

FAITH @ Home

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

1ST JUNE 2025: ASCENSION OF THE LORD



Diocese of Waterford & Lismore
www.waterfordlismore.ie



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"TO THE HEIGHTS" YOUTH EDITION ALSO AVAILABLE

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Acts 1:1-11

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 46(47):2-3,6-9

Second Reading:

Ephesians 1:17-23

Gospel:

Luke 24:46-53

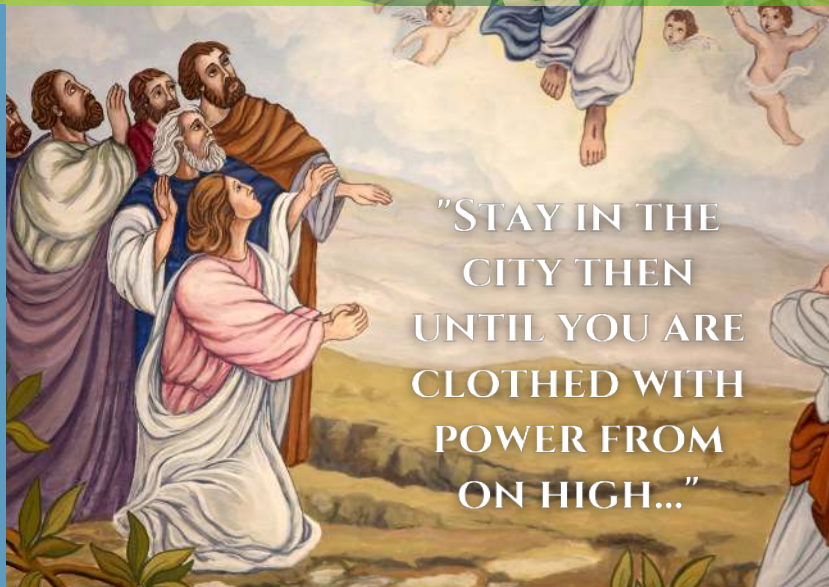


image: canva.com

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 and first reading today we hear about Jesus ascending to heaven.

- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- Put yourself in the shoes of the Apostles that day: how would you feel to see Jesus leave? How would you react to his message about the mission that lies ahead?
- Do you ever feel ill-equipped to be a witness for Jesus? Do you feel you lack the skills or gifts necessary? Spend some time in prayer thanking God for the specific gifts He has given you and reflecting on the promise that He will give you everything you need at the appointed time: "God does not call the equipped - he equips the called!"

Family Prayer



O Holy Spirit, beloved of my soul, I adore You. Enlighten me, guide me, strengthen me, console me. Tell me what I should do; give me Your orders. I promise to submit myself to all that You desire of me and to accept all that You permit to happen to me. Let me only know Your Will. Amen

Talk



In today's Gospel we see Jesus ascending to Heaven, preparing the way for the Holy Spirit to come.

- Do people have particular seats in your home? Who gets to sit in the front seat of the car?
- Jesus ascended to heaven, to sit at God's right hand. Can you think of any other Gospel passages that teach us how close Jesus and the Father are?
- Do you find it difficult to wait for good things to happen, like holidays or birthdays? Can you imagine what it was like for the Apostles to wait in the city, not really knowing yet what was going to happen? But they still prepared by praying: we can always use our time well and pray while we wait!

Family Challenge!



Continue preparing for the great feast of Pentecost next week! You could pray a special prayer to the Holy Spirit everyday, and use the gifts of the Spirit that we received at Baptism!

JESUS CONTINUES TO HELP US

Today is our liturgical celebration of the Ascension of the Lord, when Jesus was taken to heaven on the 40th day after Easter. In Cycle C, our Gospel is taken from the conclusion of the Gospel of Luke.

