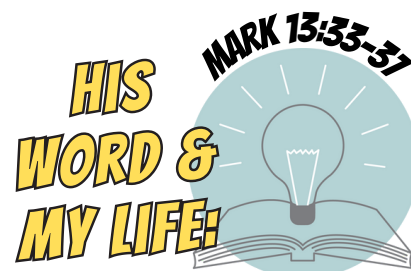
RESPOND!



DOODLE PRAYER

Reflect on scripture quote and allow thoughts and images that come to you to form part of your doodle prayer: it could be people or situations that need prayer or even areas you might need to change in. Certain words or phrases might stand out for you. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your heart as you pray and doodle!

"STAY AWAKE"



Can you believe it's Advent already? Where did that time go? In just a few weeks Christmas will be over and we'll be into a new year. But let's not get ahead of ourselves: today is the start of the liturgical new year and we have plenty of time to prepare well for Christmas.

We hear in today's Gospel about the need to stay awake: obviously we literally can't do that, we need to sleep, but what Jesus is talking about is a deeper sense of wakefulness than that. Are we awake to the presence of God in our lives. Are we awake to the real meaning of Christmas? At Christmas we celebrate "Emmanuel", God-with-us. We have to remember that our God is not a distant God, watching us slip up with a frown on His face. No, He is a loving Father who does everything possible to win our hearts and bring us to Heaven. The whole story of Salvation history (which we retell through the Jesse Tree in Advent) reminds us that God never gives up. This is why the Church gives us the season of Advent: to be prepared to celebrate Jesus' first coming in Bethlehem, and His Second Coming, at the end of the world, or just the end of our lives. Let's not waste the time we have, but use it to serve God and others, and be the best version of ourselves!



[Click here for some relaxing instrumental music](#)
SPONTANEOUS WORSHIP | TWO HOURS OF WORSHIP PIANO

AWAKE AND READY?

MARK 13:33-37



How did one of Fr Mike's students put this challenge into action? How easy would you find it to do something like that? What would hinder you? What would be the benefits?

Now Read - Mark 13:33-37



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MISSION!

IF YOU WERE TO TAKE FR MIKE'S ADVICE, AND DECIDE TO LIVE THIS ADVENT SEASON DIFFERENTLY, WHAT CHANGES COULD YOU MAKE? DID ANY OF FR MIKE'S SUGGESTIONS RESONATE WITH YOUR HEART? REFLECT IN PRAYER, AND ASK GOD TO GUIDE YOU. HE KNOWS YOUR HEART AND YOUR DEEPEST DESIRES. HE KNOWS TOO, THE WOUNDS OUR PASTS CAN CAUSE US AND AREAS WHERE WE NEED TO CHOOSE HEALING. CHOOSE ONE THING THIS WEEK, A SMALL OR A BIG STEP - THAT'S UP TO YOU!



PRAYER TIME!

If you have an Advent Wreath, light the first purple candle. If you don't, try to find a tealight or candle you can light, to remind you of the Light of Christ that dispels the darkness of our world and brings Hope that darkness can never quench.

Son of God, You are the light of the world. Shine your light on all our choices this day. Create in us the ability to let your light shine forth for others. We ask this in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.
Ave Maria Press



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT



- O Come, O Come Emmanuel (Pentatonix)
- Prepare the Way (Charlie Hall)
- Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus (Meredith Andrews)
- Come to save us (All Sons & Daughters)
- Help from Heaven (Matt Redman)
- To those who wait (Bethany Dillon)
- While I'm waiting (John Waller)
- I will wait (Mumford & Sons)



The Big Story: Gospel Project
(Salvation History)



Come Thou Long Expected Jesus
The Skit Guys



Advent in Two Minutes
Busted Halo