

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

John 20:1-9

In some ways this gospel is a difficult one for prayer. It only presents a part of the story. The disciples are in a state of shock and suffering from a traumatic loss. Jesus, the one in whom they had placed so much hope, has been murdered and buried. Then, another shock – the body of Jesus is missing. Have you had experiences in which one tragedy or crisis follows quickly after another? What was that like for you? How did you cope? What, or who, sustained you then?

Mary and Peter, and possibly others, came and discovered that the tomb was empty. They are left in a state of bewilderment ‘for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.’ Have you been in that kind of situation, faced with events you cannot explain, events which have dashed your hopes in another person, or in God? What has that been like for you? Yet in spite of the lack of explanation, the beloved disciple ‘saw and believed’.

-Have there been times when others have done something that you could not understand, and which they could not explain at the time and yet you believed that all was not as it seemed? Times when you decided to trust in spite of the evidence?

-Have there been times when others have shown this kind of faith in you, and all you could say was ‘trust me’?

-Have there been times in your relationship with God when you have felt that you were

faced with an empty tomb and still you believed?

Where have you found life in such experiences?

John Byrne OSA,

Email – jpb Byrneosa@gmail.com

MUSINGS: Easter is a Verb

Christians are Easter people. What that means to me is that we are dynamic: always growing, changing, moving and engaging. Even those of us who cannot be ‘in motion’ physically – because of necessary employment, family responsibilities or health issues – can experience the interior ‘movements’ of the soul. Every day the Risen Christ invites us to move, to allow the breaking open that happens in a heart that is open to God and to all that divine love brings to us. We sense the inner movement, we listen to the voice of the Spirit, we pay attention to even fleeting emotions and responses that can be, in God’s hands, tools for our ongoing creation.’ (Vinta Hampton Wright, from her blog ‘Days of Deepening Friendship’)

Neither Peter nor John come to believe in the Resurrection without enduring confusion and uncertainty. But out of the confusion comes clarity. The empty tomb can only mean that Jesus is truly alive – raised and transformed by the Father. If Jesus is truly risen, then so are we. As we were one with him in his suffering, so are we now one with him in his risen joy. Alleluia!

From Sacred Space for Lent 2017, *Messenger Publications*

We hope this Easter and throughout the year that you will experience the mercy, compassion and inner peace that the Risen Lord promises.

Beannachtaí na Cásca díbh go léir
From
The Priests and Parish Pastoral

CHANGES TO MASS TIMES: There will be no evening mass on Easter Monday. Weekday Evening Mass will only be held on Mondays and First Friday from this week.

TABLE QUIZ: The youth travelling to Lourdes are holding a quiz in the Ardhu Bar on Thursday 20 April at 8.30pm, to raise funds for their fares.

EASTER DUES: The Easter dues envelopes for the Parish Clergy have been distributed. If you are contributing by cheque please make the cheques payable to ‘Our Lady of the Rosary Parish’ and in relation to the Sacristan to ‘Margaret Clifford’. Please write your ‘weekly offering envelope’ number in the space provided. Thank you for your generosity to these and other collections during the year.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: The next meeting of the PPC is Tuesday 25 April at 7.30pm

REFLECTION:

‘If Easter is about the cross why all the chocolate eggs?

Because no matter how broken or hard boiled you are, once you taste the true meaning of the cross, life is a whole lot sweeter’ *Intercom Magazine*

Parish Website

www.ourladyoftherosaryparishlimerick.ie

Fr. Des McAuliffe P.P. Tel: 061 324825

Fr. Tom. Ryan C.C. Tel: 087 2997733

Parish Clerk: Margaret Clifford at *Church Sacristy*

Tel: 325288

Office Hours: 09:00-09:45 Weekdays

09:00-12.30 Sunday

Mass Times: Weekends

Saturday Vigil 18:00

Sunday 10:00; 11:30

Weekdays:

Mon. to Fri. 10:00

Mon. 17:45

Saturday 09:45

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 10:30-17:30

Baptisms: Saturday 17:00

Sunday 12:15

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 15 th	21:00	EASTER VIGIL
Sun 16 th	10:00	Bridie, Willie, Michael & Sarah Ryan (A) Joan Murphy (A) John & Sheila Doherty (A) Moira Gallagher (A) Kay Quaid (A) Philomena O’Brien (M.M.) Eugene O’Brien (A) Kay Sexton
	11.30	No Evening Mass
Mon 17 th	10:00	Maisie Kearney (Rec. Dec.)
	17:45	Carmel Custy (Rem.)
Tues 18 th	10:00	Bridie & Joseph McNelis (A)
Wed 19 th	10:00	Tom & Nora O’Keeffe (A)
Thurs 20 th	10:00	Thomas Kenny (A)
Fri 21 th	10:00	Tony Donovan (A)
Sat 22 th	09:45	Ray Barriscale (A)
	18:00	Mary Deloughry (M.M.)
Sun 23 th	10:00	Mary Casserly (A)
		George Lynch (A)
		Michael Ryan (A)
	11:30	Mary Hogan (A)
		Ger Barry (M.M.)
		Percy O’Kennedy (A)
		Donal Cameron (A)

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