There are similarities in the reports of Jesus' Ascension found in the Synoptic Gospels—Mark, Matthew, and Luke. In each account, Jesus assigns his disciples the task of proclaiming the Gospel to the entire world. There are also notable distinctions. In the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, the disciples are sent by Jesus to baptize as well as to preach. In Luke's Gospel, however, this commission to baptize is absent. Instead, Jesus directs the disciples to return to Jerusalem to await the fulfillment of his promise to send them the Holy Spirit. Curiously, only Mark and Luke actually report Jesus' Ascension into heaven. Matthew's Gospel concludes with Jesus' promise to remain with his disciples forever. Only the Gospel of Mark notes that Jesus ascended to sit at the right hand of God. In noting this, Mark teaches that Jesus' Ascension affirms the glory Jesus received from God after his death and Resurrection.

Those who believe in Jesus will be empowered to do what Jesus himself has done. Already in Mark's Gospel, during his ministry, Jesus sent his disciples out to preach, to heal, and to drive out unclean spirits. Now, they are sent again to do these things and more. From his place with God in heaven, Jesus helped his disciples, and he continues to help us as we try to live as his followers.

from Loyola Sunday Connection

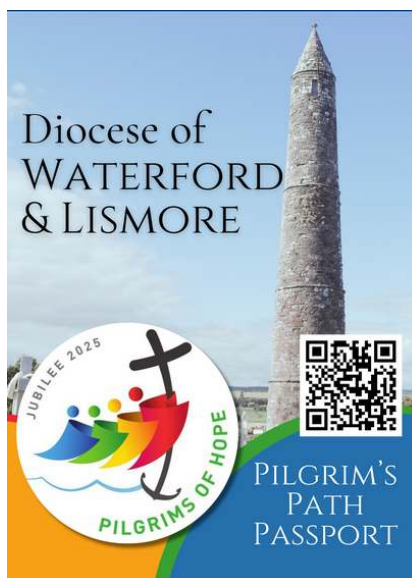


DIOCESE OF WATERFORD & LISMORE JUBILEE PILGRIM PATH PASSPORT

In this Jubilee Year, the late Pope Francis invited us to be Pilgrims of Hope. The Diocese of Waterford & Lismore Pilgrim's Path Passport offers us a beautiful opportunity to be pilgrims in our own Diocese: why not gather friends and family to join you also?

Seven sites across the diocese have been chosen by the people of the Diocese as Jubilee Year locations for pilgrimage and can be visited in any order and at any stage throughout the year.

Passports are available in Churches throughout the diocese or can be downloaded and printed at home from www.waterfordlismore.ie/jubilee2025 where more information on each site is also available.



CARLO'S CORNER

Be a Witness!

Can you imagine the rollercoaster journey the Apostles were on from Jesus' passion and death, to His resurrection, then His Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost? It was never crystal clear to them what was coming next: they didn't get a detailed plan – just a mission.

And what a mission it was! To spread the Good News to the far ends of the earth! Some task for such a small group, and yet they achieved it, through the power of the Holy Spirit working within them, filling them with courage, to go and be witnesses: to live like Jesus, to look like Jesus, to love like Jesus so that others could encounter Jesus in and through them.

That's the same mission we have today as Christians. If I was accused of being a follower of Christ, would there be enough evidence to convict me? Christians have the greatest news the world has ever known, and the exact news that needs to be shared with those who are depressed, lonely, struggling, frustrated, suffering, grieving – and yet if we don't share it, who will? We don't have to worry about the how: the Holy Spirit will provide the opportunities and the words: God doesn't call the equipped, He equips the called!

You will be presented with opportunities this week to be a joyful witness to the Christian faith: how will you use them? Will you offer to pray for or with someone? Will you mention the name of Jesus to them? Will you serve humbly and cheerfully? Will you put others before yourself?



[The Most Motivating Talk I have ever heard \(Fr Mike Schmitz\)](#)



[To the Ends of the Earth: Hillsong](#)



To the Heights Youth Resource also available



CHECK OUT THE FOOTAGE FROM OUR
DIOCESAN JUBILEE FAMILY DAY!



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- Faith@Home / Let's Dive In (faithathome@waterfordlismore.ie)
- To the Heights (youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie)
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I promise to submit myself
to all that You desire of me
and to accept all
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Let me only know Your Will.

Amen