

To the Heights

Year A THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

SPOTLIGHT!



A LIVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS, PERFORMED BY HOLY FAMILY MISSION AT SS PETER'S AND PAUL'S CHURCH, CLONMEL ON GOOD FRIDAY

HEAR! Sunday Gospel



Luke 24:13-35

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



Caravaggio, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

GAMECHANGERS!



St Mark the Evangelist (Feast day 25th April) is represented by a winged lion - a symbol of the voice of John the Baptist crying in the wilderness to prepare a way for the Lord!

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!



Jan van Bijlert, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

WEEKLY CHALLENGE!

Is there Eucharistic Adoration available in your parish? If not, find a time when you can visit the church this week to pray in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle. Speak to Jesus as you would speak to a friend. Ask Him to show you that He is really there, and that He really wants to be close to you, and to help you in every area of your life.



WATCH!

FR MIKE SCHMITZ



PRAY



Jesus, help me to recognise you more and more in my life, especially your presence in Scripture and the Holy Eucharist. Amen

TUNE!

Our God is Here

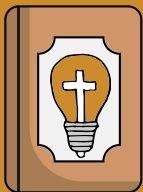
Chris Muglia



GROW



Learn more about the Mass with Fr Mike Schmitz!



REFLECT

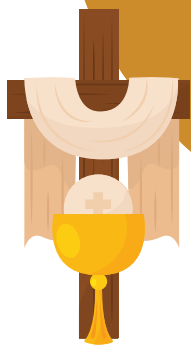
- What day does this event occur?
- What was the distance between Jerusalem and Emmaus?
- Why do you think the disciples didn't recognise Jesus when he joined them?
- What did Cleopas summarise for Jesus?
- Why did Jesus call them "foolish men"?
- When did the disciples finally recognise that it was Jesus?
- What did Jesus do at that moment?
- How did the disciples react? What did they do next?
- What two parts (liturgies) of the Mass are referenced in this story (on the road and at the meal)?



PRAYER INTENTION FOR THIS WEEK

For those who are doing practical Leaving Cert and Junior Cycle exams.





LUKE 24:13-35

EYE-OPENING, LIFE-CHANGING

THEN THE TWO TOLD WHAT HAD HAPPENED ON THE WAY, AND HOW JESUS WAS RECOGNIZED BY THEM WHEN HE BROKE THE BREAD
LUKE 24:35

HAVE YOU EVER HAD YOUR MIND CHANGED ABOUT SOMETHING WHEN YOU DISCOVERED MORE ABOUT IT?

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS / FEELINGS ABOUT GOING TO MASS? (BE HONEST!)



WATCH THIS VIDEO FROM FR MIKE SCHMITZ: "HOW THE EUCHARIST CHANGED MY LIFE" AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW



Can you relate to any of the feelings Fr Mike had about Mass as a child / young teenager?

What changed for Fr Mike when he was 15?



What do Catholics believe happens during the Mass?

- The bread becomes _____
- The wine becomes _____

Fr Mike realised the Eucharist was not a symbol but it was really Jesus.



What does he say is the most tragic statistic he has ever heard?

What was the first talk he ever gave in a church and also as an ordained priest about? _____

What does he hope the last thing he'll ever say this side of heaven will be? _____



Which three Gospels quote Jesus' words: "This is my Body, this is my Blood"?

In John 6, what did the crowds come looking for? _____

What did Jesus offer them instead? _____



In other Gospel stories, Jesus described himself in a figurative (symbolic) way: give 2 examples of what he called himself.

Instead of saying he was speaking figuratively in John 6, what does he reiterate 5 times?



By saying "Amen, Amen I say to you", what was Jesus indicating about his words?

In Greek, what other words for "eat" are used by Jesus to make his point?



EYE-OPENING, LIFE-CHANGING



Fr Mike claims that this belief that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist is worth _____ and _____ for!

The heart of Christianity is that God so loved the world He gave His Beloved Son; and His Beloved Son so loved the world that He gave us _____.

Jesus is Emmanuel: God with us, and in the Eucharist He continues to be with us. We are never in _____ or a _____. God has given everything to be close to you.



LUKE 24:13-35

READ:

It's a long Gospel passage, it spans a fourteen mile round trip from Jerusalem to Emmaus! We can easily find ourselves on that journey with two of Jesus' disciples also. We can often get so caught up in our own worries and what's happening around us that we don't even recognise Jesus with us in our lives. Yet this story shows us how powerfully Jesus is present in both Sacred Scripture and the Holy Eucharist. It was only when Jesus had taken, blessed, broken and shared the bread (the Eucharist) that the disciples recognised Him, and understood why their hearts burned with excitement as He explained the Scriptures to them on the road there. Jesus vanished at that moment: He was no longer physically with them in his human body, but He was truly present with them in the Holy Eucharist.

There are incredible stories of Eucharistic Miracles, Mystics and Martyrs out there for us to read: inexplicable manifestations of God's power at work through the Holy Eucharist. Read them! St Carlo Acutis managed to catalogue them in a website he created before he passed away at age 15: <http://www.miracolieuucaristici.org>. But more important than that, if we want to get to know Jesus and really understand His Eucharistic presence, we need to spend time with him. At Mass Catholics have the incredible privilege of receiving Jesus, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity through Holy Communion. We can also sit or kneel in His presence in a Church, maybe even read a passage from the Gospels, or just pray in silence. We can ask Jesus to show us that He is really there... and He will!



MISSION!

IS THERE EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AVAILABLE IN YOUR PARISH? IF NOT, FIND A TIME WHEN YOU CAN VISIT THE CHURCH THIS WEEK TO PRAY IN THE PRESENCE OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IN THE TABERNACLE.

SPEAK TO JESUS AS YOU WOULD SPEAK TO A FRIEND. ASK HIM TO SHOW YOU THAT HE IS REALLY THERE, AND THAT HE REALLY WANTS TO BE CLOSE TO YOU, AND TO HELP YOU IN EVERY AREA OF YOUR LIFE.



PRAYER TIME!

JESUS, HELP ME TO RECOGNISE YOU MORE AND MORE IN MY LIFE, ESPECIALLY YOUR PRESENCE IN SCRIPTURE AND THE HOLY EUCHARIST. AMEN



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON JESUS' EUCHARISTIC PRESENCE

- Chris Muglia: Our God is Here
- Elevation Worship: O Come to the Altar
- Matt Maher: Remembrance (Communion Song)
- Jim Cowan: This is Jesus



- Boyce & Stanley: Bread of Life
- Audrey Assad: Receive
- Kari Jobe: The More I seek you
- Shane & Shane: Psalm 34 - Taste and See



The Great "What If": Mark Hart



Ascend YM: Eucharistic Miracles Resource

