

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

PARISH CONTACTS

Fr. Liam Power PP

051-873073/

087 2899843

Fr. John Treacy CC

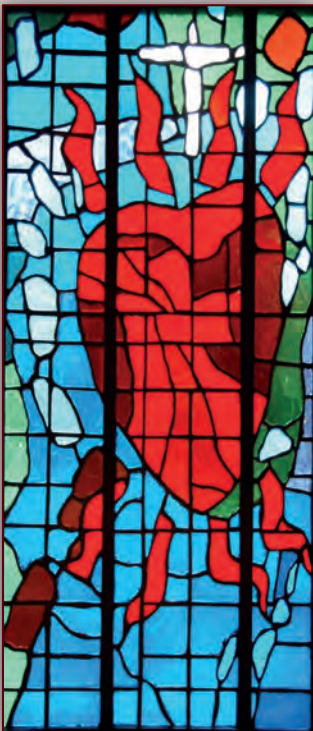
051-843207

Fr. R. Liddane AP

051-874284

Parish Office & Sacristy

051-878977



IF YOU WISH TO
PREPARE NEXT SUNDAY'S
READINGS :

The Ascension of the
Lord

Acts 1:1-11.

Ps 46:2-3, 6-9.

Eph 1:17-23.

Mk 16:15-20

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

May 6, 2018 6th Sunday of Easter

"I have called you friends." Authentic friendship can seem hard to come by these days, especially in our transient society. We move away from family, change jobs, switch parishes, and end up in entirely new places with entirely new people. When we look for new friends, we all have different qualities we're looking for. While we may think of certain standards of behavior necessary to be a "good" friend, we would hardly refer to them as rules or "commandments."

In fact, if a friendship or romantic relationship-new or old-becomes characterized by imposed obligations, we would rightly be suspicious. Friendships, we understand, ought to be characterized by freedom. We love the person, even sacrifice for them at times because, within ourselves, we want to maintain the friendship. So why does Jesus use the language of command as he calls the Apostles his friends? "You are my friends if you do what I command you."

Jesus is radically transforming the concept of commandment. In the Jewish heritage of the Apostles, they would hear the word "command" and immediately think of the strict Levitical law and distance from God. In introducing the language of friendship, Jesus ties "commandment" to inner freedom of heart. The disciples have this freedom precisely because they know "what [the] Master is doing." Jesus has invited his followers into intimate friendship all along. He shares openly with them. He has patience with their flaws. He isn't scandalized by their failures. He celebrates their successes. We, too, have been called by love and invited into a relationship with Jesus. It is you and I that Jesus chooses and appoints. He does so personally, not from a distant mountain shrouded in clouds. This "new commandment" to "love one another" is received around the shared table in the breaking of the bread.

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

IN LOVING MEMORY
PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO DIED ABOUT A MONTH AGO:
BREDA PHELAN
Whose birthdays or anniversaries occur :
Mary Sadlier
Karen Ann Finnerty

Last Sunday's Collection
€ 2,087
Thank you for your generous offering

9-Day PENTECOST NOVENA with Prayer for Life Commences on Friday , May 11th (to Sat, May 19th).
Time: 6.30pm—7.30pm each evening. Venue: Edmund Rice Chapel, Barrack Street, Waterford. "Nothing happens without the Holy Spirit". (Pope Francis)
Prayer, Music, Daily Scripture, Silent Adoration, Intercession Evening Prayer of the Church, and Prayer for Life in the Presence of the Blessed Sacrament. All Welcome.
Organised by Word of God Outreach : Waterford/S.E Region Charismatic Renewal

Word of God Outreach :
Celebrating Pentecost Sunday, May 20th.
11am—6pm.
Guest Speaker: Fr. John Keane: "My encounter with Jesus changed my life—it will change yours too !"
Come and experience the Healing Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Praise, Worship, Scripture, Sharings, Testimonies, Healing Ministry, Prayer for Life and Celebration of Mass.
All info from Síle: 086 8590394
Mossy: 087 2136812

There will be a meeting of the **Liturgy Group** on Tuesday 8th May at 8pm in the Parish Centre.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to the pupils of Gaelscoil Phort Lairge (Baile Mhic Ghonair)who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday 28th April, and to the pupils of Newtown School, who made their First Holy Communion on April 22nd. Many thanks to their teachers and families who prepared them for the ceremony.

WHY DINE ALONE?

The Parish Friendship Lunch takes place on the 2nd Monday of every month, in Oskar's Bar, Dunmore Road at 1pm. All are welcome. Phone 087 2554760 for update.

