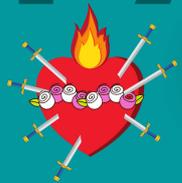


FAITH

Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

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25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - MONTH OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Year B

Sunday Mass Readings

First Reading:

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 53(54):3-6, 8

Second Reading:

James 3:16-4:3

Gospel:

Mark 9:30-37

"Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me"



Jesus and the Little Child, James Tissot, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Hear

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

Check out [this video](#) of the Gospel for children.

Pray

Reflect on this week's Gospel by reading it slowly and placing yourself in the story. Imagine you are one of the disciples who has been journeying with Jesus or the little child wrapped in Jesus' arms. As you meditate on the Gospel, ask yourself the following questions. You might like to use a journal to write down your thoughts:

- Where do you find yourself most focused and open to hearing Jesus speak to you?
- Have you ever been confused by Jesus' words or actions? Were you ever afraid to question Jesus?
- How might you prepare your heart to welcome Jesus for a comfortable conversation? What topics do you think Jesus might bring up?
- Are there things you would rather not talk about with Jesus? (Perhaps because of fear, embarrassment, confusion, guilt or shame?)

Talk

Jesus takes the time in this week's Gospel to teach the disciples a very powerful truth. The key to greatness in the Kingdom of God is very different to the greatness of the world.

Discuss the following as a family:

- Have there been moments in your life where you sounded like the disciples in today's Gospel? Have you ever been jealous of other people's talents and abilities?
- Who is someone you consider to be "great" and why? What is it about them that makes them great in your eyes?
- What are some of the things that society tells us are "great" but which differ from the definition of greatness given to us by Jesus in this week's Gospel?
- What can you do this week to grow in child-like love and commitment to Jesus?

Family Challenge!

Take some time this week to come up with an affirming family mantra. An example would be: *"I belong. I am special. I am loved."* Include it as part of your family's grace before meals!

Check out page 3 for a picture to colour from this week's readings!

Mission: In today's Gospel, Jesus' disciples argue about which one of them was the greatest. Jesus reminds them that being great really means to be humble and serve others. Look for ways you can serve others this week at home or at school!

Song of the Week!

LOVE ONE ANOTHER
LULLABY

Please email us at 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

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AT HOME WITH JESUS

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee... If you live near our convent in Waterford City, chances are good that you've seen me out for a walk or a run. Maybe it's that I think better when I'm moving, find myself less distracted and more focused. If the disciples were anything like me, a good walk in the hills of Galilee might have helped them listen attentively to Jesus as he taught them. But no amount of exercise could help me wrap my head around Jesus saying he would be handed over, killed and then rise from the dead. It's no wonder the disciples were confused and afraid!

They came to Capernaum, and...he was in the house... I enjoy preparing our house for guests... fancy china, decorative serviettes, something sweet and homemade. Some scholars think that when Jesus arrived in Capernaum, he went to Peter's house. Thanks to my #bingeJesus obsession with The Chosen series, I have a fantastic mental picture of Peter's wife preparing her home to welcome Jesus and the Twelve. We can imagine Jesus feeling quite comfortable and relaxed in this familiar space. He wasn't afraid to ask the disciples hard questions.

He then took a little child... When Jesus offers a little child in the middle of Peter's living room, he's inviting us to a new way of thinking: Kingdom-thinking; the last-shall-be-first-thinking; servant-leadership thinking. And if this thinking was countercultural in Capernaum in Jesus' day, it's just as edgy and controversial today. In last week's Gospel, Jesus invited us to take up our cross and follow him. He said that if we lose our life for his sake, we'll find it! Now we're supposed to be "last of all and servant of all." Jesus proclaims what he teaches by his life. He shows us that sin and death no longer have the final word when he rises on Easter Sunday. He offers his body and blood for us in the sacrifice of the Mass. He reverences the dignity of each and every person he meets. He leads by example. When Jesus proclaims hard and challenging teaching, how does he also present you with a new way of thinking about and understanding the world around you?

By Sr Kathryn Press, [ASCJ Waterford city](#).

