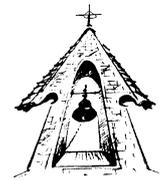


**Parish of St. Joseph & St. Benildus and St. Mary's
Newtown Road, Waterford City, Ireland**



**NEWSLETTER
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**5th February 2017
Volume XV Number 11**

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

Sunday 10.00 am & 12pm

St. Mary's Ballygunner

Saturday: 7pm

Sunday: 11am

**Gospel Reflection for the Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time
Salt of the Earth and Light of the World**



Today Jesus gives his disciples a compliment. If we live by our faith we his disciples will become the salt of the earth and the light of the world. But the compliment comes with a warning! If the salt loses its taste it is worthless, and if we hide the light underneath a bowl it fails to serve its purpose. Sounds silly doesn't it? Why on earth would we go round hiding lights underneath bowls, yet we do it all the time!

We deny the salt and hide the light every time we keep our faith to ourselves. You often hear people claim that their faith is strictly a personal thing something just between themselves and God. But what use is a belief that doesn't impact on those around us? What good is a faith that does nothing to make the world a better place? We deny the salt and hide the light every time we keep quiet instead of speaking out.

It isn't fashionable to be a Christian nowadays. It's all too easy to keep quiet in the face of uncomfortable issues. It's too easy to turn a blind eye to injustice. It's too easy to side with selfish politics. It's too easy for us to laugh at an unkind joke or let our children watch programmes that promote values contrary to our Christian belief.

Remember today somebody in your life who Jesus might have described as the 'salt of the earth'. Remember how that person inspired, motivated or impressed you. Remember how you admired that person for being true to themselves instead of bending to the fashionable point of view. Somebody once said that Christianity is infectious, when we see a shining example we want to emulate it. Could we too become shining examples of Christianity? Could Jesus give us the same compliment as those original disciples? Light of the world. Salt of the earth.

If you wish to prepare next

Sunday's Readings: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Eccles 15:15-20.

Ps 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34.

1 Cor 2:6-10.

Mt 5:17-37.

MASSES

St. Joseph & St. Benildus Church

6.30 pm (Sat)

10.00am (Sun)

12.00pm (Sun)

St Mary's Church

7.00pm (Sat)

11.00am (Sun)

4th/5th Feb 2017

Dearbhla Clarke

James & Eugene Power

Vera Mordaunt (M.M)

**Mary & Nicholas Barry (Snr)
Margaret Aspel
Noeleen , Anthony
& Nicholas Barry (Jnr)**

**Davy Doyle
& Michael Cull**

11th/12th Feb 2017

Paddy McCarthy

Liam O'Connor

Gerard & Tish Sheridan

Michael & Kathleen Conway

**Monica & Dick Kervick
& Frances O'Keeffe**

Last Sunday's Collection

€2,478

*Thank you for your generous offering***Liturgy Group Meeting**

There will be a meeting of the Liturgy Group on Monday 6th Feb at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre.

St.JBM Choir , Musical Dir Joseph O'Beirne, has vacancies for tenors & basses at present. Please contact the Parish Office 051 878977 if interested.

**Morning Prayer Group
Prayer & Praise**

A Morning Prayer Group—Prayer & Praise—takes place every Thursday in the Parish Centre attached to St.Joseph & St.Benildus Church, shortly after the 10.30am Mass. The session lasts approximately one hour. All welcome.

Training for Eucharistic Ministers

Monday 27th February, at 7.30pm, at the Sacred Heart Parish Centre, The Folly, Waterford. Please contact Parish Office 051 878977 to confirm your attendance.

Run by young adults!

"Have Mercy on Us and on the Whole World"

After the success of the Friday night of the Divine Mercy Conference last year, it has been decided to make this a more permanent fixture to the DM Conference programme.

The Friday is a FREE night, no ticket required and all are welcome. This evening is run by the young people and takes a more vibrant approach to the experience of God's mercy.

The format for the night is as follows:

6:30pm Rosary followed by prayer and praise music (Break for 15 mins before Mass)
(doors open at 6pm and evening begins at 6:30pm)
 7:30pm Holy Mass (break for 15 mins before Holy Hour)
 8:30pm Holy Hour and Adoration Music by vibrant young adult ministry.
 Finishing at 9:45pm .
 Doors closed at 10:15pm.

Parents' Meeting Before Baptism of Children

On Weds, 5th Feb, there will be a meeting of parents before baptism of children. This is an opportunity to meet with other parents & to deepen our understanding of the wonderful sacrament of Baptism. Meeting will be facilitated by Fr.Liam or Fr.John, and members of the Baptism team. Parish Centre, upstairs, 8pm-9pm. Inclusive of tea & biscuits !

World Day of the Sick

The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes (Feb 11th) is World Day of the Sick. To mark the day, anointing of the sick will take place at the 10.30am Mass next Saturday, Feb 11th. All are welcome. Please inform & assist those who may like to attend.

A Programme for Lent: A Programme for Life?

A Series of Talks, Commencing Sunday 12th Feb at 7.30pm, in St.Paul's Parish Centre. Continuing each Sunday & Wednesday at 7.30pm.

"Come & See": 17th & 18th Feb. Pallotine House, Thurles. 6pm Fri-3pm Sat. An event for men discerning priesthood, age 18-40, to "Come & See". Advance booking is required. The event is free of charge.

Pope Francis invites us to celebrate St. Valentine's Day! In his document on *The Joy of Love (Amoris Laetitia)*, Pope Francis refers directly to Saint Valentine's Day as an opportunity to make the most of traditional religious practices, invite couples to grow in love and help their children to prepare for their future married life. This is why, as part of the preparations for World Meeting of Families in Ireland in August 2018, we invite you to mark this St. Valentine's Day in a special way.

The WMOF2018 office has prepared flyers with ideas on how to mark this special day and gift tokens that you can give to your loved ones this 14th February. These are available in each Cathedral across Ireland, Veritas Shops and Accord centres and can also be downloaded from the WMOF2018 website: www.worldmeeting2018.ie The tokens include: a technology-free evening to do an activity of your choice; set aside time for prayer, go for a hand-in-hand walk together; a special dinner cooked by me, loads of tender hugs; a journey down memory lane: take time to remember how we met and have grown together; pray together as a couple.

We also invite you to subscribe to the WMOF2018 newsletter to receive the latest updates on preparations for World Meeting of Families 2018 by email <http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/contact> and follow us on social media: Facebook www.facebook.com/wmof2018 and Twitter www.twitter.com/wmof2018

Please pray for the following who died recently

James Reale, John's Hill

Those who died about a month ago

Vera Mordaunt

And those whose anniversaries or birthdays occur:

Michael Cull, Bill & Rita O'Dowd,

Ann & Adrian Neijenhuisen,

Ethel & Jack Warren, Nicholas Power.

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.