

# FAITH @ Home

15TH FEBRUARY 2026: YEAR A: 6TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

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:

Ecclesiasticus 15:16-21

Responsorial Psalm:

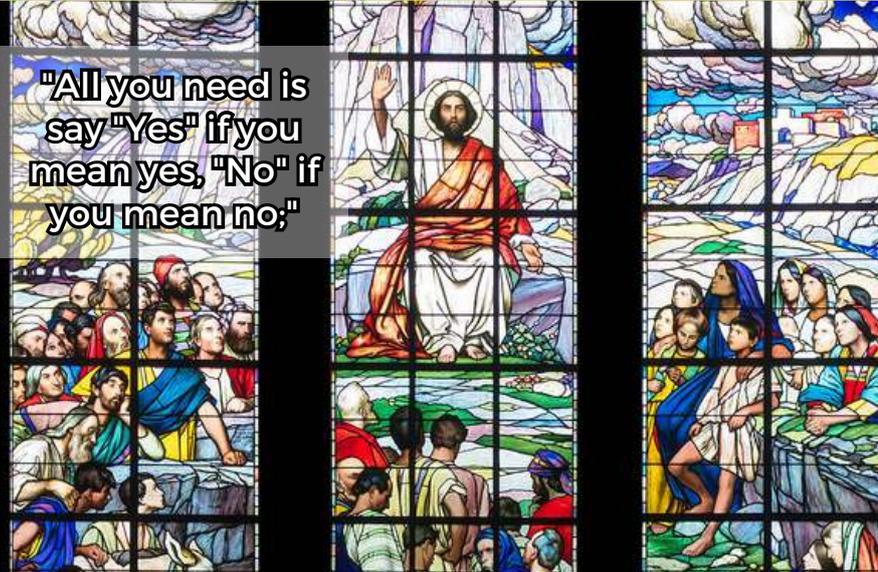
Psalm 118(119):1-2,4-5,17-18,33-34

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Gospel:

Matthew 5:17-37



Eugène Burnand, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

## Hear



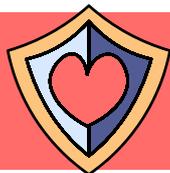
Grab your Bible and look up the Gospel reading. Don't have one? No worries, you can find this week's readings online [HERE](#).

## Reflect



- In the Gospel today we hear familiar but challenging words from Jesus as part of the Sermon on the Mount.
- What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this piece of Scripture? How do these words resonate with you personally?
- Do you ever feel tempted to just do the minimum in your prayer and in the way you treat others? Are you ever tempted to justify your actions because "they could be worse" rather than looking at how you can continually grow in sanctity?
- This week, ask the Lord for a special grace to never choose the minimum, to look for new ways to show Him your love, and to show others how your faith impacts your life too!

## Family Prayer



*Lord Jesus, may we never settle for the minimum but always choose to give our best and our everything to You. Amen*

## Chat



In today's Gospel Jesus is teaching his listeners some difficult ideas, ways of digging deeper and growing more in their faith.

- Do you have any rules in your family? What kind of rules do you have? Are they difficult to follow? Why are rules important?
- What kind of road signs can you think of that protect us? Why are they important?
- God has laws for us - not to stop us enjoying life, but to protect us, keep us close to Him and on the road to heaven! Jesus reminded His disciples of this but He also told them He came to fulfil the Law. Jesus asks that we do much more than the bare minimum. Can you think of ways we can serve God with the minimum effort and then how we are really called to serve Him with our heart?

## Family Challenge!



Each person could choose an action they usually do (e.g. a chore or a way of helping someone out), but put extra effort into it this week: serve to the maximum not the minimum!



# FULFILLING THE LAW

Matthew continues the Sermon on the Mount with a three part instruction by Jesus on the Way of Life in the kingdom of heaven. Today's reading is part one and deals with the Law. Part two deals with worship and religious practice and contains the Lord's Prayer. Part three deals with trusting God and deeds of loving service to our neighbor.

When Matthew speaks of "the Law and the prophets" he means the whole Scripture. When the Messiah brings the fullness of the kingdom none of scripture will be done away with. Instead it will be fulfilled. Matthew's Jesus does not overturn the Law of Moses, nor does he set his followers free from the Law. He requires his followers to go beyond the Law by doing more than the Law requires.

