

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL: Luke9:51-62

1. In the opening verse, Jesus is portrayed as having a new sense of clarity about his life that enables him to set out on the road 'resolutely'. Perhaps there have been such moments in your life, moments of insight and clarity about the road ahead. Recall such moments and what they were like for you.
2. As he walked the road, Jesus met with opposition. This angered some of his friends and they wanted to hit back. Jesus restrained them, and would not let himself be distracted from the journey he was making. What helps you keep your goals in mind when minor annoyances distract you?
3. The response of Jesus to the prospective followers seems harsh. He lets the first man know that discipleship is not a path to a comfortable nest. It is a way on which we never know what is going to be asked of us next. The disciple must be ready to move on. Where have you found good news in being open to change, confident in the presence of Jesus with you?
4. Jesus also demands commitment. It is easy for us to think about times when our commitment was less than perfect. But can you also recall the

times when you realised the truth of this story – that commitment brings its own fruits and blessings. What specific blessings can you bring to mind?

(John Byrne OSA: jbyrneosa@gmail.com)

The Deep End – I'll do it tomorrow!

Those of us who are procrastinators will identify with today's Gospel. We have the best of intentions, but somehow our 'to do' list for today keeps getting pushed out until tomorrow, and the next day, and the next week. There is always an excuse, or something more urgent that needs to be done. The things that we do not prioritise get relegated to the bottom of the list, and sometimes drop off altogether, so that they never get done.

In Luke's Gospel, when Jesus invites people to follow him, he gets some similar responses – 'I'll be right with you, I'll add it to my 'to do' list. 'I will follow you, sir, but first let me...' The excuses these people give are far from feeble: one wants to go and bury his or her father first, another simply wants to say goodbye to their family. But Jesus has what sound very harsh words for these predicaments. There is no time, there can be no excuses, this is more important.

Discipleship is a path that requires sacrifice. It is a path that means living in a new and different way. Rather than focusing on the past, we need to move forward and get on with the task. Jesus tells us: 'Once the hand is laid on the plough, no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom of God'. There is work to be done, and it cannot wait. People who are hungry, homeless, marginalised or suffering cannot wait. The earth cannot wait. Our 'to do' lists need to be shaken up. If we are to live as disciples, the time is not tomorrow, it is now.

(Triona Doherty: trionad@gmail.com)

Mission Appeal: The Parish will have a visit from the **White Fathers Missionary Society** from Freshford, Kilkenny, the weekend of **Sat/Sun 29th/30th of June**. The missionary Society will speak at **all masses**.

St. Vincent de Paul Society will hold their monthly collection **Sat/Sun, 6th & 7th of July** at all masses.

Reflection: If we believe that we are created in love and out of love and that we live in the great divine love, then we believe that every time we love, the ramification of that act of love is infinitely greater than anything we can ask or imagine. We are creators of the world around us by our every act of love. No loving thought, word or action escapes the ripple effect. (Sr Stanislaus Kennedy)

It's a funny thing about life; if you refuse to settle for anything less than the best, that's what it will give you. (W Somerset Maugham).

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PARISH WEBSITE

www.ourladyoftherosaryparishlimerick.ie

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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	9.45 18:00	Prayer Service Ann Connolly (A) Paddy Quilligan (M.M.) Deceased members of the Rippon Former Employees
Sun 30 th	10:00 11:30	
Mon 1 st	10:00	Pro Popolo
Tues 2 nd	10:00	Benny Fitzgibbon (A)
Wed 3 rd	10:00	Rosaleen Casey (Rec.Dec.)
Thurs 4 th	10:00	
Fri 5 th	10:00	Tom Hamill (A)
Sat 6 th	9:45 18:00	Prayer Service Brendan Burke (A)
Sun 7 th	10:00	Gladys & Paddy McMahon & Family, Geraldine Clement & Brian.
	11.30	

