

To the Heights

Year A 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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SPOTLIGHT!



Such a great day at our REvive Conference for Senior Cycle Students in the SETU Arena on 15th January! Can't wait for next year!



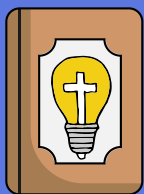
WEEKLY CHALLENGE:



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!

PRAYER INTENTION

Last week we celebrated Catholic Schools Week - let's continue to pray for our schools, our students, teachers, staff and management that they may always put Christ first in all things!



REFLECT

- Which prophet is quoted at the beginning of this Gospel?
- Where was Jesus for this Gospel story?
- What was Jesus' message when he began preaching?
- Who were the first disciples he called?
- How did they respond?
- How did James and John react to him?
- What did Jesus do in the region of Galilee?

HEAR!

Sunday Gospel

Matthew 4:12-23



If you don't have a Bible handy, click here to access Sunday Mass Readings!

Image: www.press.thechosen.tv

TUNE!



NOTHING ELSE

Cody Carnes



GROW



The Amen app is the free Catholic prayer app from the Augustine Institute that inspires your daily conversation with God through faithful meditations and nourishing Scripture. Featuring Music, Meditations, Examinations of Conscience, Daily Mass Readings, One Minute Inspirations, Stories and Meditations for Sleep, Family Content and much more.



Amen



FR MIKE SCHMITZ



WATCH!



"Act today in such a way that you need not blush tomorrow."

GAMECHANGERS!

ST JOHN BOSCO

31st January



The Catholic Church's Liturgical Calendar is crammed full of inspirational saints and heroes, or as we like to call them, Game Changers! Check them out on our web page!



PRAY

God, I can't change the past. I can't know the future. All I have is this present moment and I give it to You. Each hour is yours, each breath is yours. Show me where You want me to spend it and how You want me to spend it. Amen


www.waterfordlismore.ie/youth-ministry

[AscendWaterfordLismoreYM](https://www.facebook.com/AscendWaterfordLismoreYM)

[ascendwaterfordlismore.ym](https://www.instagram.com/ascendwaterfordlismore.ym)

[Ascend Youth Ministry](https://www.youtube.com/AscendYouthMinistry)

God, each hour is yours.
each breath is yours.

**HIS
WORD &
MY LIFE!**



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!)

RESPOND!



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.



FIND THE WORDS FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL IN THE WORDSEARCH!

PUZZLE

Andrew
brothers
Capernaum
curing
fishers
Galilee
Isaiah
James
Jesus
John
Jordan
kingdom
lake
light
Naphtali
nets
repent
shadow
Simon
synagogue
Zebedee
Zebulun



DOODLE PRAYER

Reflect on the 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!

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



CLICK HERE FOR SOME RELAXING INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
TOP WORSHIP SONGS OF ALL TIME! - INSTRUMENTAL WORSHIP GUITAR | JON SNODGRASS



GOD,
EACH HOUR
IS YOURS.
EACH BREATH
IS YOURS.



BE PRESENT TO GOD

ICEBREAKER



If your house was on fire, what one object would you want to save and why?



WATCH THIS VIDEO FROM FR MIKE SCHMITZ (GOD IS ASKING YOU TO GIVE HIM EVERYTHING) AND REFLECT ON THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW:



Fr Mike mentions a number of Biblical characters and saints who gave everything away to follow Jesus. Name three.

He draws a distinction between two questions

- How do I follow God with _____?
- How do I give everything _____?

Is every follower of Christ called to give everything away? YES ☐ NO ☐

Is every follower of Christ called to give God everything? YES ☐ NO ☐



God always speaks in clarity: wait for Him to speak, then act!

God is inviting you to give Him everything: that means giving Him _____ to everything. It involves shifting our mindset from "this is mine" to "God, this is _____".

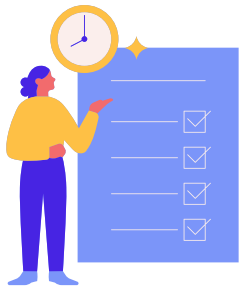
What kind of things in our lives are we managing for God?

How does Fr Mike suggest (like Pope Francis) that we can make an act of self-denial even when buying a car?



Give God your time - say to Him:

- "God each _____ is yours, each _____ is yours.
- _____ do you want me to spend it?
- _____ do you want me to spend it?
- My free time - what do you want me to do with it? It's _____!"



We can't change the past, we can't know the future, all we have is the present moment.

What is the only moment we can actively give to God?



LIFE GOALS



How do we give everything to God?

Give Him this moment! Realise that it's His money, His stuff, His time.
Ask Him: "God, _____?"

Br Lawrence of the Resurrection said: "Every given moment God is _____. Are you _____?"

The more we give God each individual moment, these individual moments add up until they become an _____.



At times the moments can be _____
but others can be _____.



GIVE EVERYTHING
BACK TO GOD!



READ: MATTHEW 4:12-23

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!)



MISSION!

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!



PRAYER TIME!

God, I can't change the past. I can't know the future. All I have is this present moment and I give it to You. Each hour is yours, each breath is yours. Show me where You want me to spend it and how You want me to spend it. Amen



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON OFFERING EVERYTHING TO GOD



- Cody Carnes: Nothing Else
- Robin Mark: All for Jesus
- Matt Redman: Blessed be your name
- Lauren Daigle (ver): Here's my Heart Lord
- Matt Redman: Unbroken Praise
- Rend Collective: You are my Vision
- Tim Hughes: Everything
- Matt Redman: I will offer up my life



First Fruits
(Fr Mike Schmitz)