



Parish of the Nativity of the Lord

Book+Circle – March 2022

Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom

About the book

An old man, a young man, and life's greatest lesson.....A true story ... Mitch Albom meets his former mentor... a college professor, 20 years later and gets a second chance to rediscover Morrie in the last months of the older man's life. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final 'class': lessons in how to live. Tuesdays with Morrie is a magical chronicle of their time together

How did the book make us feel?

This was one of those books that all members enjoyed, it grabbed attention quickly and had a very powerful message throughout – the key topic is centered around Morrie in the last stages of life, but the message is about how to live your life today. It left us all being reminded that we need to live today like today is our last day

We felt pleased to have read this book, a couple of us had read the book in the past and remembered how good it was on re-reading. We all had quite mixed emotions reading and it brought a tear to the eye for several members of the Book+Circle. Words to describe the book included warm, thought provoking, insightful, inspirational

The book teaches us about forgiveness, not only to others but also to ourselves and to recognise that not everything is within our own control

Morrie was clearly an inspirational teacher for all his students and it made us stop and think about people in our lives who have inspired us in any way.

What did the group think were the book's main strengths?

A page turner, not in the way a novel or crime book entices you to read on, but because the messages throughout are so strong. It was thought provoking, examples included ensuring we learn to 'listen' and concentrate on the person talking to us rather than half listening and thinking what we will say back.

Some of the inspirational quotes included:

*"The truth is, once you learn how to die, you learn how to live."
"Forgive yourself before you die. Then forgive others."
"Don't cling to things because everything is impermanent."*

The book also got across clearly an interesting point that we hadn't thought of before, that as we move through life our world starts to become smaller, we move from the wider circuit of people we know through work, family, travelling, seeing the World, and from having a larger house with several rooms to move around, to near the end of life occupying one bed, one room and with a couple of carers and few visitors to say good bye. This wasn't a sad point, merely an observation

And what were the book's main weaknesses?

Very few weaknesses in this book. Perhaps the only one comment that felt a bit negative was mention by Morrie that he felt sad for people who didn't have children, almost as if everyone had the choice, but of course that's not the case.

Would we read another book written by the same author?

Yes definitely. We recalled the other book by this author – 5 people you meet in Heaven – and agreed Mitch Albom is a great writer.

Would we recommend this book to someone else?

We felt this book should be on the list for everyone to read at least once! There were so many different thoughts and messages that anyone might find something thought provoking about how they lead their lives

Next book: What happens at Mass – Jeremy Driscoll

Next meeting: Wednesday 27 April 8.00pm (location to be agreed)

(We have moved the date out of Holy Week)