

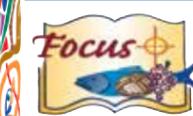


focus on sunday

THIRTY - SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 8th November 2020

(Prisoners' Sunday)

We are called to follow Jesus. We are called in a way that will prepare us for heaven and our eternal life of friendship with God.



Our lives can sometimes be seen like swimming in the sea. We set out aiming for a particular point but then the current takes hold, we lose sight of that point and we get swept off course. As Christians what is our focal point?

For the Christian that is Jesus and his love, love of God and of others. The gospel today is about waiting for the Lord.

The foolish girls took their eyes off the Master. Like swimming and losing their way.

There are many ways of keeping focus in our lives – family, love and love of God. Prayer is one way of keeping this depth in our lives. In a speedy world it can be hard to find time to pray.

Prayer is more than a Facebook message or a few words on twitter. Just like love, it takes time. Just happy sometimes to be there; praying a rosary, breathing in the life of God, reading some scripture, listening to some music.

Prayer is the oil in the lamp. Love is the flame, the light and the energy of our lives. Prayer is keeping the light going. It opens us to the greatest gift of all, the gift of God's love, received and offered.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger

Jesus' Story Fr. Liam Hickey


 Sarah's mother died. Her little child said to me "My mammy now has new breath in Heaven." Jesus promises us happiness in Heaven. We will be gathered together in the peace and love of God our Father.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look with favour, we pray, O Lord, upon the sacrificial gifts offered here, that, celebrating in mystery the Passion of your Son, we may honour it with loving devotion. Through Christ our Lord.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
 Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right and just.

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
 Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.
 Save us, Saviour of the world,
 for by your Cross and Resurrection
 you have set us free.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God,
 Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
 Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished by this sacred gift, O Lord, we give you thanks and beseech your mercy, that, by the pouring forth of your Spirit, the grace of integrity may endure in those your heavenly power has entered. Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**
 May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever. **Amen**
 Go in peace. **Thanks be to God.**



be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you.
 She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go,
 in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 62:2-8

R. For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.

- O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting.
 My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. **[R]**
- So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. **[R]**
- So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. **[R]**
- On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. **[R]**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (*shorter form 4:13-14)
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.

**We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him.* We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.*

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 25: 1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this:

Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

All bow for following three lines:
 and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray brothers and sisters,
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

GREETING

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
 The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.



PENITENTIAL ACT

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

May almighty God have mercy on us.....
Amen.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
 Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
 Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty and merciful God, graciously keep from us all adversity, so that, unhindered in mind and body alike, we may pursue in freedom of heart the things that are yours. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Wisdom 6: 12 -16

A reading from the book of Wisdom
 Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown;