

29ú Aibreán An Cúigiú Domhnach den Cháisc

Réamhrá Mise an fhíúin fhíor, sibhse na géaga. An té a fhanann, ionamsa agus mise ann, tugann seisean toradh mór uaidh. Tá Íosa, an fhíúin fíor anseo inár measc, agus muid ag brath go hiomlán ar a ghrá.

Smaoineamh

Is iontach an planda an fhíúin. Caithfear an-chuid ama a chaitheamh á bharradh agus á choinneáil i gceart. Ach má thugtar cúram ceart dó tugann sé toradh fíúntach don té a amharcann ina dhiaidh. Má chaitheann tú seal ama ag breathnú ar an duine a thugann cúram don fhíúin cuireann sé iontas ort cé chomh foighdeach agus chomh díograiseach is atá sé. Caithfear gach rud a dhéanamh le cúram is le grá fiú. I ndeireadh an lae fásann crann agus géaga a leathann amach go fairsing ach iad bearrtha go cruinn amhail obair ealáionta. Is iontach an rúndiamhair í an dóigh a oibríonn an saothraí agus an nádúr le chéile chun fíniúna a chruthú mar thoradh.

Is iontach an duine É Íosa Críost, an fhíúin fhíor agus a Athair an saothraí. Is iontach an rúndiamhair í gur féidir leis cónaí ionainn agus torthaí foirfe a chur i gcrích inár saol féin. Is é Íosa an fhíúin agus is muidine na géaga. Ní thiocfaidh toradh foirfe uainn gan Íosa a chónaí ionainn. Tugaimis glóir do Dhia trí thoradh mór a dhéanamh dár saol.

Guí an Phobail

A Dhia, ár nAthair, is tú an saothraí agus Íosa an fhíúin. Cuidigh linn inár saol dea thoradh a fhógairt agus tabhair aird go ceansa ar ár bpaidreacha.

1. Dáil anuas an Spiorad Naomh ar an Eaglais agus go háirithe ar ár bPapa, Proinsias, agus ar na h-easpaig, go gcenglaí siad sinn leis an bhfiocreideamh. A Thiarna, éist linn.
2. Go líonfar gach teaghlach le grá Dé agus le h-omós do Íosa Críost. A Thiarna, éist linn.
3. Go dté do ghrá go smíor ionainn go dtabharfaidh muid cúram do gach créatúr a chruthaíonn tú ón duine is lú go dtí an duine is mó, ón leanbh go dtí an duine atá in aois. A Thiarna, éist linn.
4. Tabhair grá agus grásta dóibh siúd nach bhfanann in Íosa Críost go bhfeice siad go soiléir an rúndiamhair a léiríonn tú os comhair a súile agus go dtiontaí siad a naigheanna i do threo. A Thiarna, éist linn.
5. Rug Muire, Máthair Íosa, an toradh is mó riamh, a Mac. Go bhfana gach máthair dílis dá bpáistí agus go bhfeice siad glóir Dé ag lonrú as a súile. A Thiarna, éist linn.

Tugadh glóir don Athair sa mhéid go dtugann muid tortha mór uainn agus go mbeidh muid inár ndeiceabail ag Íosa Críost, ár dTiarna. Áiméan.

Intro Ár nAthair

Dúirt Íosa 'Mise an Fhíúin fhíor agus is é m'Athair an saothraí'. Guimís anois chuig an Saothraí, ár nAthair, go ndéantar a thoil ar an dtalamh.

Focal Scoir

A Thiarna mhilis céad míle fáilte, a Mhic Mhuire, gráim thú. Cé hé mise ar chóir dom teacht chugat? A Rí Neimhe, déan cúinne beag dom.

Resources

Sunday, 1 April 2018

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

John 20:1-9

In some ways this gospel is a difficult one for prayer. It only presents a part of the story and the full unfolding of the good news the story contains lies in the next part of the text. However, even with this section there is plenty of material for reflection and for prayer.

1. The disciples are in a state of shock and suffering from a traumatic loss. Jesus, the one in whom they had placed so much hope, has been murdered and buried. Then, before they have time to recover, comes another shock – the body of Jesus is missing. Have you had experiences in which one tragedy or crisis follows quickly after another? What was that like for you? How did you cope? What, or who, sustained you then?
2. Mary and Peter, and possibly others, came and discovered that the tomb was empty. The part of the story we have in this text gives no explanations of what has happened. They are left in a state of bewilderment 'for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.' Have you been in that kind of a situation, faced with events you cannot explain, possibly events which have dashed your hopes in another person, or in God? What has that been like for you?
3. Yet in spite of the lack of explanation, the beloved disciple 'saw and believed'. Have there been times when others have done something that you could not understand, and which they could not explain at the time and yet you believed that all was not as it seemed; times when you decided to trust in spite of the evidence? Have there been times when others have shown this kind of faith in you when you were not able to offer satisfactory explanations, and all you could say was 'trust me'? Have there been times in your relationship with God when you have felt that you were faced with an empty tomb and still you believed? Where have you found life in such experiences?

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Musings between now and the World Meeting of Families are kindly being provided by Brenda Drumm of WMOF2018.

MUSINGS: Be a person who sings life!

Be people who sing life, who sing faith. This is important: don't just recite the Credo, recite faith, know faith, but sing faith! That's it. Tell faith, live faith with joy, and this is called 'singing faith'. And it's not me saying it! Saint Augustine said it 1600 years ago: 'sing faith!'

