

FAITH @ Home

4TH MAY 2025: 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER



Diocese of Waterford & Lismore
www.waterfordlismore.ie

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

"TO THE HEIGHTS" YOUTH EDITION ALSO AVAILABLE

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Acts 5:27-32,40-41

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 29(30): 2,4-6,11-13

Second Reading:

Revelations 5:11-14

Gospel:

John 21:1-19



image: canva

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 find ourselves at the lakeshore of the Sea of Tiberias. Initially His disciples do not recognise Jesus but His simple words and gestures remind them who He is.

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- Can you think of a time when you were reminded of the presence of Jesus in your life? Some words, or gestures, or circumstances that reminded you He loved you and is with you? Thank Him for that now.
- Have you ever felt like Peter, like you have failed in following Jesus, or denied Him when you had an opportunity to speak about Him? Ask Him for forgiveness and the grace to be a strong witness for Him in future.

Family Prayer



GRACE BEFORE MEALS:

Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which of Thy bounty we are about to receive, through Christ our Lord. Amen

Talk



In today's Gospel we see Jesus waiting on the shore for His disciples, cooking breakfast for them. He then goes on to restore Peter after his trifold denial of Him after His arrest.

- What do you love to eat for breakfast? Who makes the best breakfast? How can everyone at home get involved at breakfast time?
- Why can mealtimes be really special times for families and friends? Is our family good at spending meal times together? Could we make them better in any way? Think of ideas!
- Jesus, Lord and Saviour of the universe, loved spending time with His disciples too, even cooking them breakfast after His resurrection. When do you think Jesus would like to spend time with you this week?

Family Challenge!



Plan a special breakfast together this week. Include something that everyone loves and let everyone help in some way to make it extra special. Make sure to invite Jesus to the meal and pray grace before and afterwards!

REVERSAL AND RESTORATION

Last week we heard that Jesus appeared to the gathered disciples in a locked room, probably in Jerusalem. In today's Gospel, the disciples are no longer in Jerusalem; they are in Galilee, returning to their work of fishing. Simon Peter is still presented in the role of leader: when he announces that he is going fishing, the other disciples follow. They spend the night fishing but are unsuccessful.

Jesus calls to them from the shore, but just as when Jesus first appeared to Mary of Magdala, the disciples do not recognize him immediately. Still, they follow the stranger's instructions and bring in a large haul of fish. It is at this point that one of the disciples (the "disciple whom Jesus loved") realizes that Jesus is appearing to them. Upon hearing this news, Simon Peter leads the way again, jumping from the boat and swimming to shore. The other disciples follow in the boat, dragging the fish.

The disciples have brought to shore a tremendous catch of fish that Jesus has directed them to find. But once on the shore, they see that Jesus has already prepared fish and bread on a charcoal fire. Jesus directs the disciples to bring their catch of fish as well. Jesus is host at the meal that follows, feeding the disciples the bread and fish. In this detail we see allusions to the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes told in John 6.

There are also allusions in the Gospel to our gathering for the celebration of the Mass. In the Eucharist, we too are fed by Jesus in the bread and wine that have become his very Body and Blood. We also find in this story insight about the Presentation of the Gifts at Mass. The gifts we bring to the altar, bread and wine, are made from gifts that God gave first to us: grain and grapes, the fruit of the earth. God has no need of anything further. Yet God accepts the offering we bring—bread and wine, "the work of human hands"—and transforms our offering into the gift of his very presence.

After the meal, Jesus directs himself to Simon Peter. The community of John's Gospel probably looked down on Peter because of his denial of Jesus. This dialogue with Simon Peter is a reversal of Peter's three denials. Peter is forgiven. Having been restored to friendship with Jesus, Simon Peter is sent on a mission. "Feed my lambs . . . Tend my sheep . . . Feed my sheep." These commands indicate that Peter is to be as Jesus, even unto sacrificing for the flock. As Jesus has fed Peter in this meal and as Jesus feeds us in the Eucharist, so he also sends us to follow him, asking that we offer our lives in service and sacrifice.

Adapted from Loyola Sunday Connection



CARLO'S CORNER

Forgiven and Restored

Have you ever been really nervous about meeting someone because you know you have let them down, or you're not sure if they're angry with you about something? The knot in the pit of your stomach grows tighter, your palms get sweatier, you'd love a reason to duck out and avoid the encounter altogether.

Can you imagine how Peter felt when he met Jesus after the Resurrection? Joy, excitement surely, beyond what he had ever known, but then the memory of his denial must have come flooding back. Not just once did he deny Jesus, but three times, and so soon after he said he lay down his life for Jesus! And now, Jesus who had been cruelly scourged, crucified, put to death only to rise again, stood in front of him, looking right into his heart asked him, "Peter, do you love me?"

Peter encountered only love in that gaze from Jesus and with his heart took the first, second and third chance to tell Jesus that he did really love Him!

No matter what we do, or how far we drift from Jesus, it's good to remember this story. Jesus loves us. When we are truly repentant He forgives us. In fact, He'll give us as many opportunities for grace as we need.

Then we have to go and transmit that grace to others too, just like Peter did when Jesus restored Him.

[Peter, Do you love me? \(Brant Pitre\)](#)

[Hillsong: I love You Lord / Passion](#)

To the Heights Youth Resource also available

Diocese of Waterford & Lismore
in association with Holy Family Mission

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

FAMILY FUN DAY

Glencomeragh House, Kilsheelan, Co. Tipperary E91 H584

SUNDAY 18TH MAY 2-5PM

DONATION ONLY EVENT

PLACES ARE LIMITED! PRE-REGISTRATION ESSENTIAL. TO REGISTER SCAN THE QR CODE OR GO TO: www.waterfordlismore.ie/jubilee2025

BONUS Food truck with special rate for families!

ACTION SONGS | GAMES | CRAFTS | MUSIC | FACE-PAINTING | STORY-TELLING | DRAMA | MAY PROFESSION & FAMILY BLESSING

Mass celebrated by Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan at 1pm followed by Blessing with First Class Relic of Bl Carlo Acutis. Registration begins at 2pm

May this jubilee year be a time for us to grow in hope, strengthening our faith and love within our family and reaching out to others with compassion and understanding. Pope Francis

Check it out!

Mass will be at 1pm on May 18th, followed by registration at 2pm. We have a fantastic day planned and hope you can make it! We will have crafts, drama, face painting, and so much more. Places are limited so those who book early will avoid any disappointment!

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WATCH NOW

Death of the Pope

15 days 20 days

Conclave



Watch Fr Mike explain how the next Pope will be elected and how a conclave works!

