SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Luke 12:32-48

1. The opening verses of this gospel invite us to ask ourselves what do we see as our purpose in life? What are our priorities? Is our heart set on material progress and advance, or do we have other priorities? What has helped you to appreciate that there is more to your life than earthly possessions and success

2. At times, one can sense in Jesus an urgency, as if he wanted to shake people and wake them up to take his words seriously. The parable has that tone: 'Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit'. When have you found that being alert enabled you to grasp a moment of opportunity that you might easily have missed, e.g., when a child or friend gives a hint that they would like to talk and a very meaningful conversation ensues.

3. Another consideration that adds to the sense of urgency in the words of Jesus, is that we only have one life, and we do not know how long that will last. So Jesus calls on us to live in the now and to treasure our time. Sometimes we can drift aimlessly through a day, and on other occasions use a day purposefully. What difference does that make, if any, to how you experience the day?

John Byrne OSA

MUSINGS

'If the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house.' (Luke 12:39)

I used to think this line on the Gospel was fanciful, or that it belonged to another age. Thieves are more discreet than that, I thought, breaking in not through a wall but via an unguarded door or an open window.

That was until I saw the first ATM robbery, when a bulldozer was used to break down the wall of a bank and remove the banklink machine, with all its money intact. It struck me then that the scriptures were well rooted, that the avarice in people's hearts is timeless – as are the actions it leads to.

People are not so different now from the folks Jesus observed. Then, as now, some begin with enthusiasm, but fall back to their former ways. And some come late in the day to the conclusion that Jesus was right, and act accordingly. Lord, teach me wisdom. Keep me from the avarice that leads to wrongdoing.

Fr Bernard Cotter

PILGRIMAGES:

St. Mary's **Senior Pilgrimage to Lourdes**; August 28th for five nights. Flight from Shannon, transfers, hotel and all meals €715 pps.

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Year of Mercy (Limerick Group) Pilgrimage to San Giovanni and Assisi,

30th September, for 6 nights ex Dublin. Celebrating the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi. on the 4th October in Assisi. Price €919pps. Payment can be made in instalments. Contact James Treacy on 061-921470 or 086-0572216

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National Novena to Our Lady of Knock Events are finalised for the National Novena to Our Lady of Knock which will take place from the 14th – 22nd August. The theme for this year is 'Merciful like the Father' in keeping with the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

As part of the Jubilee celebrations of the 150th Anniversary as custodians of the Mother of Perpetual Help, the Pilgrim Icon will make a visit to Knock Shrine as part of its annual Novena. Redemptorist preachers, Fr. Michael Cusack, CSsR and Fr. Seamus Enright, CSsR, will facilitate workshops at the shrine on Monday 15th August.

The Annual **Grotto Mass in Cratloe Parish** is at 7:30 pm on Monday 15 August. All are welcome to attend.

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Family Carers Ireland are providing the QQ1 Level 5 Care of the Older Person module on 7 September one day a week for 5 weeks per module.

Also being scheduled is a one day workshop on Understanding Dementia. To express an interest please contact 057 9370221

TWEET FROM POPE FRANCIS @Pontifex:

The secret to Joy: never suppress positive curiosity; get involved, because life is meant to be lived.

Parish Website www.ourladvoftherosarvparishlimerick.ie Fr. William Walsh P.P. Tel: 453026 Fr. Tom. Rvan C.C. Tel: 087 2997733 Parish Clerk: Margaret Clifford at Church Sacristv Tel: 325288 Office Hours: 09:00-09:45 Weekdays 17:00-17:30 Mon & Tue 09:00-12.30 Sunday **Mass Times** Weekends: Saturday Vigil 18:00 Sunday 10:00: 11:30 Weekdays: Mon. to Fri. 10:00 : Saturdav 9:45 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 18:15-19:00 (from September) Monday 10:30-17:30 (from September) Friday Meditation: Monday 19:00 (from Sept) **Baptisms:** Saturday 17:00 Sunday 12:15 MASS INTENTIONS Sat 6th Maureen Moran (1st A) 18:00 Sun 7th Nora Casey (A) 10:00 Peggy McCarthy (A) 11:30 Mon 8th 10:00 Noel Winston (A) Tues 9th Jerry & Hannah Ryan (A) 10:00 Wed 10th 10:00 Debbie Brosnan (Rec. Dec.) Thur 11th 10:00 Chris Cooney (Rec. Dec.) Sat 13th 10:00 **Special Intention** Will Van Derplas (A) 09:45 Sun 14th Rosarie Movlan (2nd A) 18:00 Neil Murphy (2nd A) 10:00 Neil McNeilus (A)

11:30 Tony McDonald (A) May Morrissey (A) Patrick Hourigan (A)