



To the Heights

Year A 5TH SUNDAY IN LENT

Download from www.waterfordlismore.ie/resources or subscribe to receive by email!



SPOTLIGHT!

Well done to all our JP2 Award recipients (and to those who could not make the ceremony on the night!)

HEAR! Sunday Gospel

John 11:1-45



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



Léon Bonnat, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

GAMECHANGERS!

THE ANNUNCIATION 25TH MARCH

Learn to pray the Angelus!



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!



WEEKLY CHALLENGE:

Do you find it difficult to trust in God and His ways? Try a simple version of the Novena of Surrender this week. Each day, bring to mind a particular area of your life that causes you worry, and then visualise yourself laying it down at the feet of Jesus, and ten times repeat the prayer below. Actively trust in the process and trust in God who knows all things, including what is best for your life!



NOVENA OF SURRENDER PRAYER
Jesus I surrender myself to You, take care of everything!

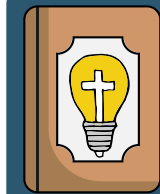
TUNE!

Miracles (Jesus Culture)

WATCH:

FR MIKE SCHMITZ

TRUST THE PROCESS

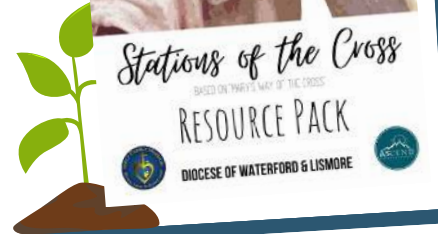


REFLECT

- What town did Lazarus, Mary and Martha live in?
- Why did Jesus not leave immediately when he heard Lazarus was sick?
- How long had Lazarus been in the tomb by the time Jesus arrived?
- What faith did Martha profess in Jesus, despite her grief?
- How did Jesus react to Mary's grief?
- What did He command the people to do?
- What prayer did He offer to God?
- What happened to Lazarus?

GROW

Check out our resource pack for the Stations of the Cross, produced in association with Holy Family Mission and the Home of the Mother.



PRAYER INTENTION FOR THIS MONTH

For all those preparing for oral exams and practical exams soon!



www.waterfordlismore.ie/youth-ministry



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



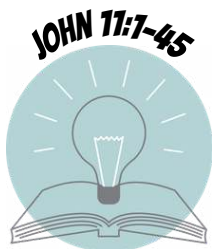
[ascendwaterfordlismore.ym](https://www.instagram.com/ascendwaterfordlismore.ym)



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

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. Isaiah 55:9

HIS WORD & MY LIFE:



There's a lot going on in this Gospel that's hard for those involved to understand. Why did Jesus not go straight to Bethany when He heard Lazarus was ill? Jesus stated "This sickness will not end in death" and yet Lazarus died. Jesus waited a full two days before He left for Bethany. He told His disciples Lazarus was resting (meaning dead) and He was going to wake Him. Can you just imagine the confusion? Yet that was nothing compared to the confusion and devastation Martha and Mary must have felt that Jesus came too late to heal their brother. But still, in the midst of this chaos and grief, Martha still had full faith in Jesus' ability to do all things. She recognised that He was the Christ. The onlookers had seen Jesus work great miracles, and knew He could have prevented Lazarus' death. So much frustration, grief and even anger and confusion. Then Jesus asks for the stone to be rolled away from the tomb and commands Lazarus to rise from the dead. Trust in the process - God's ways are not our ways. Now Jesus' earlier words about Lazarus' sickness made sense: "through it the Son of God will be glorified". Through the tears and the pain, the doubt and the darkness of the tomb, it was difficult to trust in the process, yet Jesus showed His divinity in a far greater way than if He had simply healed Lazarus of his sickness. This great miracle was to foretell His own death and resurrection. We can only imagine how much the Apostles and disciples of Jesus had to look back on and marvel on after His resurrection when the process started to make sense in light of His Passion, Death and Resurrection!

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

- believe
- Bethany
- Bethany
- Christ
- glorified
- Jesus wept
- Lazarus
- Martha
- Mary
- message
- Rabbi
- resurrection
- smell
- stone
- Thomas
- Thomas
- tomb
- unbind him



DOODLE PRAYER

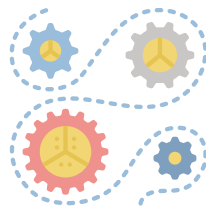
Reflect on the scripture quote and allow thoughts and images that come to you to form part of your doodle prayer: it could be people or situations that need prayer or even areas you might need to change in. Certain words or phrases might stand out for you. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your heart as you pray and doodle!

"Unbind him!"



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





JOHN 11:1-45

TRUST THE PROCESS

"FOR MY THOUGHTS ARE NOT YOUR THOUGHTS, NEITHER ARE YOUR WAYS MY WAYS," DECLARES THE LORD. ISAIAH 55:9

WHEN YOU'RE GOING FOR FOOD, OR PICKING A MOVIE WITH YOUR FRIENDS, HOW EASY DO YOU FIND IT TO CHOOSE?

