



To the Heights



Year A 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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



FR MIKE SCHMITZ SHARES HIS STORY IN AN INTERVIEW WITH COLM O'FLYNN BEFORE THE PARABLES TOUR EVENT LAST MONTH

HEAR!

Sunday Gospel

Matthew 15:21-28



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



POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST

FOR EVANGELIZATION IN THE CITY

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.



TUNE!

Good Good Father
Chris Tomlin



WEEKLY CHALLENGE!

Have you ever set up a prayer wall, or intentions jar or kept a prayer journal?

- In one space, leave room for prayers of petition for yourself, or intercession for others, as a reminder to bring your prayers to the heart of God.
- In a separate space, or even another jar, keep the prayers that God has answered for you, as a reminder of His Father's heart!



PRAY



God, you are a good Father. You know me, You love me, You care more deeply about me and those I pray for than I even do myself. Help me to trust in that love. Amen

GROW



Fr Mike Schmitz' Parables Tour was a sell-out event in Dublin's National Stadium on July 20th, with over 1000 people attending Mass at St Kevin's Church beforehand too! Check out Fr Mike's wonderful homily from that Mass here!



GAMECHANGERS!

17th August

OUR LADY OF KNOCK

Golden Rose, Queen of Ireland



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!

WATCH!



REFLECT

- Where was Jesus when this Gospel story took place?
- Was the Canaanite woman a Jew?
- What did she want Jesus to do?
- How did Jesus initially react to her?
- Why did His disciples want Him to respond to her?
- Who are "the lost sheep of the House of Israel" He was sent to?
- Was Jesus' ministry for non-Jews as well? Can you think of any other stories from the Gospels that show this?
- Why did Jesus grant her request?
- Do you think Jesus was being rude to her, or was there another reason for the way He spoke to her?

FR MIKE SCHMITZ



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)

"Woman, you have great faith.
Let your wish be granted."

HIS WORD & MY LIFE



Have you every felt like God isn't listening? Have you ever prayed desperately for something and not received the answer you were looking for?

It's so hard, and it can prove to be a serious challenge to our faith in a loving God.

But God is a loving Father, He hears all of our prayers, He sees our tears, He hears our sighs, our groans, even the times when we can't put words on our thoughts but just offer our hearts.

What is our image of God? Do we see Him as a genie, or a Divine ATM? Do we convince ourselves that if we just say the right prayers and do the right things, He'll dispense the graces we or others we pray for need? That's not a real relationship - as Fr Mike says in his video, that can be a "manipulationship".

God is Father - and as father He knows the deepest needs of our hearts and loves us, and those we pray for even more than we ever could. So when we pray, we can pray with confidence, that God hears us and loves us.

The Canaanite woman confidently presented her request to Jesus, and her faith was strong. Let's pray to have a strong faith, one that does not waver based on instant results, but relies on trust and confidence in a loving Father who sees all, knows all and wants the maximum of our happiness.



PUZZLE

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

Canaanite
devil
disciples
faith
food
Gennesaret
help
house dogs
Jesus
masters
pity
scraps
shouting
Sidon
Son of David
throw
tormented
Tyre
woman

W	K	L	P	F	E	F	L	S	C	N	H	H	S	S
T	N	Y	A	H	T	O	P	M	A	Y	X	X	O	D
Q	O	I	O	D	I	O	K	M	U	U	X	S	N	S
S	T	R	L	O	N	D	O	Y	X	Y	P	D	O	A
H	U	S	M	F	A	W	B	K	A	A	C	E	F	R
J	H	S	U	E	A	M	C	X	R	M	T	V	D	D
L	S	Z	E	X	N	X	A	C	T	H	A	I	A	Q
M	P	Z	O	J	A	T	S	S	R	E	D	L	V	N
O	Y	N	Q	R	C	L	E	O	T	K	R	V	I	O
H	P	W	E	L	L	C	W	D	S	E	S	Y	D	D
S	Q	S	G	O	D	E	S	U	O	H	R	F	T	I
S	T	E	R	A	S	E	N	N	E	G	P	S	U	S
P	I	T	Y	L	O	C	H	L	C	C	L	E	I	H
S	H	O	U	T	I	N	G	W	K	T	E	I	L	G
S	E	L	P	I	C	S	I	D	H	B	H	L	R	E

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!

"Woman, you have great faith. ..."



CLICK HERE FOR SOME RELAXING INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

TOP WORSHIP SONGS OF ALL TIME! - INSTRUMENTAL WORSHIP GUITAR | JON SNODGRASS



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.