Pope Francis, Address, 3 May 2014

for your Newsletter

Sunday, 8 April 2018

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

John 20:19-31

1. 'Peace be with you' was the greeting of Jesus on meeting his frightened apostles. Who has come to you bringing peace at times when you were frightened? For whom have you been an agent of peace?
2. Thomas, doubting and questioning, is possibly a person with whom we can identify. What part have doubting and questioning played on your faith journey? How has your faith been strengthened by such moments?
3. Note the way Jesus dealt with Thomas. He did not give out because he doubted. He took him where he was and led him along to see the truth of his resurrection. Who has been that kind of a teacher for you, gently taking you where you were and leading you on to a deeper knowledge of some truth about life? For whom have you been that kind of teacher?
4. 'Blessed are they who have not seen and yet believed.' That requires great trust. Perhaps you have had the experience of being trusted without having had to prove every step along the way. What was it like to be trusted in that way? Who have you been able to trust in a similar manner?

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MUSINGS: The Seasons of Our Love

In the springtime of our marriage grant us growth and hope.
In the summertime grant us warmth and celebration.
In our autumn grant us harvest and affirmation.
And in our winter grant us closeness and support.
In all the seasons of our marriage be our constant companion,
the guest invited to our wedding who has remained faithful and
ever present.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Written by Stephen Cummins and taken from
The Family Prayer Book published by Veritas



Sunday, 15 April 2018

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Luke 24:35-48

1. When we are not expecting it to happen, even a good event can startle us. So it was with the disciples when Jesus appeared to them. He sought to calm them and helped them to see the good news behind what had initially alarmed them. Who has been a Jesus person for you by helping you to find meaning and good news in life?
2. Jesus helped the disciples to find new hope, but he did not give them easy answers. He asked them to see the facts before their eyes. He wanted them to learn from the lived experience they were having. As a parent, teacher, friend or guide, have you been a Jesus person to another, helping him/her to find hope and purpose in life by learning from his/her experiences? Who has done this for you?
3. Jesus opened their minds to 'understand the scriptures', and the effect was transformative. Perhaps there have been times when a new and deeper understanding of scripture has had a transformative impact on you. Recall the experience and give thanks for those who opened the scriptures for you.
4. The resurrection experience empowered the disciples to be witnesses. Unexpected possibilities for the future surfaced when it seemed that hope had gone. When have new possibilities opened for you after a 'resurrection' experience: recovery of health when it did not seem possible, new opportunities after failure or disappointment, inner healing after a deep hurt, etc?

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MUSINGS: Christian Parents

At the beginning of a baptism ceremony, the priest welcomes the parents with their baby at the Church, and after asking them for the name of their child and to formally declare their desire to have the child baptised, he says: 'You have asked to have your child baptised. In doing so, you are accepting the responsibility of training him/her in the practice of the faith. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?'

The parents answer: 'We do', showing that they are freely and consciously accepting their duty as Christian parents.

This fundamental principle, that the faith is primarily handed on in the home and family, from generation to generation, goes back to our pre-Christian roots. The people of Israel had a very strong sense that faith is sustained and passed on in the home, from parents to children, from elders to the next generations. As Psalm 78 puts it: 'we will tell to a generation still to come, the praises of the Lord, his power, the wonderful deeds he has done ... so that a generation still to come might know it, children yet to be born'.

Archbishop Eamon Martin speaking at
Knock Shrine, September 2015



Sunday, 22 April 2018

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

John 10:11-18

1. Our relationship with those 'in charge' of us changes when we sense that not only are they in charge, but they care. Remember the difference that made for you as a child, and give thanks for the caring adults who were part of your life.
2. The good shepherd 'lays down his life for the sheep'. When has your care for another led you to 'lay down your life' for that person, e.g. as a friend, parent, spouse, son or daughter? When you have known another to do this for you?
3. Jesus speaks of the freedom of the Good Shepherd in laying down his life. Faced with the needs of others, we can at times feel trapped into looking after them, caught by duty, obligation, or guilt. We can become like the hired hands doing a job without care for the person. Perhaps you have experienced both attitudes, caring for others under duress and caring by your free choice. What difference did it make when you *chose* to care for the other, even in circumstances where you had little option?
4. What do these experiences of love and care in human relationships reveal to you about God's love for you?

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MUSINGS: Family Vocation Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank you for giving your life for us. Please help more young people to follow your example by giving their lives in service as priests and religious.
If you are calling someone in our family to the priesthood or the religious life, please help them to say 'yes'.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.



Sunday, 29 April 2018

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

John 15:1-8

1. In a relationship, connectedness is important. Relationships cannot be taken for granted and need time and care to be life-giving. What does your experience tell you of the truth of this in your relationships with God? With your friends? With your family? With communities or groups to which you belong?
2. In *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis wrote: 'I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ.' He goes on to suggest that when individuals, or groups, focus on Jesus there is an increase of energy and vitality. Have you seen this happen?
3. The parable also reminds us that we are not the source of our own life. It is a gift from God, from our parents, and from all who have nourished us. Give thanks for those who have been a source of life for you.
4. God is glorified by our being fruitful. When has human fruitfulness reminded you of God at work in our world?

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MUSINGS: Why Pope Francis is happy ...

Question from a young boy during an interview between Pope Francis and young people in 2014: Everyone in this world is trying to be happy. But we have wondered are you happy? If so, why?

Response from Pope Francis: Absolutely, absolutely, I am happy. And I am happy because ... I don't know why ... Perhaps because I have a job, I'm not unemployed, I have a job, a job as a shepherd! I am happy because I found my path in life and travelling that path makes me happy. And it is also a peaceful happiness, because at that age it is not the same happiness as a young person feels, there's a difference. A certain inner peace, a happiness that also comes with age. And also with a path that has always had problems; even now there are problems, but that happiness doesn't go away with the problems, no: it sees the problems, suffers them and goes on; it does something to resolve them and goes on. But in the depths of the heart there is that peace and that happiness. It is a grace of God, for me, really. It is a grace.

Interview with young people, 31 March 2014