EVENTS

Eucharistic Adoration Retreat

Sunday 3rd October 2 - 5pm, St Mary's Parish Church, Clonmel. Donation / Offering €10 All are welcome!

Lectio Divina: the praying with the Scriptures, led by the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, beginning Thurs, September 30th. 2 options: Thurs @ 2pm in St. John's Pastoral Centre / Thurs @ 7:30pm at Sacred Heart Parish Centre. Please register at waterford@ascjusus.org or call 087-4042745

Ministry of Catechist: The Diocese of Waterford & Lismore is now inviting applications for the Ministry of Catechist. More info on www.waterfordlismore.ie/catechist-training-2021/

Family Prayer

Holy One, I ask you to help each member of our family to be completely humble and gentle in our interactions with each other; and to be patient, bearing with one another's faults in love - even when we're tired, frustrated, angry, or hurt. Help us to make every effort to remain united in the Spirit in this home. Please bind us together in peace.

from jesuitresource.org

"If anyone wants to be first he must make himself last of all and servant of all."
Mk 9:35



ARE YOU AN INFLUENCER?

Imagine the scene - Jesus trying to teach his disciples that He, as God, would perform the greatest act of humility the world has ever seen on Good Friday, and just a short time later He overhears them squabbling about which of them was the greatest. That must have been a cringe-worthy and really humbling memory for them as they went to go make disciples of all nations! Yet, it's easy for us today as well to misunderstand what real leadership and real influence means. It's incredible to think that we can play a role in helping someone else become the best version of themselves, to become a saint! But how seriously do we take that responsibility? Are we ready and willing? Do we ever even think much about it? Jesus makes it pretty clear in today's Gospel: we're called to humility and service. Fr Mike's video challenges us to ask ourselves if someone modelled their lives on ours, would they become a great saint? I don't know about you, but I've a lot of reflecting to do on that one myself this week! This week, let's make a conscious effort to consider how our actions, words and life can influence those around us - and try to help others become the best versions of themselves!

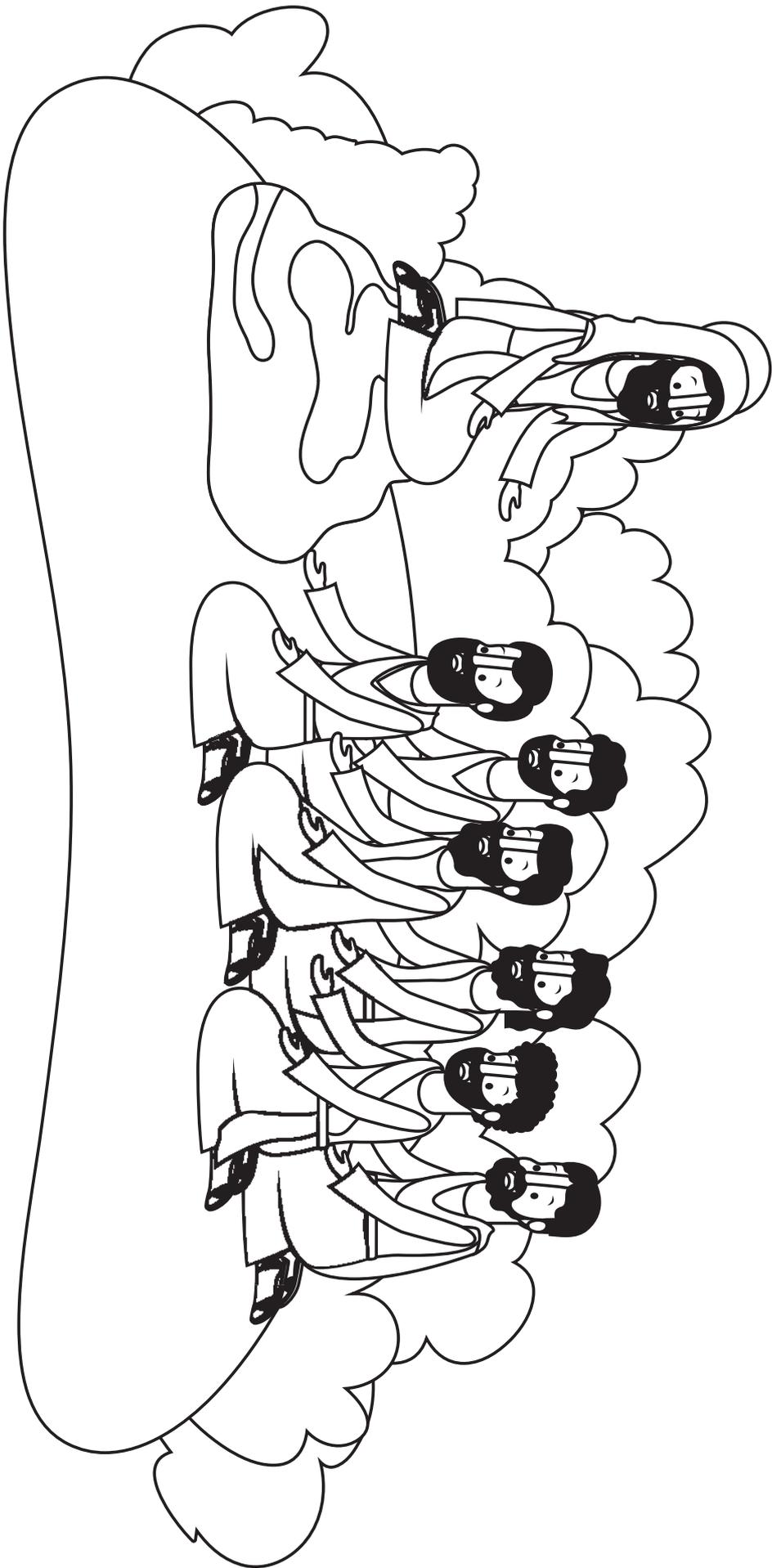
[Influencing the World \(Fr Mike Schmitz\)](#)
[Litany of Humility \(Thomas Muglia\)](#)
Handout: "Are you an Influencer?"

