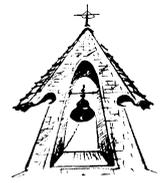


Parish of St. Joseph & St. Benildus and St. Mary's  
Newtown Road, Waterford City, Ireland



**NEWSLETTER**

Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

16th October 2016  
Volume XIV Number 46

**PARISH INFORMATION**

**PRIESTS**

Fr. Liam Power PP 873073  
Fr. John Treacy, CC 843207  
Fr. R. Liddane, A.P. 874284  
Parish Office & Sacristy: 878977  
Newsletter Team:  
jbmnews@gmail.com

**MASSES THIS WEEK**

**St. Joseph & St. Benildus**  
Mon 7.30am & 10.30am  
Tues 7.30am & 10.30am  
Wed 7.30am & 10.30 am  
Thurs 7.30am & 10.30am  
Fri 7.30am & 10.30am  
Sat 10.30 am &  
6.30pm (vigil)  
Sunday 10.00 am & 12pm  
**St. Mary's Ballygunner**  
Saturday: 7.00pm  
Sunday: 11am

If you wish to prepare next  
Sunday's Readings:  
30th Sunday in Ordinary  
Time  
Eccles 35:12-14, 16-19.  
Ps 32:2-3, 17-19, 23.  
2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18.  
Lk 18: 9-14.

**Gospel Reflection for the Twenty Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time  
Praying With X Factor**

Whether you're a fan or not, few can have avoided tuning into the 'X Factor', ITV's quest to make new stars. In watching the auditions you will be struck by the candidates' persistence. In an attempt to realise the ambition closest to their hearts, candidates will do almost anything to earn a favourable judgement. Whilst not always applauding their talent we have to give the would-be stars top marks for nerve. It appears that success is more about not giving up than anything else. So what if we adopted the same attitude when it comes to matters of faith and prayer?

All too often we lack persistence when it comes to prayer, sometimes losing faith in it altogether. We give up on prayer for lots of reasons. We give up on prayer because we have stopped believing that God is really listening. We give up on prayer because we think that we are unworthy of God's attention, or that God must be busy doing other things. We give up on prayer because we have an immature expectation, and can't understand why God doesn't pander to it. Whatever reason we have for giving up on prayer we need to re-think, because at worst, giving up on prayer can mean giving up on our relationship with God.

Today Jesus urges us to persist in prayer. However disillusioned we might feel, we are urged not to give up. Just because God hasn't granted a prayer in the past doesn't mean God won't grant a future prayer. The key is to remember that God isn't a magician giving us quick fix answers whenever we're feeling at a loss. God sees the overall picture, and as long as our prayer fits that picture how much more readily will he answer us, than the unjust judge gives in to the widow in today's parable.

We are encouraged to pray with a genuine desire to build our relationship with God. We are encouraged to pray with persistence and 'x factor'.

MASSES	15th/16th Oct 2016	22nd/23rd Oct 2016
<u>St. Joseph &amp; St. Benildus Church</u> 6.30 pm (Sat)	Ian Colclough	Billy McLoughlin
10 am (Sun)	Jerry Lynch & Natalie & Lloyd Tyrrell	
12.00 Noon (Sun)	Madeleine Dickenson (Funeral Mass)	Mary Butler
<u>St Mary's Church</u> 7.00pm (Sat)	Michael & Margaret O'Sullivan	Elizabeth Whelan
11.00am (Sun)	Austin King (M.M) & Seánie Gough	Ellen Boyce (M.M) & Joan, John & Pat Pierce

### Last Sunday's Collection

€2,477  
*Thank you for your generous offering*

### Recent Marriages

Congratulations to **Bella Daniels & Tadhg Ghuerin**, who were married recently in St.Mary's Church.

### Recent Baptisms

We welcome **Harry Percy Fewer** and **Sean William O'Keeffe McDonald**, who were baptised recently. Please keep them, their parents and godparents in your prayers.