Let's
Pray

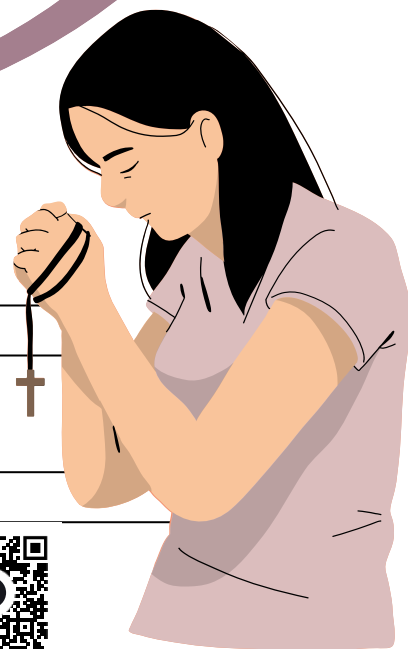
IS GOD A GENIE OR A GOOD FATHER?



HAVE YOU EVER PRAYED REALLY HARD FOR SOMETHING AND DIDN'T GET IT?
WHAT WAS THAT EXPERIENCE LIKE? DID IT CHALLENGE YOUR FAITH?

DO YOU THINK GOD SHOULD GIVE US EVERYTHING WE WANT? EXPLAIN

WATCH THIS VIDEO FROM FR MIKE SCHMITZ "WHEN GOD DOESN'T ANSWER
YOUR PRAYERS" AND REFLECT ON THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW



Fr Mike states that often we are hesitant to pray for ourselves and our own needs.
But how can praying for ourselves actually help our relationship with God?

DRAW A LINE BETWEEN THE TERM AND ITS MATCHING DEFINITION

PETITIONARY PRAYER

- being effective in producing a desired result or outcome

EFFICACIOUS

- praying to God on behalf of other people, groups, or situations rather than focusing on your own personal needs

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

- praying to God asking God for your own personal need

What broken-hearted experience does Fr Mike think we have all had at some point?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church acknowledges that heart-break but asks an even deeper question:

Can you explain the following quote from the Catechism of the Catholic Church in your own words?

"In the first place, we ought to be astonished by this fact: when we praise God or give him thanks for his benefits in general, we are not particularly concerned whether or not our prayer is acceptable to him. On the other hand, we demand to see the results of our petitions."



IS GOD A GENIE OR A GOOD FATHER?

The Catechism goes on to ask: *"What is the image of God that motivates our prayer: an instrument to be used? or the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ?"*

What kind of response do we expect from God if these are our images of him?

Genie:

Divine ATM:

24 Hour Therapist:

Rescue Chopper:



READ: MATTHEW 15:21-28

Have you every felt like God isn't listening? Have you ever prayed desperately for something and not received the answer you were looking for? It's so hard, and it can prove to be a serious challenge to our faith in a loving God.

But God is a loving Father, He hears all of our prayers, He sees our tears, He hears our sighs, our groans, even the times when we can't put words on our thoughts but just offer our hearts. What is our image of God? Do we see Him as a genie, or a Divine ATM? Do we convince ourselves that if we just say the right prayers and do the right things, He'll dispense the graces we or others we pray for need? That's not a real relationship - as Fr Mike says in his video, that can be a "manipulationship".

God is Father - and as father He knows the deepest needs of our hearts and loves us, and those we pray for even more than we ever could. So when we pray, we can pray with confidence, that God hears us and loves us.

The Canaanite woman confidently presented her request to Jesus, and her faith was strong. Let's pray to have a strong faith, one that does not waver based on instant results, but relies on trust and confidence in a loving Father who sees all, knows all and wants the maximum of our happiness.



MISSION!

HAVE YOU EVER SET UP A PRAYER WALL, OR INTENTIONS JAR OR KEPT A PRAYER JOURNAL?

- IN ONE SPACE, LEAVE ROOM FOR PRAYERS OF PETITION FOR YOURSELF, OR INTERCESSION FOR OTHERS, AS A REMINDER TO BRING YOUR PRAYERS TO THE HEART OF GOD.
- IN A SEPARATE SPACE, OR EVEN ANOTHER JAR, KEEP THE PRAYERS THAT GOD HAS ANSWERED FOR YOU, AS A REMINDER OF HIS FATHER'S HEART!



PRAYER TIME!

God, you are a good Father. You know me, You love me, You care more deeply about me and those I pray for than I even do myself.

Help me to trust in that love! Amen



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON GOD'S FATHERLY HEART

- Chris Tomlin: Good Good Father
- Matt Redman: The Father's Song
- Jonathan Helser: Father of Jesus
- Cody Carnes: Run to the Father



- Phil Wickham: How Deep the Father's Love
- Mountain Top Worship: Our Father Still
- Hillsong Worship: Our Father
- Sarah Kroger: Belovedness



Where is God when you're suffering?
Fr Patrick Cahill



The Reason God Hasn't Answered Your Prayer Yet
(Fr Mike Schmitz)