

The Narrow Door

"Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to." Luke 13:24 (NIV) The puzzle is based on Luke 13:22-30



Н	1	I	Е	J	Y	K	N	D	V	F	Т	F	Q	0
P	L	Е	A	D	1	N	G	F	R	S	0	В	Y	W
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C	N	D	E	T	Q	D	E	Y	Q	S	N	1	K	E
D	L	A	1	D	F	F	M	J	P	F	D	K	E	R
0	Т	0	Н	Q	R	0	Н	A	Т	Y	X	G	Y	Z
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T	N	U	Z	D	A	N	A	R	R	0	W	0	В	D
A	E	L	T	T	E	P	M	Т	0	V	T	C	A	R
E	E	N	S	S	W	X	Н	0	U	S	E	K	C	Y
Q	I	A	Т	Z	1	C	S	Т	D	Q	P	1	D	A
A	L	S	T	E	1	D	J	Y	X	A	T	N	Q	0
V	C	N	M	E	R	V	E	1	P	Y	F	G	Q	E

TAUGHT
CLOSED
NARROW

STAND HOUSE ANSWER DOOR ENTER **PLEADING**

DRANK ATE OUTSIDE KNOCKING OWNER



Parish Pastoral Team: FR. KUFRE EMMANUEL MSP (Cathedral Administrator) **DEACON RAPHAEL JOHNSON (Parish Deacon)** THE PRESENTATION BROTHERS

REFLECTION

Today's Gospel passage urges us to meditate on the topic of salvation. St Luke the Evangelist tells us that while Jesus was travelling to Jerusalem, he was approached by a man who asked him this question: "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" (Lk 13:23). Rather than giving a direct answer, Jesus shifts the issue to another level in an evocative way, which the disciples don't understand at first: "strive to enter by the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able" (v. 24). Using the image of a door, he wants his listeners to understand that it is not a question of numbers — how many will be saved —, how many is not relevant, but rather, it is important for everyone to know the way that leads to salvation.

This way means entering through a door. But where is the door? Who is the door? Jesus himself is that door. He says so in the Gospel of John: "I am the door" (10:9). He leads us to communion with the Father, where we find love, understanding and protection. But why is this door narrow, one might ask? Why does he say it is narrow? It is a narrow door not because it is oppressive, but because it demands that we restrain and limit our pride and our fear, in order to open ourselves to Him with humble and trusting hearts, acknowledging that we are sinners and in need of his forgiveness. This is why it is narrow, to limit our pride, which swells us. The door of God's mercy is narrow but is always open to everyone! God does not have preferences, but always welcomes everyone, without distinction. A narrow door to restrain our pride and our fear; a door open wide because God welcomes us without distinction. And the salvation that He gives us is an unending flow of mercy that overcomes every barrier and opens surprising perspectives of light and peace.

Once more, Jesus extends a pressing invitation to us today to go to Him, to pass through the door of a full, reconciled and happy life. He awaits each one of us, no matter what sins we have committed, to embrace us, to offer us his forgiveness. He alone can transform our hearts, He alone can give full meaning to our existence, giving us true joy. By entering Jesus' door, the door of faith and of the Gospel, we can leave behind worldly attitudes, bad habits, selfishness and narrow-mindedness. When we encounter the love and mercy of God, there is authentic change. Our lives are enlightened by the light of the Holy Spirit: an inextinguishable light! The Lord offers us many opportunities to be saved and to enter through the door of salvation. This door is an occasion that can never be wasted: we don't have to give long, erudite speeches about salvation,

like the man who approached Jesus in the Gospel. Rather, we have to accept the opportunity for salvation. Because at a certain moment, the master of the house will rise and shut the door (cf. Lk 13:25), as the Gospel reminded us. But if God is good and loves us, why would he close the door at a certain point? Because our life is not a video game nor a television soap opera. Our life is serious and our goal is important: eternal salvation.

Let us ask the Virgin Mary, the Gate of Heaven, to intercede for us.

Pope Francis

NOTICES

Baptism Class - Parents who are interested in having their baby baptised are asked to register at the Parish Office.

The St. George's conference of the society of the St. Vincent de Paul, will be having a breakfast sale this Sunday immediately after mass at the Cathedral at the cost of \$10.00.

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal invites everyone to their day of Renewal at the St. Joseph Catholic Church (Pomme Rose) on Sunday August 31st 2025 at 2:00pm.

The St. Paul's conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SSVP) invites all to their takeaway fundraiser at Roger's roadside BBQ Grill, St Paul, next Saturday 30th August, 2025. Starting time 11:00am. Tickets are available for \$20.00, each ticket purchased will enter you into a raffle draw.