**Please note:** there is no DVD "Word on Fire" this Wednesday. Next session is Weds Oct 26th.

### Parish Pastoral Council

The PPC will meet on Wednesday October 19th at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. Issues to be discussed include the possibility of appointing a parish pastoral worker, the setting up of a home visitation team, organising the John Paul 11 Awards for the current academic year.

### EU Anti-Trafficking Day

Every year, since 2007, October 18<sup>th</sup> has been designated *EU Anti-Trafficking Day*. One might have hoped on this, the 10<sup>th</sup> Anti-Trafficking Day, that we would not be facing the reality that, rather than decreasing, human trafficking is actually on the increase. Of particular concern is the trafficking of women and girls for exploitation in the sex trade. This is the fastest growing crime internationally. It may surprise you, but even far-flung towns and villages in Ireland are not exempt from the forced prostitution of vulnerable women and children. *Act to Prevent Trafficking (APT)*, a faith-based organisation, working with more than seventy groups in the *Turn off the Red Light* campaign, is calling on the Government to enact the 2015 Bill to criminalise demand for sexual services – as has already been done in Northern Ireland. [www.aptireland.org](http://www.aptireland.org)  
 E.m. info@aptireland.org.

### Live Streaming, St. Joseph & St. Benildus & St. Mary's Church Services

Live services from these Churches are available on:  
<http://jbmparish.com> *and*  
[www.churchservices.tv/stjosephswaterford](http://www.churchservices.tv/stjosephswaterford)  
[www.churchservices.tv/stmarysballygunner](http://www.churchservices.tv/stmarysballygunner)

### Exploring the Christian Faith

Series of Ten Sessions : Ten DVDs, each exploring different aspects of faith. Includes discussion & reflective sharing.

**Next Session 4 : 26th Oct: *The Mystery of God.***

ALL ARE WELCOME, ESPECIALLY PEOPLE WISHING TO EXPLORE THEIR RELIGIOUS FAITH AND THOSE STRUGGLING WITH THEIR FAITH.

7.30pm—9.00pm. St.Joseph & St.Benildus Parish Centre.  
 Oct 26th; Nov 2nd, 9th, 23rd and 30th; Dec 7th and 14th.

### Prayer & Praise

A new morning prayer group will begin on Thursday 20th October in Room 1, in the St.Joseph & St.Benildus Parish Centre, after the 10.30am Mass. It will include readings from the bible, reading of the following Sunday's Gospel, hymns, intercessory prayer, and a period of silent reflection. If you wish to bring your own bible, please do so. All are welcome. Please contact the Parish Office for any further information. 051 878977

### "Have Catholics lost their courage?"

*Café Theology* presents Petra Conroy of Catholic Comment, who will present a talk entitled "Have Catholics lost their courage?" in the Granville Hotel Tues Oct 18th at 7.30pm. Petra is a well known commentator on TV and Radio and a founder member of Catholic Comment which serves the Church & media. "Our speakers offer authoritative comment on news stories related to the Catholic Church, especially those issues which are often the source of debate or controversy in Irish media. We aim to shed light rather than heat. We communicate our values very clearly while respecting the goodwill, sincerity & intelligence of others". *An engaging speaker who will get you thinking. Admission free.*

Please remember in your prayers those who died recently  
**Madeleine Dickenson (Requiem Mass, Sunday 12noon)**

**Esther O'Toole,  
 Philomena Pestkowski,**

Those who died about a month ago

**Austin King**

and those whose anniversaries and birthdays occur:

**John & Ursula Cooke, Lorraine Coady,  
 Donal & Mary Barrett.**

**Newsletter Notes:** This Newsletter welcomes any notices presented for non-profit making events, subject to certain conditions. Items for inclusion may be handed into the sacristy at St Joseph & St Benildus Church.

**The deadline, however, is every Wednesday at 10.00 a.m.** We are particularly grateful to **Intercom** for resources used in this publication. All details included in this issue were correct at time of going to print.