WHAT CAN BE FRUSTRATING ABOUT THAT PROCESS?



WATCH THIS VIDEO FROM FR MIKE SCHMITZ: "GOD'S WAYS ARE NOT OUR WAYS" AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW



Why does Fr Mike laugh at the situation he describes between friends trying to choose?

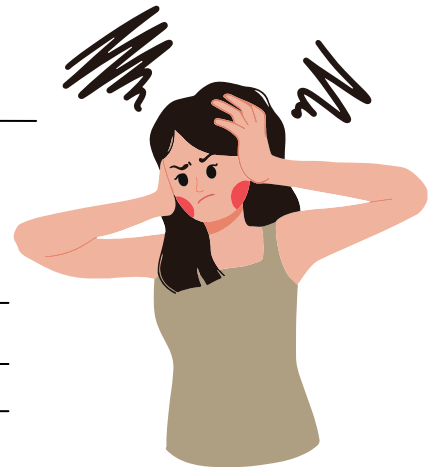
What does he suggest is actually happening in that process when one friend tells another one to choose?

What two reactions can we have to the process?

_____ OR _____

Whether we like the process or not, it works!

In what ways can we apply this to how we deal with God?



How can we respond to God like the Nike slogan? ✓ _____



God doesn't just act in this way however. Oftentimes the process is painful, and we find we have to _____ and _____ again and again.

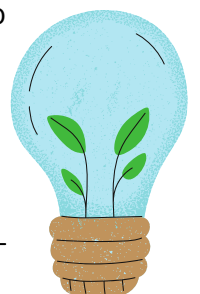
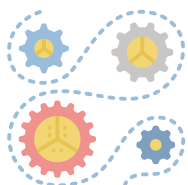
We might have to experience a broken heart in order for God to _____.

We might have to walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death to realise that God _____.

The process is how God can grow our _____.

What two reactions can we have to this process?

_____ OR _____



TRUST THE PROCESS



God is not our ATM, or a fortune teller, or a crystal ball.

God is our _____ and He loves us. He's in the process of making us the kind of people who _____.



He allows us to participate in that process. Don't resist.



READ: JOHN 11:1-45



There's a lot going on in this Gospel that's hard for those involved to understand. Why did Jesus not go straight to Bethany when He heard Lazarus was ill? Jesus stated "*This sickness will not end in death*" and yet Lazarus died. Jesus waited a full two days before He left for Bethany. He told His disciples Lazarus was resting (meaning dead) and He was going to wake Him. Can you just imagine the confusion? Yet that was nothing compared to the confusion and devastation Martha and Mary must have felt that Jesus came too late to heal their brother. But still, in the midst of this chaos and grief, Martha still had full faith in Jesus' ability to do all things. She recognised that He was the Christ. The onlookers had seen Jesus work great miracles, and knew He could have prevented Lazarus' death. So much frustration, grief and even anger and confusion. Then Jesus asks for the stone to be rolled away from the tomb and commands Lazarus to rise from the dead. Trust in the process - God's ways are not our ways. Now Jesus' earlier words about Lazarus' sickness made sense: "through it the Son of God will be glorified". Through the tears and the pain, the doubt and the darkness of the tomb, it was difficult to trust in the process, yet Jesus showed His divinity in a far greater way than if He had simply healed Lazarus of his sickness. This great miracle was to foretell His own death and resurrection. We can only imagine how much the Apostles and disciples of Jesus had to look back on and marvel on after His resurrection when the process started to make sense in light of His Passion, Death and Resurrection!



MISSION!

DO YOU FIND IT DIFFICULT TO TRUST IN GOD AND HIS WAYS? TRY A SIMPLE VERSION OF THE NOVENA OF SURRENDER THIS WEEK. EACH DAY, BRING TO MIND A PARTICULAR AREA OF YOUR LIFE THAT CAUSES YOU WORRY, AND THEN VISUALISE YOURSELF LAYING IT DOWN AT THE FEET OF JESUS, AND TEN TIMES REPEAT THE PRAYER BELOW. ACTIVELY TRUST IN THE PROCESS AND TRUST IN GOD WHO KNOWS ALL THINGS, INCLUDING WHAT IS BEST FOR YOUR LIFE!



PRAYER TIME!

Novena of Surrender Prayer
*Jesus I surrender myself to You,
take care of everything!*

**Click here for
the full 9 Day
Novena of
Surrender**



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON TRUSTING GOD

- Walk by Faith (Jeremy Camp)
- It is well with my soul (Matt Redman)
- Trust You (Aaron Keyes)
- Our God is Able (Hillsong)



- Nothing is Impossible (Planetshakers)
- Waymaker (Leeland)
- Your Promises (Elevation Worship)
- In God we trust (Hillsong)



Healing as a Process: Fr Patrick Cahill



"For my thoughts are not your thoughts"
Teresa from Holy Family Mission