

## SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

### LUKE 6:17, 27-38

1. Our natural tendency when attacked is to protect ourselves; when we are attacked, we attack back. We respond to an angry word with another, or to a blow by hitting back. Here, Jesus suggests that at times there may be another way to act. What has been your experience of retaliation? Has it been life-giving? Have you experience of another way of acting?

2. When we do good to another, it can sometimes be in return for what we have received. At other times it can be done in the hope of getting something back. Or we may do it simply for the sake of doing good without any strings attached. Jesus suggests that this is when we are at our best. Recall your experience of these different ways of giving and celebrate the occasions when you gave without expectations of return.

3. Jesus proposes the generosity of God as a model for our generosity and says that the generous will be rewarded. Perhaps you have experienced rewards, even in this life, from generous behaviour.

**John Byrne OSA Email: [john@orlagh.ie](mailto:john@orlagh.ie)**

### THE DEEP END: *Freely Given*

*Lord, teach me to be generous,  
to serve you as you deserve,  
to give and not to count the cost,  
to fight and not to heed the wounds,  
to toil and not to seek for rest,  
to labour and not to seek reward,  
save that of knowing that I do your holy will.*

The 'Prayer for Generosity', which many of us learned as children, is associated with

St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuit Order, yet it is unclear whether he actually composed it. One of the earliest references to it comes from 1910, when it began to be used as a prayer for the French scouting movement. To this day it is often known as the 'The Scout Prayer' and is used by many Scout groups as a blueprint for the work they do.

The prayer perfectly sums up the generous spirit of the many volunteer organisations and charities whose members give their time and energy so freely and generously to help others. There are thousands of volunteers all over our country who put love into action by visiting those who are lonely, listening to those who are struggling, providing food and other supplies for those in need, and fundraising for all sorts of worthy causes. Week in and week out, they give without ever counting the cost. These volunteers are living the message of today's Gospel, which can be summed up in one short sentence: Go the extra mile. Thank you, Lord, for volunteers. Make us ever more generous with our time, energy and resources. Help us to be compassionate, as you are compassionate.

**Triona Doherty; Email: [trionad@gmail.com](mailto:trionad@gmail.com)**

**THE BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP** will meet in our Parish Centre with those who have been bereaved on the **First Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March after 10.00 am Mass** to offer support in a relaxed friendly and confidential environment with a cup of tea/coffee.  
**All are welcome.**

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY** will hold their monthly collection next weekend on Sat/Sun

2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> March at all Masses

### NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We wish to thank those who volunteered to prepare the Parish Newsletter during 2018. Additional volunteers are needed this year.

Do you have a computer, can you type and send an e-mail? The preparation of the Parish Newsletter involves collecting information/news and a list of Mass Intentions by Wednesday from the Sacristy. Typing it up and emailing it to St John's Parish office by Friday, collecting the printed newsletters and bringing them to the Church by Saturday morning. Training will be provided. Please contact the Sacristy.

### PILGRIMAGES:

Special Ennis/Limerick Pilgrimage to Fatima and Lisbon ex- Dublin (last remaining seats) for Feast Day of Saint Anthony 9<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> **June 2019**  
Also Special Ennis/Limerick Pilgrimage to Rome and San Giovanni at Easter 15<sup>th</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> April (last remaining seats)

Special Ennis/Limerick Pilgrimage to Medjugorje for Youth Festival August Bank Holiday Weekend.

Contact James Treacy: [0860572216](tel:0860572216)

### MILFORD CARE CENTRE & ANAM CARA

the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Bereavement Information Evening on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February** at 7:00pm in Milford Care Centre, Limerick. This is a free event and open to all bereaved parents. As Milford Care Centre & Anam Cara will need to confirm numbers for teas, coffees, etc, please RSVP to [info@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie) before **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb.** or call the Information Line on [085 2888 888](tel:0852888888).

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

### REFLECTION:

Take time to laugh  
It is the music of the soul  
Take time to give  
It is too short a day to be selfish  
Take time to work  
It is the key to success  
Take time to do charity  
It is the key to heaven.

### PARISH WEBSITE

[www.ourladyoftherosaryparishlimerick.ie](http://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: 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 23 <sup>rd</sup>	18:00	Michael Cleary (A) Claire Kelly (A)
Sun 24 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 11:30	Brendan Murphy (A) Liam Aherne (A) Aidan Larkin (A)
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup>	10:00	Dec. Mem. of the Rodgers Family
Tues 26 <sup>th</sup>	10:00	Purgatorial Society Eileen Webster (A)
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup>	10:00	Lt. Col. Eamon Moriarty (A)
Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup>	10:00	
Fri Mar 1 <sup>st</sup>	10:00	Special Intention
Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup>	09:45 18:00	Prayer Service Mary & Gerard Gleeson (A) Brid Fitzsimons (1 <sup>st</sup> A) Michael Henchy (M.M.)

Sun 3<sup>rd</sup>

10:00

11:30

Kittie & Mattie Cooney (A)  
Cormac&Corie McGowan (A)