

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

1. The people were searching and John pointed them in the direction of Jesus. On your life's journey who have been the John the Baptist people for you, people who have pointed you in the right direction?
2. The Baptism of Jesus was a very special moment for him that confirmed him in his identity as Son of God and in his mission. Recall the experiences that affirmed you – either in your senses of who you are, or in relation to the direction you were taking in life.
3. The Baptism of Jesus marks a transition point in his life, and the start of his public ministry. Recall the transition point in your own life. Where did you see the grace of God at work in those times?
4. This experience of Jesus occurred when he was at prayer. What part has prayer played in opening you to being aware of God in your life? What part has prayer played in helping you through a transition point in your life?

John Byrne OSA Email: john@orlagh.ie

THE DEEP END: The Baptism of the Lord Today's Gospel tells us that the people were 'filled with expectation'. It sounds like a very exciting time as they wonder who this prophet John could be. John must have been a very dynamic and inspiring preacher as the people speculated if he were the one they had been waiting for. He uses all of this attention for one purpose: to point people to Jesus. There are many people in our own lives who have pointed us towards Jesus, perhaps by an invitation to an event or a retreat or by sharing a reflection with us at just the right time. In

them, we see something special and interesting that makes us wonder in our hearts and seek a little further.

They are the John the Baptists in our lives, pointing us towards the Lord like signposts along the way.

John humbly responds to the people by saying: 'One who is more powerful than I is coming.' He emphasises that it is He who will really set their hearts on fire. While the words concerning 'winnowing forks' seem harsh, we might interpret them as speaking of God's power to transform our lives through Jesus. When Jesus enters into the narrative, Luke emphasises that He is at prayer, and it is then that this powerful experience of God occurs. A nice meditation for today is to repeat the last sentence of today's Gospel, imagining God speaking these words to you: 'You are my Daughter/Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Jane Mellett

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FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF JESUS: Today Sunday 13th January we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus at 11:30 Mass. We will have a special celebration when all those who were baptised during 2018 will be invited to attend.

FAMILY MASS: Our monthly Family Mass is this Sunday 13th January at 11:30.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION :

Saturday 19 January at 6.00 pm Mass - Boys and their families from the JFK school.

Sunday 20 January at 10.00 am Mass - girls and their families from the Salesian Primary School.

HOSPITALITY GROUP: We would like to thank you for your support during the year and look forward to another year ahead. Thank you to Evan Callaghan for providing the lovely knitted Crib for our raffle and congratulation to Margaret Bracken on winning it. We are reopening on Wednesday 16th January in the Parish Centre after 10.00 am Mass. We hope to see you all there and hopefully a few new faces will join us for a Cuppa, Cake and Chat.

THE MONDAY AFTERNOON Get-together also resumes on Monday 14th January in the Parish Centre from 2.00pm - 4.00pm. **Ramble in to share your interests and hobbies, have a chat and a cuppa.**

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY ACTIVE RETIRED GROUP welcomes new members. Meetings are held in the Parish Centre each Thursday morning from 10.30 am. Meetings resumed 10th January 2019.

LANDSOWNE ACTIVE RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION first meeting of 2019 will be held on Tuesday 15th January at 10.30 am. Looking forward to seeing all our members back in action for a new year.

HEALING SERVICE with the Friars of the Renewal, Moyross will take place on Wednesday 16 January at 7.30pm in Corpus Christi Church, Moyross. There will be no Mass.

CATHOLICISM SERIES: Interested in learning more about what it means to be Catholic? We will be offering Bishop Barron's Catholicism Series at the Dominican Church on Thursdays at 1:30pm and Fridays at 7:30pm beginning January 17th and 18th. All are welcome to this course free of charge. Contact stsavioursdominican@gmail.com or 085 2255796 for more information.

CATHOLIC PAPERS: The Irish Catholic newspaper is available at the back of the church. Please put payment in the box.

REFLECTION: 'The Climate is a common good, belonging to all and meant for all.' (**Laudato Si 23**) Pope Francis

PARISH WEBSITE

www.ourladyoftherosaryparishlimerick.ie

Fr. Des McAuliffe P.P. Tel: 061 324825
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Parish Clerk: Margaret Clifford at Church Sacristy Tel: 061 325288

Office Hours: 09:00 - 09:45 Weekdays
09:00 - 12.30 Sunday

MASS TIMES: Weekends and Holy Days

Saturday Vigil 18:00

Sunday 10:00; 11:30

Weekdays:

Mon. to Fri. 10:00

Saturday 09:45 : Prayer Service

BAPTISMS: Saturday 17:00

Sunday 12:15

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 12 th	18:00	Paddy Quilligan (A)
Sun 13 th	10:00	Michael Ryan (A)
	11:30	Willie & Bridie Ryan (A)
		Kay Doherty (A)
		Brenda Fitzgerald (A)
Mon 14 th	10:00	
Tues 15 th	10:00	Sean & Rose Deegan (A)
Wed 16 th	10:00	Phyllis McNamara (A)
Thurs 17 th	10:00	
Fri 18 th	10:00	Mary Kenny (A)
Sat 19 th	09:45	Prayer Service
	18:00	Gordon Holmes (A)
		Bobby & Nuala Holmes (A)
		Molly Carroll (A)
		Peter Meehan (1 st A)
Sun 20 th	10:00	Emilie O Sullivan (1 st A)
	11:30	Patrick & Byrdie Fitzpatrick (A)

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