

# FAITH @ Home

Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

Celebrating and supporting faith, hope and love in the heart of the family!



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## EASTER SUNDAY

Year B

### Sunday Mass Readings

**First Reading:**

Acts 10:34,37-43

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Psalm 117(118):1-2,16-17,22-23

**Second Reading:**

Colossians 3:1-4

**Gospel: (Choice)**

John 20:1-9

*"They had failed to understand the teaching of Scripture, that He must rise from the dead"*



### Hear

Grab your Bible and look up the Gospel reading. Don't have one? No worries, you can find this week's readings [here](#).

If you have children, you might like to [this animated video](#) of the Gospel.

### Pray

Imagine you are in this Gospel scene. Is there a word or phrase that stands out to you or strikes you from this story? Put yourself in the place of Mary Magdalene or Peter or the disciple John.

- How might you have felt and what would you have experienced on finding an empty tomb?
- What do you think Jesus would say to you if he appeared to you today?
- What would you like to ask him? Is there anything you would tell him?

### Talk

Mary Magdalene was the first to discover that the tomb where Jesus was buried was empty. Peter and John later realised, too, that Jesus had risen! Discuss the following questions together as a family:

- What gives you a reason to celebrate?
- What does the word "Resurrection" mean? What message do you think God was giving to the world by raising Jesus from the dead?
- Why is it said that Easter is the greatest celebration for all Christians?
- Easter lasts fifty days. How will you celebrate it for that length of time?

### Family Challenge!

Visit your local Church this week as a family if you are able to. Spend some time with the Risen Jesus in the Tabernacle.

Check out page 3 for a picture from today's reading to print and colour!

**Mission:** Time to celebrate! Hopefully you're tucking into some nice chocolate Easter eggs! As you enjoy them, think about how the empty shell represents the empty tomb and pray Alleluia in thanksgiving! Why not make some Resurrection Cookies?

**Song of the Week!**  
1-2-3  
**JESUS IS ALIVE!**

Please email us at [faithathome@waterfordlismore.ie](mailto:faithathome@waterfordlismore.ie) [or click the [subscribe](#) button] if you would like to receive Faith@Home direct to your inbox each week!

"To the Heights" Post-Primary / Youth Version also available: click [SUBSCRIBE](#) / email [youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie](mailto:youthministry@waterfordlismore.ie)

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## DYING AND RESURRECTION

I remember some years ago now visiting a hospital and meeting a patient there who was with his son and daughter. I said hello and we got chatting. It was around Easter. He thanked me for stopping by and said, "I love this time of year. Dying and Resurrection, new life - that's what it's all about." I thought to myself what an example he was to his children in being so open about his faith. And what a thought to ponder! "Dying and Resurrection". How right he was. Nature teaches us this too. Winter turns to Spring. The bare trees become green again. And what about the human person?

With faith we know that we will live with God. Christ has risen from the dead and offers us all hope - sure hope. But without the hope of Easter where would we be? I cannot bear to think. This Holy Week we can appreciate more what the Cross is. We have endured lockdown with all its difficulties. But we can offer all that to Jesus and walk with our crosses with him beside us. No matter what is the worry or the trouble He is greater than it. HE LOVES YOU and ME. Never doubt that.

The only thing that can come between us is our sin. So let us say sorry for our sins and look toward Him with confidence. He has suffered all things and overcome them all and has risen from the dead. As that patient in the hospital said, "Dying and resurrection, new life - that's what it's all about." Lord, help us to believe that more and more and let your love seep into our hearts. Lord by your Cross and Resurrection You have set us free. You are the Saviour of the world.

By Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan



## CHECK IT OUT: QUO VADIS



Quo Vadis is an initiative of the Diocese of Waterford & Lismore Youth Ministry and Faith Development Officers to help young adults aged 18 - 35 journey in faith together, through guest speakers, small group fellowship and prayer. At present Quo Vadis takes the form of a Zoom Series on Sunday evenings from 7 - 8pm. Following a successful Lenten series, the next venture is a four week series on the inspirational life of Sr Clare Crockett, presented by the Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother, starting on April 11th. Check Ascend Youth Ministry (Waterford & Lismore) on Facebook and Instagram for more info.

## EVENTS

Diocese of Waterford & Lismore presents



# QUO VADIS?

CATHOLIC ZOOM SERIES FOR YOUNG ADULTS AGED 18-35

Sr Clare: *Alone with Christ Alone!*

Four week series on the inspirational life of Sr Clare Crockett, presented by the Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother

Sundays: 7 - 8pm  
11th April - 2nd May

Contact [events@waterfordlismore.ie](mailto:events@waterfordlismore.ie) / 085 8623704 for more information

[www.waterfordlismore.ie](http://www.waterfordlismore.ie) [AscendWaterfordLismoreYM](https://www.facebook.com/AscendWaterfordLismoreYM) [ascendwaterfordlismore\\_ym](https://www.instagram.com/ascendwaterfordlismore_ym)

## Family Prayer

Jesus, our Saviour,  
we thank You that You make all things new. Through Your death and resurrection You destroyed sin and death. There is no difficulty too great that we cannot overcome by Your grace. Alleluia!