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“Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.”

Mark 9:35

JCR: L0 1.1 / 1.3 / 1.5 / 1.8 / 1.9 / 2.2 / 2.9 / 3.2 / 3.3
SENIOR RE-NON-EXAM: A1 / A3 / B1 / B2 / B2 / G2 / G3 / H2 / H3

Are you an Influencer?

"If anyone wants to be first he must make himself last of all and servant of all."

WHO DO YOU THINK HAS INFLUENCE ON YOUR LIFE? (EITHER IN YOUR FAMILY, COMMUNITY OR A CELEBRITY? WHAT KIND OF PERSON DO THEY INFLUENCE YOU TO BECOME?



WHAT CHARACTERISTICS DO YOU THINK A GREAT LEADER SHOULD HAVE?

WATCH FR MIKE SCHMITZ' VIDEO: "INFLUENCING THE WORLD" AND REFLECT ON THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW:

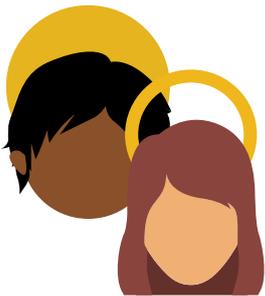
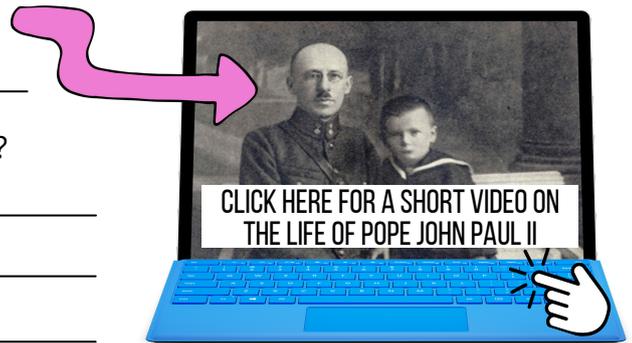


Fr Mike explains that all of us have influence over someone and because of that we should ask ourselves two questions:

1. How are you _____ them?
2. Where are you _____ them?

What kind of man was John Paul II's father?

Describe how he influenced his son to be a Man of God?



