

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

John 10:1-10 7 May 2017

1. In the Middle East, it was the task of the shepherd to find water and pasture and to ensure safety. In your life who have been the people who nourished you and gave you security? For whom have you done this?

2. Important to the shepherd's ability to give security to the sheep is the fact he was known and familiar to them. They recognise his voice. Does this resonate in any way with your experience?

3. We are familiar with the image of Jesus as the shepherd. The image of Jesus as the door (or gate) is not so familiar but is one that merits attention. Jesus presents himself as the door through which we pass and find life. What are the doors through which you have passed and found life: a situation, a place, a book, an experience, a person? For whom have you been a door to a richer life?

John Byrne OSA,

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MUSINGS; Touched and Transformed

Those who are drawn by God's voice and determined to follow Jesus soon discover within themselves an irrepressible desire to bring the Good News to their brothers and sisters through proclamation and the service of charity. All Christians are called to be missionaries of the Gospel! As disciples, we do not receive the gift of God's love for our personal consolation, nor are we called to promote ourselves, or a business concern. We are simply men and women touched and

transformed by the joy of God's love, who cannot keep this experience just to ourselves.

.For the Gospel joy which enlivens the community

Of disciples is a missionary joy (Evangelii Gaudium, 21) Pope Francis Message for Vocations Sunday 2017

The first big moment of vocation is baptism. The anointing of chrism at baptism might be called the anointing for vocation. The baptismal vocation is for witness, love and service. This is married life, single life – and within the single life, maybe religious life or priesthood.

In a place of silence, let the words 'Come, follow me' echo in your mind and heart.

Lord, be with me as I offer myself in partnership with you to work in your world.

(From Gospel Reflections for Sundays of Year A: Matthew by Donal Neary Sj Messenger Publications)

VOCATIONS SUNDAY: LED BY THE SPIRIT FOR MISSION

Vocations Sunday is on May 7th 2017. The 2017 message for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations is, **"Led by the Spirit for Mission"**. In the message for this 54th World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Pope Francis reflects on the missionary dimension of our Christian calling.

The Holy Father says that "commitment to mission is not something added on to the Christian life as a kind of decoration, but is instead an essential element of faith itself. A relationship with the Lord," he adds, "entails

being sent out into the world as prophets of his word and witnesses of his love."

Even if at times when "we are conscious of our weaknesses and tempted to discouragement"..Pope Francis underlines, "we need to turn to God with confidence", and he reiterates that by "virtue of baptism, every Christian is a "Christopher", a bearer of Christ, to his brothers and sisters." ...

Eight Reasons to Protect the 8th Amendment from www.Loveboth.ie

Reason 1: The 8th Amendment saves

lives . Amendment stands alone as a beacon of international human rights protection. There are people alive in Ireland thanks to the provision. At a conservative estimate, 200,000 + people are alive in Ireland today thanks to the 8th Amendment. Because abortion is not available here, our abortion rate has stayed relatively low compared to other countries. In Ireland, 1 in 19 pregnancies ends in abortion. In England and Wales, that rate is 1 in 5. Lives are being saved everyday thanks to the 8th.

Reason 2: A baby's heart beats just 21 days after conception

In 1983, the people of Ireland did an amazing thing. They had the foresight and generosity to insert a constitutional provision that acknowledged the right to life of unborn children. Today 4D ultrasound scans show the baby smiling, yawning and moving in the womb. Today – facts about the baby that make it impossible to deny his or her humanity:

Week 4 – facial features start to form.

Week 6 – internal organs are formed.

Week 8 – Nervous system is responsive.

Week 9 – Baby can swallow, yawn and suck

Week 11 – Baby stretches and jumps

Expectant couples can watch their baby's heartbeat on video – they can even post the

video on Facebook!

CHANGES TO MASS TIMES: Weekday Evening Mass will only be held on Mondays and First Friday.

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 *Church Sacristy*

Tel: 325288

Office Hours: 09:00-09:45 Weekdays

09:00-12.30 Sunday

Mass Times: Weekends

Saturday Vigil 18:00

Sunday 10:00; 11:30

Weekdays:

Mon. to Fri. 10:00

Mon. 17:45

Saturday 09:45

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 10:30-17:30

Baptisms: Saturday 17:00

Sunday 12:15

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 6 th	18:00	Patricia Irwin (A) Mary Deloughry (M.M.) Karen Kavanagh (A)
Sun 7 th	10:00 11.30	Michael Roberts (A) Tim Frawley (A) Dec. Mem. of the Fitzgibbon Family
Mon 8 th	10:00	Jim Berkery (Rem)
Mon 8 th	17:45	Joan Broad, Intention
Tues 9 th	10:00	Fox Family Dec. Mem
Wed 10 th	10:00	
Thurs 11 th	10:00	Dermot Barron & Intentions
Fri 12 th	10:00	Fr ML White (A)
Sat 13 th	09:45	No Mass
		11am JFK First Communion
		Michael & Margaret Shearin (A)
Sun 14 th	10:00	Tom Costello (A)
	11:30	Lena & John Coady (A) Shane O'Donovan (A)

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