The Law condemned murder. Jesus condemns anger. The Law condemned adultery. Jesus condemns even lustful looks. As Jewish Christians who had always been faithful to the Law Matthew's community need a way to understand the difference Jesus and the kingdom he brings have made. They affirmed that God had always been at work in history through "the Law and the prophets." But God's work goes beyond that to be embodied by the Messiah who reveals the definitive will of God. The written scriptures and their interpretation in tradition are surpassed by Jesus whose life and teaching are the definitive revelation of the will of God.

## Loyola Press Sunday Connection

### CHECK IT OUT: EVANGELIUM CONFERENCE 2026

The Evangelium Project aims to provide an essential resource for young adults to attain a deeper knowledge of our Catholic faith. Evangelium seeks to be a platform to inspire and encourage the next generation of Catholic priests, religious, husbands and wives who will help to rebuild and reignite the faith in Ireland.

Evangelium Catholic Apologetics Conference for Young Adults (18-40): March 21, 10am - 6.30pm, Clayton Hotel, Silver Spring Cork, €15. More info / registration on [www.evangelium.ie](http://www.evangelium.ie) or on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com).

Sharing the riches of the Catholic Faith  
**EVANGELIUM**  
CONFERENCE 2026

**SPEAKERS**

- PAUL GRAAS**  
How to Help Young People Discover Christ and the Church
- DR. CATHERINE KAVANAGH**  
The Pursuit of a Pursuing God: Why Augustine Still Matters
- FR. GAVAN JENNINGS**  
The Beauty of the Faith
- SR. MARY ANDREA LESKO**  
The Resurrection: An Empty Tomb, A Changed World

**21 MARCH SATURDAY**  
10 - 6:30 AM - 6:30 PM  
**CORK**  
CLAYTON HOTEL SILVER SPRING T23 E244

**Ticket: €15** including refreshments

To book tickets: scan QR code, search 'Evangelium Ireland' on Eventbrite, or go to [evangelium.eventbrite.com](http://evangelium.eventbrite.com)

Find us on: Website: [www.evangelium.ie](http://www.evangelium.ie) Email: [evangeliumireland@gmail.com](mailto:evangeliumireland@gmail.com)

## CARLO'S CORNER LOVE GENEROUSLY

It's tempting to just do the bare minimum isn't it - whether it's chores at home, homework, assignments, even practicing our faith or saying our prayers.... It's tempting to reassure ourselves that we've done something, which is better than nothing, but deep down we know we're capable of more, and called to more too. Jesus understood this so well. He knew well what the Law represented for the Jewish people, and how many had limited themselves to a minimalistic interpretation, but missed the whole heart of the matter: a loving relationship with God. Jesus Himself came to fulfil the Law, to show us how to live and love generously - just think of the love He lavished on us by giving up His life on the cross! We can't ever match His generosity, but we should try to love generously because He first loved us generously. Only when we open our hearts up to Him and to others will we ever really grow and become the best versions of ourselves. Let's live the commandments in a more complete and fuller manner: let go of hate and anger, of bitterness and impatience, of lust and selfishness, of pride and greed. Let's strive daily to love God with our whole hearts and minds - and ask Him for the grace to do just that! Keep a watchful eye on your heart this week. Anytime you feel a temptation to only do the minimum in something you're called to and capable of giving more in, push yourself to love and give more generously. Asked to load the dishwasher? Wipe down the counter tops too! Make your bed? Tidy the whole room! Hoover the sitting room? Do the bedrooms too! Give generously!



DO I LOVE JESUS GENEROUSLY OR WITH THE BARE MINIMUM?  
FR PATRICK CAHILL

NOTHING ELSE - Cody Carnes

To the Heights Youth Resource also available



Have you subscribed yet to our Diocesan newsletters and events bulletin? Click the Subscribe Button OR go to [www.waterfordlismore.ie/resources](http://www.waterfordlismore.ie/resources)

- Faith@Home / Let's Dive In ([faithathome@waterfordlismore.ie](mailto:faithathome@waterfordlismore.ie))
- To the Heights ([youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie](mailto:youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie))
- Check it Out! Diocesan Events Bulletin ([events@waterfordlismore.ie](mailto:events@waterfordlismore.ie))

