

giving – all of these practices offer us

Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel Matthew 4:1-11

1. In today's gospel Jesus is enticed to gratify his own needs, or to perform some spectacular act in public. He rejects the temptation because he chooses commitment to his mission and dependence on his Father over any immediate gratification. We can all be tempted to go for some immediate satisfaction, but is that where happiness lies? Have you found that sometimes there is more contentment in saying 'no' for the sake of some long-term goal? What are the goals, aims and values that inspire you in this way?
2. One way of looking at this gospel is to say that Jesus went into the desert to face his demons. We all have demons we need to face – compulsions, fears, prejudices, anger, and urges that lurk within. It is in facing our demons that we find a way to live a fuller life. Can you recall a time when you grew through facing a 'demon' in this way?

John Byrne OSA;

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The Deep End 'Embrace the Wilderness'

We journey into the desert as we begin Lent 2020, and we are encouraged to embrace the richness of this time and the possibilities that lie within. The desert can be unappealing, we may feel a resistance to the challenge, but the potential is enormous. Going inward, praying, fasting, taking on,

spiritual growth. It is through this journey that we can deepen our relationship with the One who urges us on. We should not be afraid of the desert for, as the Gospel today tells us, it is the Spirit that leads us on this path. Let us bring to mind this season the fact that our global community stands at a crossroads, confronted with a frightening environmental crisis, another type of wilderness. We watched in horror this past year as wildfires destroyed vast ecosystems in the Amazon, Indonesia and Australia, killing an estimated one billion animals, destroying homes and taking lives. Ecologists in Ireland also tell us that to look out at the Irish countryside today is to look and see what is no longer there. Another wilderness. Lent is an opportunity to examine our lifestyles and to think about our relationship with God's creation. As Catholic faith communities, let us embrace the challenge to care for our common home in these weeks, making small changes. We can all do something: eliminate single-use plastics, fast from our cars, plant trees, bring a small group together to read Laudato Si, pray for our world leaders. Let this be a time of discerning our call to care more for this planet, our home. 'Truly much can be done!' (Laudato Si 180)

Jane Mellett; mellettj@gmail.com

Lay Ministers of the Eucharist

The **next meeting** of the Lay Ministers of the Eucharist in the parish will be held on **Tuesday March 10th at 8pm in the Parish Centre**. All ministers are requested to

attend so we can arrange the rota for the period March to September. Any ministers not currently on the rota, who are available to serve once more, are also invited. If you are a parishioner who would like to become a Minister of the Eucharist, please make contact with us through the Sacristy. We would be delighted to recruit new volunteers at this time.

Women's World Day of Prayer Service for Limerick will take place in the Parish Centre next Friday 6th March at 7.30pm. The Service this year is prepared by the Women of Zimbabwe and all are welcome.

Fr. Joe Hayes Scripture Reflection each Wednesday during Lent in St. Lelia's Church for Parishioners of our Unit, commencing Wednesday 4th of March.

The **Bereavement Support Group** will meet in our Parish Centre with those who have been bereaved on **Friday March 6th** after 10am mass to offer support in a relaxed friendly and confidential environment with a cup of tea/coffee. **All are welcome.**

Salesian Primary School Fashion Show

The Salesian Primary School is excited to announce its Fashion Show Extravaganza in The Strand Hotel on Thursday March 26th at 7.30pm. The event is being held to raise funds for a library and sensory room for the school. It will showcase local boutiques and include models from the Celia Holman Lee modelling agency. It is promised to be a great night with fantastic spot prizes. Contact Anna on 086-8141792 or Salesians2020@gmail.com for tickets. Tickets €20.

Reflection: Ashes remind us of the direction of our existence; a passage from dust to life. We are dust, earth, clay, but if we allow ourselves to be shaped by the hands of God, we become something wonderful. **Pope Francis Twitter.**

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 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 29 th	18:00	Kitty & Matty Cooney (A) Claire Kelly (A) Brid & Marisa Fitzsimons (A)
Sun 1 st	10:00 11:30	Barry O'Sullivan (M.M.) Jacqueline Cleary (1 st A) Michael Cleary (A) Robert Crawford (A)
Mon 2 nd	10:00	Pro Popolo
Tues 3 rd	10:00	Maureen Reeves (Rec.Dec.) Ita Fitzpatrick
WED 4 th	10:00	
Thurs 5 th	10:00	
Fri 6 th	10:00	Maureen Reeves (Rec.Dec.)
Sat 7 th	09:45 18:00	Prayer Service Ger Barry (A) Quain Family, Deceased Members

Sun 8th

10:00

11:30

Fr. Pat Fitzpatrick (A)

John & Elizabeth Leahy (A)