

PARISH OF ST. JOSEPH, ST. BENILDUS & ST. MARY'S

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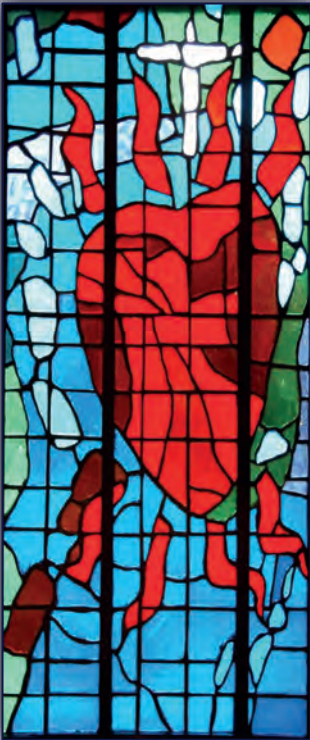
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IF YOU WISH TO
PREPARE NEXT SUNDAY'S
READINGS :

5TH SUNDAY IN LENT

JER 31:31-34

PS 50:3-4, 12-15.

HEB 5:7-9.

JN 12:20-30

Gospel Reflection for the Fourth Sunday of Lent

11th Mar 2018



How To Make Good Choices

From the minute we open our eyes in the morning, we are faced with choices. By the end of the day we have made hundreds of choices and not all of them good. In fact, we probably fail to choose God in a hundred and one different ways, yet God still loves us. How do we know?

We know because every time we look at a Crucifix we are reminded of the sacrifice Jesus made out of love for us. Just as Moses held up a bronze snake on a pole to remind the Israelites of God's love, so we look to the Crucifix as a reminder that God doesn't condemn us for our mistakes, but offers us a second chance of salvation. Too often we take God's love for granted. How could we make ourselves more deserving? We could begin by looking at all those choices we make on a daily basis. Do we choose to fritter our lives away in inconsequential activities, or do we choose to make the world a better place? Do we choose to bury our heads in the sand when we see someone bullied at work, or do we make a brave stand? Do we determine to look after ailing family members or do we put it off until we are less busy? Do we shroud our decisions in darkness and secrecy or do we walk in the light with our heads held high? But how do we start making good choices when we have spent so much time making poor ones? This is the beauty of reconciliation; our mistakes are part and parcel of making better choices from now on. We remember how it felt to make a bad choice and we don't want to go there again. Knowing what we are about is also a part of making good choices. Jesus knew what he was about and so must we. There's no better time than Lent to sit down and think about who we want to be. Lastly, once we have decided what choices we are going to make, we mustn't procrastinate. The Bible never tires of telling us that time is of the essence.

MASS TIMES

ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS

Sunday

Vigil 6.30pm, Sunday 10.00am & 12 Noon

Monday–Friday

7.30 am & 10.30am

Saturday 10.30am

Holy Days of Obligation

6.30 Vigil and 11.00am

CONFESSIONS

Confessions immediately following the 10.30am on Saturday and at the parish office by request

ST. MARY'S, BALLYGUNNER

Sunday

7.00pm Vigil, Sunday 11.00am

Holy Days of Obligation

7.00pm Vigil & 11.00am

First Friday:

9.30am

OUR JOURNEY THROUGH LENT. SPRING 2018. TUESDAY AFTERNOONS, 3-4.30PM.
ST. JOSEPH & BENILDUS PARISH CENTRE.
DISCOVER THE FIGURES WHO SHAPED THE CHURCH & CHANGED THE WORLD

PIVOTAL PLAYERS

Tuesday 20th February



ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

Missionary and Saint

A controversial figure during her life and after her death, Teresa was admired by many for her charitable work

Tuesday 27th February

BL. JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

The Convert

He used his intellectual gifts to help the Church better understand its identity and mission and engage the challenges of a secular age.



Tuesday 6th March



G.K. CHESTERTON

The Evangelist

His life shows that the fundamental disposition of effective evangelization is joy, and life in Christ is a day-to-day encounter with an abundant and surprising offer of grace.

Tuesday 13th March

MICHELANGELO

The Artist

Through humanity's creative artistry we glimpse the power and glory of the Lord.



Tuesday 20th March



DIETRICH BONHOEFFER

Theologian/Martyr

He was arrested and executed in a concentration camp at the end of World War 2.

Tuesday 27th March

OSCAR ROMERO

Theologian/Martyr

He spoke out against poverty, social injustice, assassinations, and torture. In 1980, Romero was assassinated while offering Mass



Why Dine Alone?

Friendship Lunch, Oskar's, Monday March 12th, 12.30pm.

This is a new venture in the parish, which began last month. It will take place on the second Tuesday of every month, and everybody is welcome !