WEEKDAY READINGS (PSALTER WEEK 1)

25 Monday - St. Louis/St. Joseph of Calasanz

First Thessalonians 1: 1-5, 8b-10; Matthew 23:13-22

26 Tuesday - Weekday in Ordinary Time

First Thessalonians 2: 1-8; Matthew 23: 23-26

27 Wednesday - St. Monica

First Thessalonians 2: 9-13; Matthew 23: 27-32

28 Thursday - St. Augustine of Hippo, Bishop and Doctor

First Thessalonians 3: 7-13; Matthew 24: 42-51

29 Friday - The Passion of St. John the Baptist

First Thessalonians 4: 1-8; Mark 6: 17-29

30 Saturday - Weekday in Ordinary Time

First Thessalonians 4: 9-11; Matthew 25: 14-30

31 Sunday - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Catechesis Corner

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS CONT...
THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT cont...
You shall not kill. (Ex 20:13; cf. Deut 5:17)
III. SAFEGUARDING PEACE

Avoiding war

The fifth commandment forbids the intentional destruction of human life. Because of the evils and injustices that accompany all war, the Church insistently urges everyone to prayer and to action so that the divine Goodness may free us from the ancient bondage of war. (Cf. GS 81 § 4).

All citizens and all governments are obliged to work for the avoidance of war.

However, "as long as the danger of war persists and there is no international authority with the necessary competence and power, governments cannot be denied the right of lawful self-defense, once all peace efforts have failed." (GS 79 § 4)

The strict conditions for legitimate defense by military force require rigorous consideration. The gravity of such a decision makes it subject to rigorous conditions of moral legitimacy. At one and the same time:

- the damage inflicted by the aggressor on the nation or community of nations must be lasting, grave, and certain;
- all other means of putting an end to it must have been shown to be impractical or ineffective;
- there must be serious prospects of success;
- the use of arms must not produce evils and disorders graver than the evil to be eliminated. The power of modern means of destruction weighs very heavily in evaluating this condition.

These are the traditional elements enumerated in what is called the "just war" doctrine.

The evaluation of these conditions for moral legitimacy belongs to the prudential judgment of those who have responsibility for the common good. Public authorities, in this case, have the right and duty to impose on citizens the obligations necessary for national defense. Those who are sworn to serve their country in the armed forces are servants of the security and freedom of nations. If they carry out their duty honorably, they truly contribute to the common good of the nation and the maintenance of peace. (cf. GS 79 § 5).

Public authorities should make equitable provision for those who for reasons of conscience refuse to bear arms; these are nonetheless obliged to serve the human community in some other way.(cf. GS 79 § 3).

To be cont..

COLLECTIONS:

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time /C - 17th August, 2025

 Cathedral 6.00 p.m.
 \$1763.85
 Belmont
 \$201.00

 Cathedral 8.00 a.m.
 \$584.00
 Mt. Mortiz
 \$211.00

 Happy Hill
 \$786.10
 Brizan
 \$130.00

 Tempe
 \$527.35
 Fontenoy
 \$135.90

Total: \$ 4,339.20

PRAYER FOR PROTECTION AGAINST NATURAL DISASTERS

Loving Father, maker of heaven and earth, Lord of all creation. All elements of nature obey your command. With faith in your love and mercy, we pray that you may protect us, your people from storms, hurricanes and all other natural disasters. We place all our trust and hope in you, calm our fears and help us to be thankful to you for your goodness. Lord hear our prayer and answer us in your wisdom, love and mercy. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST:

For mutual coexistence

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

Parísh Contact Informatíon

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Office Hours: Monday to Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Our Lady Queen of Peace, **BELMONT/SPRINGS** Saints Joachim & Anne, **BRIZAN**;

Blessed Trinity, **FONTENOY**;

Church of the Uganda Martyrs, **HAPPY HILL**;

Our Lady Queen of the Universe, MT. MORITZ; St. Benedict the Moor, RIVER ROAD/DARBEAU

Our Lady Lily of the Valley, **TEMPE.**



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time / C - August 24th, 2025

Sunday Mass Schedules:

Cathedral Saturday: 6:00 p.m. Belmont Saturday: 6:00 p.m. Brizan Sunday: 6:30 a.m. Cathedral Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Happy Hill Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Tempe Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Fontenoy Sunday: 10:00 a.m. Mt. Moritz Sunday: 10:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses:

Cathedral: 6:15 a.m. & 12:15 p.m. Happy Hill - Wednesday - 6 pm

CONFESSION:

Cathedral: Saturdays: 7.00 a.m. - 8.00 a.m. (Priests available at request)

Welcome!

Jesus said, People will come from north and south, from east and west, and take their places in the Kingdom.' We have come here from many different directions. But all of these directions have served to bring us to this house of God. We give thanks to God for that, and ask that we may be found worthy of God's kingdom.

<u>First Reading:</u> From the prophet Isaiah chapter 66 verses 18 to 21. Gentiles will be converted and receive a share in Israel's blessings.

Second Reading: From the letter to the Hebrews chapter 12 verses 5 to 7 and 11 to 13. As a father shows his concern for his son by training him in discipline, so God trains his children through suffering.

Gospel: According to Luke chapter 13 verses 22 to 30. The Kingdom of God is offered, not just to the Jews, but to people from the four corners of the world.