If we want those we have influence over to become great saints (and the best version of themselves), what do we need to ask ourselves and reflect on first?

HOW DOES A QUESTION LIKE THAT MAKE YOU FEEL? IS IT AN UNCOMFORTABLE QUESTION? IF YES, WHY DO YOU THINK THAT COULD BE?



ARE YOU AN INFLUENCER?

MARK 9:30--37

Who is the Prototype for Christians - the model for how to live? (with a capital P!)

What did St Paul advise the Corinthians to do in his letter to them? Check 1 Corinthians 11:1



If we don't think we're living in a way that will help others to become saints if they model their lives on us, what should we do about it, according to Fr Mike?

Remember, today for the people you influence, you're the p_____!



Now Read Mark 9:30-37



In this Gospel Passage, Jesus is trying to teach His disciples that He must suffer and be put to death before rising again. Yet again, His disciples fail to grasp what He is talking about. Instead they squabble amongst themselves about which of them is the greatest, ironically completely missing Jesus' example of the greatest act of love and humility Jesus' death on the Cross will be.

Jesus is very clear with them, that the greatest must be the least, the most humble, the most serving. Jesus uses the example of welcoming a little child to explain His point. In that culture, children had no status or power. Serving others rather than seeking power is the way of life Jesus models for us. It has been said that Christians like to talk about being servants until they are treated like one! Jesus calls us to humility, service and love however.



MISSION!

THIS WEEK, REFLECT ON THE INFLUENCE YOU HAVE ON OTHERS IN THEIR LIVES. IS THERE ONE ASPECT OF YOUR LIFE YOU CAN CHOOSE TO FOCUS ON, TO ELEVATE, SO THAT IF SOMEONE WAS TO MODEL THEIR LIFE ON YOURS, IT WOULD HELP THEM BECOME THE BEST VERSION OF THEMSELVES, TO BECOME A GREAT SAINT? EACH EVENING REFLECT BACK ON HOW THE DAY WENT AND ASK THE LORD TO HELP YOU IN THE DAYS AHEAD.



PRAYER TIME!

THE LITANY OF HUMILITY:

Try praying the Litany of Humility, attributed to Cardinal Merry Del Val. It's definitely not easy or comfortable, but it can really help us to see where our priorities and desires lie, and how to live out service and humility in all aspects of our lives! (You can also use the two song versions below to help you!)



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON INFLUENCE THIS WEEK

- [The Litany of Humility \(Thomsa Muglia\)](#)
- [The Litany of Humility \(Danielle Rose\)](#)
- [When it's all been said and done \(Robin Mark\)](#)
- [Set the World on Fire \(Britt Nicole\)](#)
- [I Shall Not Want \(Audrey Assad\)](#)
- [Humble \(Audrey Assad\)](#)
- [This is our God \(Tomlin\)](#)
- [You have shown us \(Baloche\)](#)



Click the links for the YouTube videos to listen to some suggestions!



Check out the ***Paving the Way Home Talk by Fr Patrick Cahill: "You are an Influencer"***



Jack McCarthy shares his testimony about how good friends turned his life around!



Litany of Humility

THE LITANY OF HUMILITY IS ATTRIBUTED TO CARDINAL MERRY DEL VAL WHO WAS THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO POPE SAINT PIUS X (1903-1914)

O Jesus, meek and humble of heart,
From the desire of being esteemed,
From the desire of being loved,
From the desire of being extolled,
From the desire of being honoured,
From the desire of being praised,
From the desire of being preferred to others,
From the desire of being consulted,
From the desire of being approved,
From the fear of being humiliated,
From the fear of being despised,
From the fear of suffering rebukes,
From the fear of being calumniated,
From the fear of being forgotten,
From the fear of being ridiculed,
From the fear of being wronged,
From the fear of being suspected,

hear me.

*deliver me O Jesus.
deliver me O Jesus.*

That others may be loved more than I,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That others may be esteemed more than I,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That, in the opinion of the world,
others may increase and I may decrease,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That others may be chosen and I set aside,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That others may be praised and I go unnoticed,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That others may be preferred to me in everything,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That others may become holier than I,
provided that I may become as holy as I should,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