Voci Ladies Choir

Voci Ladies Choir will sing at the 7pm Mass in St. Mary's on Saturday 12th May.

Parents' Baptismal Meeting: Weds 9th May, St. Benildus Parish Centre, Upstairs, 8-9pm. Meeting facilitated by Fr. Liam or Fr. John, and members of the Baptism Team.

AMORIS LAETITIA

Let's talk Family ! Let's be Family!

Based on Pope Francis' document : 'Amoris Laetitia'
A programme of Preparation for the World Meeting of Families (August 21st—26th 2018) for the St. Lawrence Pastoral Area.
Venue: Sacred Heart Parish Centre . **Time:** 7.30—9.30pm.

Dates: beginning Mon 14th May 2018.

The programme lasts six weeks.

Session one: The Reality of Family Life Today.

Dates of the remaining five sessions and topics for discussion will be available in next week's Newsletter.

Using short videos and animations, the programme will offer families and parishes an opportunity to think about our vision and hopes for family and marriage.

DUBLIN, IRELAND
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6th SUNDAY OF EASTER



“In my 40 years of practice I’ve seen many difficult cases but I’ve never felt the Eighth Amendment had a negative impact on the safe practice of medicine.”

Dr John Monaghan is a retired obstetrician and gynaecologist >



Dr Monaghan’s Story “Doctors have always been faced with the care and management of a woman who develops serious illness when she is pregnant. Unfortunately, in these cases, because delivery has to be brought forward, the baby may lose his or her life.

“No doctor in Ireland has ever been accused of wrong doing for intervening in this way to save a mother’s life. This intervention is not the same as performing an abortion which deliberately ends the life of the unborn child.

“There has been a lot of debate about the need to remove the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution in the interest of women’s health. The amendment does not restrict doctors from acting to save a woman’s life when a serious complication arises in pregnancy.

“The number of mothers who lose their life during pregnancy in Ireland is lower than it is in the UK and considerably lower than in the United States. People can be assured that Ireland is a very safe country to have a baby.

“The reasons for repealing the Eighth Amendment are not about healthcare, despite what is being claimed. Doctors are being asked to end pregnancies where both the mother and baby are healthy. This goes against the clear duty of a medical doctor to ‘first do no harm’ and a fundamental call to preserve life, not to end it. The health issue in this debate is being used as a lever to broaden the grounds for abortions which are not related to health.

“In my 40 years of practice in obstetrics and gynaecology I have seen many difficult cases but I have never felt that the Eighth Amendment had a negative effect on the safe practice of medicine.”

What can I do?

Why not follow Choose Life 2018 on Facebook and @ChooseLife2018 on Twitter and share our posts to help promote a culture of life online?

Your Questions

What will happen if the Eighth Amendment is repealed?

The Eighth Amendment protects the right to life of pregnant women and unborn babies *equally*. Without it, Ireland’s abortion rate will rise dramatically. Statistics from the Department of Health UK reveal over 185,000 abortions were performed in 2016. When abortion was legalised in the UK in 1967, no one could have predicted that in just 50 years 1 in 5 British babies’ lives would end in abortion every year. Similar rates are seen in Sweden (1 in 4), France and Spain (1 in 5), Italy and Portugal (1 in 6).

Why do abortions take place?

The UK statistics also show in 2016, 97% of abortions were performed in England and Wales for social reasons. Some 38% of the total number of abortions were performed on women who had at least one previous abortion. The rate of abortion was highest among women aged 22.

MASSES

5th/6th May 2018

St. Joseph & St. Benildus

6.30pm Saturday

Nora Holden

10.00am Sunday

Colm Hartley

Maurice & Mary Teresa Gleeson

12 Noon Sunday

M.M Breda Phelan

James Reville

St. Mary’s, Ballygunner

7.00pm Saturday

Declan O’Sullivan
John Barry

11.00am: Sunday

Declan Keohan
Anastasia Lahart

12th/13th May 2018

Margaret Byrne

Nora McCarthy

Cora McGrath

Michael Crowe

Elaine O’Donovan

M.M Breda Bennett

Charlie, Nancy, Jim,
Pat & Darren O’Sullivan



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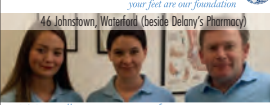
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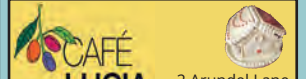


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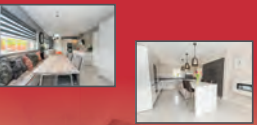
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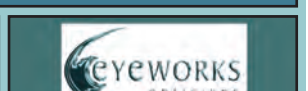
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