

FAITH @Home

25TH JANUARY 2026: YEAR A: 3RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

www.waterfordlismore.ie

Month of the
Holy Name of
Jesus



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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:

Isaiah 8:23 - 9:3

Responsorial Psalm:

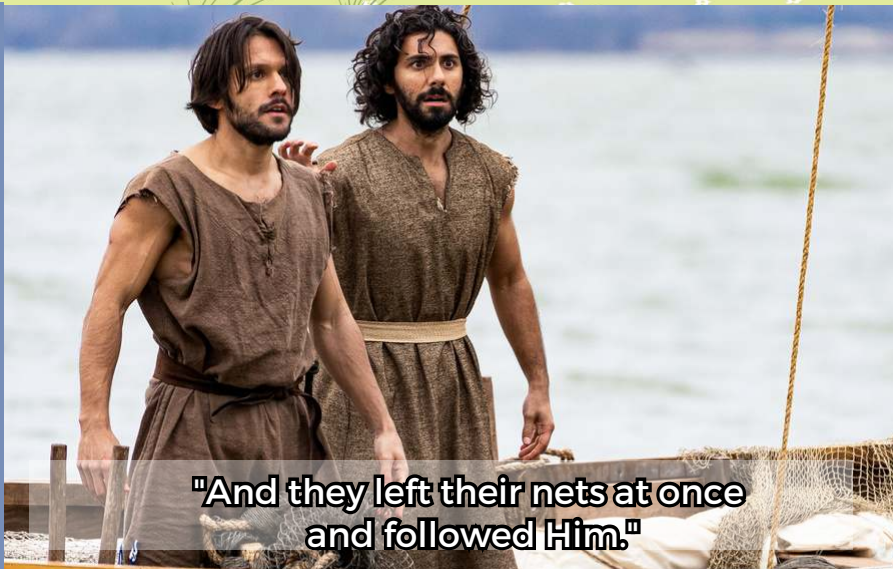
Psalm 26(27): 1,4,13-14

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17

Gospel:

Matthew 4:12-23



"And they left their nets at once
and followed Him."

Image: www.press.thechosen.tv

Hear



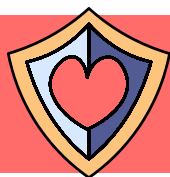
Grab your Bible and look up the Gospel reading. Don't have one?
No worries, you can find this week's readings online [HERE](#).

Reflect



- In the Gospel today we hear Jesus calling Simon, Andrew, James and John.
- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- How quickly do you respond to the call of Jesus? When you feel prompted by the Spirit to say or do something - do you do it immediately, or look for excuses to put it off?
- How easy do you find it to have your plans interrupted by Jesus?
- Make some time for silence each day this week so you can hear the voice of Jesus, in the small as well as big things of life, and pray also for the grace to respond like the fishermen on the shore of Galilee: "they left their nets at once and followed him."

Family Prayer



Jesus, we know that You love us and have a special plan for each one of us. Help us to allow silence into our days so that we can hear You speak to our hearts. Amen

Chat



In today's readings we hear Jesus calling the fishermen at the shore of Lake Galilee before beginning to preach around the whole of Galilee and working miracles.

Discuss the following as a family:

- Who is the best at listening and obeying in our family? Who is the slowest to respond e.g. when asked to stop playing computer games, or go to bed?
- Why do you think it was easy for the fishermen to leave everything and follow Jesus? What was so special about Jesus?
- Is it easy for us in our family to hear the call of Jesus? Do we set aside time every day away from distractions so we can hear his voice calling us?

Family Challenge!



Make a special effort this week to respond quickly to each other e.g. to put away games, to get up when called, to answer questions when asked, to be more present to each other rather than distracted by social media or tv.



THE KINGDOM AMONG US

Today's Gospel describes the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke (called the Synoptic Gospels), Jesus' public ministry begins after his baptism by John the Baptist and after his retreat to the desert where he was tempted by the devil. When Jesus returns from the desert, he hears that John has been arrested.

The first part of today's Gospel places Jesus' ministry in the context of the writings of the prophet, Isaiah. Matthew wants to show that Jesus is the fulfillment of the prophecies given to the people of Israel, and he refers to Isaiah to do so. Isaiah says that the Messiah will begin his ministry in Galilee, the land of the Gentiles. When Jesus begins to preach in Galilee, Matthew points to his ministry as a fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy, proof that Jesus is the Messiah.

When Jesus called his first disciples, the Gospel tells us that the fishermen (Peter and Andrew, James and John) dropped everything to follow Jesus immediately. Yet this Gospel tells us little about the prior experience that the fishermen had of Jesus. Did they know him? Had they heard him preach? What kind of person must Jesus have been to invoke such a response? We can imagine that Jesus was a powerful presence to elicit a response as immediate and complete as these first disciples gave.

The Gospel concludes with a description of the ministry that Jesus begins in Galilee. Jesus inaugurates the Kingdom of God with his work. He teaches in the synagogue and preaches the kingdom. His ability to cure people's diseases and illness is a sign of the kingdom. In Jesus' ministry, we already begin to see the Kingdom of God among us.

Adapted from **Loyola Press Sunday Connection**

CHECK IT OUT: THE AMEN APP



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CARLO'S CORNER

GIVE GOD EVERYTHING... REALLY???

Ever get a little panicky when you hear about the Rich Young Man in the Gospel, or the fishermen, Peter, Andrew, James and John in this Gospel who gave



up everything and followed Jesus? Does that radical kind of call scare you? It's ok if it does! It's also good to remember, like Fr Mike explains in this week's video, that not all followers of Christ were called to such a radical divestment of property and wealth! God knows your heart, and He knows your life situation. He knows what you need, as well as what you have. He knows how your time and gifts and possessions can be used for His glory and for the good of others. He's given all of that to us. Everything we have is actually His. All He's asking of us is that we realise that and give Him what He asks for on a moment to moment basis. It's like exercising a muscle - if we can hand over to God the small moments of our day, we'll be able to hand bigger decisions over to Him too! Let's not over-complicate practicing our faith. Each day, let's pray for the grace to recognise God's presence in our lives, and for the grace to be just as present to Him too in how we manage our time, our money, our stuff (which is His really!)

Practice being present to God this week and becoming aware of His presence to you. Before you begin each day, ask God how He wants you to spend your time & your money, and how He wants you to use the things you own. Listen for His promptings throughout the day. In moments of Difficulty, give them to God. In moments of joy, give them to God too!



GOD IS ASKING YOU TO GIVE HIM EVERYTHING
(FR MIKE SCHMITZ)



NOTHING ELSE
(CODY CARNES)



To the Heights Youth Resource also available

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