[Why not add "Alleluia" to the end of your family prayers?]



## Carlo's Corner

### EASTER IS A BIG DEAL!

"And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith."

1 Corinthians 15:14.

We spend months preparing ourselves for Christmas, buying presents, making lists, preparing food to share with families, Christmas songs for months on end... Christmas is a big deal - God became Man and walked among us. Yet we often don't realise that Easter is a big deal - the biggest deal in the Christian year in fact. It's more than just chocolate eggs. After the darkness and tragedy of Good Friday, we have Easter Sunday: the Lord is risen! Death and sin have no power over Him: He conquered everything that conquers us. He opened wide the gates of Heaven and made it possible for us to enter in.

So celebrate this Easter! Christians are a people of joy, of hope! As you tuck into your egg, think of the symbolism of the empty shell, representing the empty tomb. Celebrate Christ's victory with joy in your heart; and if there's any sadness, or frustration or worry there at the moment, give that to Jesus, and ask Him to be the Risen Lord of your life and your struggles. He died and rose for YOU because He loves you infinitely.

Check out:

- Easter Sunday: [Son's Up](#) (Mark Hart)
- Forever (Kari Jobe)

Use the attached "What is Hope?" handout to guide your prayer and reflection time



# Alleluia!

## He is Risen!



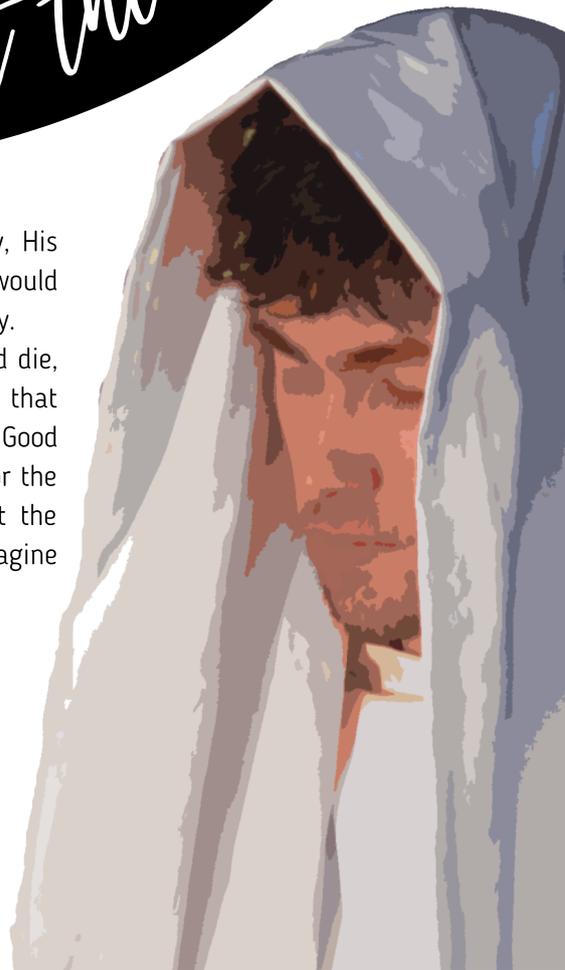


# Good Friday was not the end



## WHAT IS HOPE?

If Jesus had just been an innocent man who was put to death on Good Friday, His death would have been tragic and an act of senseless cruelty, and the story would have ended there. For Christians, however, Good Friday is not the end of the story. Jesus told his followers on numerous occasions that He would have to suffer and die, but on the third day He would rise again. They were incapable of understanding that at the time. Imagine the pain, grief and hopelessness they must have felt on Good Friday, watching their good friend suffer and die, and with Him all their hopes for the future? Then imagine their overwhelming joy and sense of hope they felt at the resurrection! His mother, Mary, never lost hope in Jesus' promises. Can you imagine how joyful their reunion was after the Resurrection?



### CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING RESOURCES ON THE THEME OF HOPE:



Bishop Phonsie's Messages of Hope: True Hope



The Prayer of Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati "Verso l'alto!"



Fr Mike Schmitz: What is Hope and Why Do You Need It?



Fr Mike Schmitz: The Role of Hope in Holy Week



Leeland: Way Maker



Lauren Daigle: Trust In You (Live)



Send a message of encouragement or gratitude to someone who you think could be struggling at the moment.



Each morning you wake up, think of ten things you are grateful for. Start your day choosing joy and gratitude to God for his blessings!



Why not create an Instagram post or story with your definition to share with your friends on social media? Or commit to only sharing positive and hope-filled messages for the next week? Print it out and stick it on your bedroom mirror.



Create a playlist for yourself, with music filled with messages of hope - listen to this whenever you feel like you are struggling, or share it with a friend who might need a reminder that hope is real.

**HOPE IS THE ANCHOR OF THE SOUL**

**H.O.P.E. Hold On, Pain Ends**

### WHAT IS YOUR DEFINITION OF HOPE?



*Hope is "trust in another, extended into the future."*  
Fr Mike Schmitz