Message from Trocaire

"Motherhood: All love begins and ends there" - Robert Browning. This Mothering Sunday we pray for mothers across the developing world who strive to create a better future for their children. Mothers like those in Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Ethiopia where a hunger crisis still grips the land. Mothers there are doing without food so their children can have a little more to eat. To find out more about Trócaire's Lenten campaign visit www.trocaire.org

Ishiara Parish Partnership

At a recent Partnership Committee meeting, having been advised by the Director of Trócaire in Kenya, Mr. Paul Healy, we are exploring the possibility of supporting a project concerning the construction of sand dams. This will provide a facility for the conservation of water, which is one of the most urgent needs in the Ishiara district. We are also delighted to announce that we have received an anonymous donation of €1000 to support the provision of computers for one of the schools in the Ishiara Parish. One of our committee, Br. Tom (de la Salle), is hoping to develop the Pen-Pal partnership between pupils in Ishiara schools and those in our parish. We welcome a new member to our committee, Mr. Ray McEvoy.

Café Theology

Speaker: Fr. Philp Mulryne O.P. On: "From Footballer to Friar: Restlessness to Happiness".
Tuesday 13th Mar 13th, Granville Hotel, 7.30—9.00pm. All welcome. Feel free to bring a friend.

IN LOVING MEMORY

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO DIED RECENTLY

PAULA FOGARTY, ROBERT CORNWELL

MARY TREACY

Whose birthdays or anniversaries occur :

*Fr. Billy Lyons, Richard Morgan, Peter Powell,
Mossie & Josie Phelan, Maurice O'Keeffe*

PARENTS BAPTISMAL MEETING

NEXT WEDS MARCH 14TH - MEETING OF PARENTS BEFORE BAPTISM OF CHILDREN. THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH OTHER PARENTS AND TO

DEEPEN OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE WONDERFUL SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM. MEETING FACILITATED BY FR. LIAM OR FR. JOHN AND MEMBERS OF BAPTISM TEAM.

ST BENILDUS PARISH CENTRE UPSTAIRS
8PM – 9PM

The Passion & Resurrection of Jesus : A talk in St. John's Pastoral Centre

Facilitator: Fr. Michael Mullins DD LSS Fr. Michael will reflect on the scripture readings for the Passion & Resurrection of Jesus, Thursday 22nd March, St. John's Pastoral Centre, John's Hill, Waterford. 7.30pm. (€5 including light refreshments)

We extend our deepest sympathy to Fr. John, whose mother, Mary, passed away this week. May she rest in peace. Suaimhneas síoraí dá h-anam.

Every Human Life is Sacred: Excerpt from Pastoral Message of Bishop Leo O'Reilly, Bishop of Kilmore

The Eighth Amendment to our Constitution has preserved and fostered a culture of life in Ireland that we can be proud of. The resources of modern medicine have been used very successfully to care for the lives of women and unborn children. We know that thousands of unborn children's lives have been saved in Ireland because of the Eighth Amendment over the past 30 years.

We are told that the Eighth Amendment puts the lives of pregnant women at risk because abortion is not freely available here. But statistics available for 2015 show that Ireland, with the Eighth Amendment, is a safer place than the UK for pregnant women, where there is abortion on demand and there are 200,000 abortions every year. Ireland is a lot safer for women than the U.S. where there have been an average of a staggering one million abortions a year for the last fifty years.

Campaign to Abolish the Eighth Amendment

Campaigners for the repeal of the Eighth Amendment believe that abortion is necessary in order to avoid the risk to women's lives posed by some medical conditions during pregnancy. Let's be clear that the Church has never taught that the life of a child in the womb should be preferred to that of a mother. Where a seriously ill pregnant woman needs medical treatment which may put the life of her baby at risk, such treatments are always ethically permissible, provided every effort has been made to save the life of both the mother and her baby.

MASSES	10th/11th Mar 2018 <i>St. Joseph & St. Benildus</i>	17th/18th Mar 2018
6.30pm Saturday	Sophie Hopkins	Fri Vigil: Peter Powell Sat 17th: 11.00am: M.M Annie Flynn Nicholas Flynn
10.00am Sunday	Patrick White	Sun 18th: 10.00am: Ellen Glasheen 12.00pm: James Phelan
12 Noon Sunday	Patrick O'Shea Dick Power <i>St. Mary's, Ballygunner</i>	
7.00pm Saturday	Mary & Nicholas Barry, son Nicholas, daughters Margaret Aspel & Noeleen Anthony	Fri Vigil : Jack & Elizabeth Walsh Sat 17th: 11am: Catherine & Thomas O'Keeffe
11.00am Sunday	Jim & Eileen Jackman John Lyons	Sun 18th: 11am: William Farrell John Hogan



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