

FAITH @Home

26 AUGUST 2024 | VOL.IV ISSUE 26

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

www.waterfordlismore.ie

Year B 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"TO THE HEIGHTS" YOUTH EDITION ALSO AVAILABLE

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 33(34): 2-3, 16-23

Second Reading:

Ephesians 5:21-32

Gospel:

John 6:60-69

"Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life."



image: www.canva.com

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](#).



Pray



In the Gospel today we hear the conclusion of the John 6 discourse on the Bread of Life.

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- The crowd who had come to see Jesus work more miracles left disappointed with his message. Many disciples who had given everything to follow him found this message too hard to accept. Peter acknowledged Jesus as the One who had the message of eternal life.
- Jesus' message is challenging - but why do we settle for easier ways if they are not the Truth? Is there anything I feel the Lord calling me out of this week, something that is less than He is calling me to be or do?

Family Prayer



"Lord to whom shall we go? You alone have the message of eternal life." Amen

Talk

- In today's Gospel we see the different reactions people have to Jesus' teaching on being the Bread of Life.
- What kind of things does the Church teach us about Jesus? Make a list of everything you can think of!
- What do we know about Jesus from what the Bible says? What kind of things did He say about himself? What titles did He give himself?
- What do we know about Jesus from how He has worked in our lives too?
- We can learn everything there is to know about Jesus but each person has to make a decision to invite Jesus into their hearts and live for Him every day. Let's pray for the grace!

Family Challenge!



Choose to follow Jesus! Watch out for opportunities every day to be a true disciple of Jesus. Ask yourself in these situations what would Jesus do and then be Christ to others!

WHO DO I SAY JESUS IS?

For our Gospel today we hear the conclusion of the "Bread of Life discourse" in the sixth chapter of John's Gospel. In the preceding verses, which we have heard proclaimed in our liturgy over the past few weeks, we have heard Jesus explain that he is the Bread of Life, given so that those who believe may have eternal life. This discourse follows the miracle in which Jesus fed more than five thousand people with five barley loaves and two fish. As Jesus has been teaching these things, John's Gospel describes a murmuring crowd unable to accept Jesus' words. In today's Gospel, the crowd has dwindled in number, and John no longer references them, or the Jews. Instead John describes the questioning of those considered to be Jesus' own disciples.

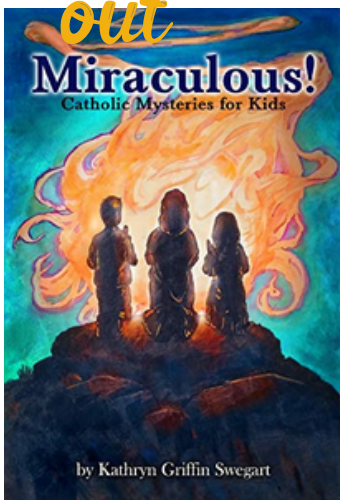
Today's Gospel first records the response of those in the crowd who are described as Jesus' disciples. Just as the larger crowd had struggled with Jesus' teaching, these disciples also cannot accept Jesus' words. Jesus is said to know about their murmuring. He responds by acknowledging their unbelief and by reiterating that only those chosen by the Father will follow Jesus to the end. John's Gospel reports that many of those who had been Jesus' disciples ceased to follow him at this point. The number of people following Jesus dwindled from a crowd of more than 5,000 to only 12 people. And it is to these Twelve that Jesus now turns his attention.

Simon Peter's response to Jesus' question as to whether those closest to him will also leave, reminds us of the reports of Peter's confession of faith in the Synoptic Gospels. Peter announces, on behalf of all the Twelve, that they have come to believe all that Jesus has taught about himself: Jesus is the one from God in whom they have found the path to eternal life.

This conclusion of the Bread of Life discourse focuses on personal faith in the life of Christian discipleship. Each person must make his or her own judgment about who Jesus is and in doing so determine the way of life that he or she will follow. God's grace invites us to be Jesus' disciples, but each person must respond to the grace of God and confess as his or her own the belief that Jesus is the one from God. This faith then commits us to the path of life, leading us to eternal life.

Loyola Press: Sunday Connection

Check
this
out



MIRACULOUS!: CATHOLIC MYSTERIES FOR KIDS: 2

Delight in this illustrated treasury of stories taken from Catholic history. Learn about John Bosco's angelic guardian dog, the mysterious movement of Mary's Holy House of Nazareth, the Miracle of the Sun at Fatima and more. *Miraculous!* is a companion book to the best-seller *Heavenly Hosts: Eucharistic Miracles for Kids*. It makes the perfect First Communion book. Recipient of the Catholic Writer's Guild Seal of Approval! Written for ages eight and up. Available at [Amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk)



CARLO'S CORNER

THE REAL JESUS

It's never nice when people make assumptions about us; it's annoying when people presume to know how we would speak and react, especially when they haven't taken the trouble to get to know us. How often do we do that to others though? How often do we even do that to Jesus?

Who is Jesus? Who do I say that He is? More importantly, who has He revealed Himself to be? If we reduce Jesus to "a nice guy" or "a good teacher" we miss the point. Jesus didn't come to reveal himself as "nice". He said and did a lot of challenging things - don't forget He called the pharisees white-washed tombs and drove the market sellers out of the temple for disrespecting God's house! He did teach, a lot in fact, but how aware are we of His actual teachings - or do we choose a more convenient "Jesus-light" version based on what we like and dislike, that keeps us cosily in our comfort zone and conveniently agrees with all our lifestyle choices?

Like in today's Gospel, we ultimately have to make a choice too: who do we believe Jesus is, and how will we have to live our lives according to that belief? The good news? He's worth every effort and sacrifice - anything we lose because of the demands of truly being a Christian are far outweighed by His generosity and blessings - and the promise of eternal life more importantly!



Which Jesus is the Real Jesus?
Fr Mike Schmitz



Chris Tomlin: Jesus

To the Heights Youth Resource also available



Events

Wild at Heart Basic: Men's Retreat: Glencomeragh House, Kilsheelan, Co. Tipperary. 22 Aug 2024, 16:30 - 25 Aug 2024, 13:30. Full Board €250. This event is run by Wild at Heart Ministry in Ireland. For more information please go to [WILDATHEARTBASIC.COM](https://www.wildatheartbasic.com), or contact John @ 085 854 5255. To book please contact info@hollyfamilymission.ie.

Be Healed Retreat: Glencomeragh House, Kilsheelan, Co. Tipperary. 30 Aug 2024 - 01 Sept 2024. Discover the Lord's healing power and the freedom He offers us through the uprooting of the desires that keep us bound. Full Board €250. To book please contact info@hollyfamilymission.ie.

Visit of Relics of St Bernadette: 17th & 18th September. The relics of St. Bernadette will visit the Diocese and a programme of events will be held in the Cathedral of the Most Holy Trinity over the two days. More info to follow.

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

- Faith@Home / Let's Dive In Newsletters (faithathome@waterfordlismore.ie) WEEKLY
- To the Heights Youth Newsletter (youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie) WEEKLY
- Check it Out! Diocesan Events Bulletin (events@waterfordlismore.ie) FORTNIGHTLY

