

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

Matthew 4:12-23

1. 'The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light'.... Jesus applies this to himself and his message. Who have been the Jesus people who have been a source of light to you? Have you been such a light for others?
2. His message was a call to repentance, to a change of attitude toward God, from seeing God as one to be feared, to seeing God as a God of love. When have you heard that call in your life?

3. Jesus invited disciples to join him in his mission. In responding, the disciples 'left their nets' to follow Jesus. Sometimes we have to disentangle ourselves from other things to give ourselves freely and wholeheartedly to a commitment. Have you experienced being 'enmeshed' and being free? Where did you find life?

4. In v.23 we have a summary of the ministry of Jesus – 'proclaiming the good news of the kingdom' and witnessing to this by teaching and healing. Who have been the people you have known who have witnessed to the 'kingdom', the reign of God in our world? What have been the signs that accompanied their witness? When have you done this yourself?

John Byrne OSA Email: john@orlagh.ie

THE DEEP END *Jesus Begins His Ministry in Galilee*

In today's Gospel we hear that Jesus withdrew to Galilee and made his home in Capernaum by the lake. Anyone who has been to the Holy Land will have visited

Capernaum and will know that it is a beautiful place. In Jesus' time this was a thriving fishing town..To 'repent' literally means 'to turn around'. We are called to transformation, to turn away from what is not life giving and embrace a full life.

It's hard to imagine behaving in the same way as Simon Peter and Andrew, leaving everything behind them and following Jesus. There must have been something very attractive about Jesus. The account in Matthew is quite short but one wonders if they had heard him speak many times before this moment. It takes courage to drop everything and follow something new. Obviously, they were ready for it, it was the right moment and their hearts said 'Yes!' These accounts are the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. Today perhaps you can reflect on moments you were called to something new and even though it meant leaving something behind, you knew it was the right choice. You were at peace with your decision despite the challenges it might bring. This process never ends, we are constantly called to 'repent', renew, rediscover, seek out.

Jane Mellett; Email: mellettj@gmail.com

CANDLEMAS DAY (2 FEBRUARY): Candles are blessed on this day to remind us that Jesus is the light of the world. You are invited to bring Candles for blessing before 2 February. They can be used in your home or in the Church. Thank you to all who donate candles for use in our Church.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY will hold their monthly collection on Sat/Sun 1st/2nd February.

MILFORD HOSPICE 10K WALK/JOG/RUN:

Milford Hospice will hold their annual 10k fundraiser on Sunday next, 2nd February. Meeting at the Car Park in UL, Kilmurry Village at 12 noon. Registration, sponsorship cards, T shirts etc available by contacting fundraising@milfordcarecentre.ie or by tel: 061 485859.

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD: Today 26th January is the Sunday of the Word of God. In his Apostolic Letter of 30th September 2019, *Aperuitillis* Pope Francis established that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be the Sunday of the Word of God. It is a day to be devoted to the celebration, study and spreading of the Word of God.

LÁ FHEILE BHRÍDE: , Saint Brigid's Feast Day. 1st February marks the first day of spring. Brigid is one of Ireland's patron saints. Brigid was born near Dundalk in the 5th century and was important in spreading Christianity in Ireland. She is often referred to as 'Brigit of Kildare', and was said to be the founder of several monasteries of nuns, including that of Kildare. One of the most common traditions of the day is to make a Saint Brigid's Cross. There are many spellings for her name - Brigid, Brigit, Bríd, Bridget and Bride.

REFLECTION: Reflect upon your present blessings of which everyone has many, not on your past misfortunes of which we all have some. **Charles Dickens**

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 25 th	18:00	Ger O'Donovan (A) Bobby & Nuala Holmes (A)
Sun 26 th	10:00	Dec. Mem. of the Rodgers Family
	11:30	Liam Aherne (A)
Mon 27 th	10:00	Pro Popolo
Tues 28 th	10:00	Gertrude Hayes (Rec. Dec.)
Wed 29 th	10:00	Anne Kenny (A)
Thur 30 th	10:00	Mary Kenny (A)
Fri 31 st	10:00	Gertrude Hayes (Rec. Dec.)
Sat	09:45	Prayer Service
Feb 1 st	18:00	Liam Wrenn(A) Dermot Smalle(A)
Sun 2 nd	10:00	Eddie Cahill (A)
	11:30	Rotary Society Remembrance Ignatius & Elizabeth Henahan

Published by the Parish Pastoral Council

ST. MUNCHIN'S CHURCH is holding a fundraising **CONCERT** with **THE LIMERICK CHORAL UNION** in aid of