

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

PARISH CONTACTS

Fr. Liam Power PP

051-873073

Fr. John Treacy CC

051-843207

Fr. R. Liddane AP

051-874284

Parish Office & Sacristy

051-878977

Newsletter Team

jbmnews@gmail.com

MASS TIMES

ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS

Sunday: Vigil 6.30pm,

Sunday: 10.00am & 12 Noon

Monday—Friday

7.30am & 10.30am

(except Holy Days of Obligation)

Holy Day of Obligation

6.30pm 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

IF YOU WISH TO PREPARE NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS :

The Baptism of the Lord

Is 40:1-5, 9-11.

Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-30.

Ti 2:11-14, 3:4-7.

Lk 3:15-16, 21-22.

Epiphany of the Lord

6th Jan 2019

Gospel Reflection for the Epiphany That Epiphany Moment

It's funny how we are all a bit nicer on Christmas Day. Is it a pretence in order to get on with Great Aunt Ethel, or does Christmas really make us better people? For one day in the year we are a little more giving, a little kinder a little more tolerant. For one day in the year we are a bit closer to what God means us to be. Then we pile Christmas into the recycling bins, go back to work and revert to type. If there was a star for us to follow, we've quickly confined it to the box room with the tinsel and fake tree. Perhaps the three wise men arrive after Christmas to make us think again. Today the three wise men teach us a lesson in keeping our Christmas star alive.

The wise men in the Epiphany gospel were visionaries with a star that they were determined to follow whatever the obstacles. The wise men began their quest with a hunger for the truth and a determination to find answers. When they finally found Jesus lying in a lowly stable they came away happier and wiser men as a result. Following their star had given the three men a focus in their life and new meaning. We don't know what happened to them next, but it is likely they spent their lives sharing the good news with everyone they met, Jews and Gentiles alike. Following their star helped the Magi to be the people God had meant them to be. Sadly the same cannot be said for our own lives. We live our lives trying to be all things to all people. We live our lives dizzy with trying to live up to other people's expectations. We very rarely get time to be ourselves. We very rarely get that Epiphany moment of our own or get to know what God really wants of us.

So how do we follow our star? Firstly we have to have a vision. The new year stretches ahead like a clean sheet of paper. What does God want of us? Some people agonise over this question, but for many of us it's simply a case of looking at our talents and using them to make the world a better place. For others it might be about looking around and choosing one other person to build up. If we have impossibly busy jobs our vision might be a small one, if we have lots of free time we might be able to set a life changing goal. Having a vision is all well and good, but next we have to make plans and put those plans into action. This might involve sitting down and identifying obstacles. Remember that obstacles aren't always put in our way by other people. More often or not obstacles exist in our own minds and in our own character traits. As we travel towards our goal we have to determine in whom and in what to trust. When things get tough, it is easy to listen to a well-meaning friend encouraging us to take an easy way out, or adopt a more comfortable goal. "King Herods" don't always come in the obvious guise of a pantomime baddie. Lastly, we have to be able to recognise Jesus in our lives, and once we have found him, allow him to navigate.

<i>St. Joseph & St. Benildus</i>	<i>5th/ 6th Jan 2019</i>	<i>12th/13th Jan 2019</i>
6.30pm Saturday:	Terry Sheridan Rosaleen Gallagher MM	Tom Keane Richard Purcell 10th Ann.
10.00am Sunday:	John Noonan 1st Ann.& Bride Noonan	Margaret & Aidan O'Reilly
12 Noon Sunday:	Noel O'Shea	Tom Sheridan
<i>St. Mary's, Ballygunner</i>		
7.00pm Saturday:	John & Brede Mallowney & Tom Phelan	Cissie Cough Michael, Alice & Jack Parl
11.00am Sunday:	Michael Lane Joe White MM	John Gear Margaret Hogan

Please pray for those whose month's mind occurs

Rosaleen Gallagher

Those whose birthday or anniversary occurs



Paddy Troy,
Joseph V. Augustine,
Maureen Robinson
Dr. Donal Deery

**Blessed
Sacrament**

The weekly
Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament
will resume on Jan
10th 2019.

*Last Sunday's
Collection
€2215
Thank you*



Parishioners are invited to contact the Newsletter Team :
jbmnews@gmail.com with items of interest (of a non-
commercial nature) for inclusion in the bulletin. Please note
that the deadline is 11.00am on the Tuesday before
printing.

Prayers & Praise will resume on Thursday 10th
December at 11am. We are currently looking for a
musician to join us once a month to enrich our liturgy.
Please give your name to the Parish office if you are
interested.

Live Streaming of Masses in both

St. Benildus & St. Mary's :

www.churchservices.tv/stjosephswaterford
AND www.churchservices.tv/

tmarysballygunner

**A recording of the Christmas in Benildus
3 Concert which took place on Dec 19th
may be seen on the same site.
It was a very enjoyable occasion, and
we look forward to the next event !**

Waterford Garden Plant Society

On Wednesday 9th January 2019 a lecture on
'The Gardens of Room'
will be delivered by Paddy Tobin in The Parish Centre at
7.30pm. New members welcome.

**ST JOSEPH AND ST BENILDUS CHURCH AND PARISH CENTRE NOW COMPLIANT WITH
MODERN HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATIONS.**

St Joseph and St. Benildus Church and Parish Centre are now fully compliant with Health and Safety Regulations. We are very grateful to Mr. Tony Gleeson (Retired Chief Fire Officer) who alerted us to the fact that we were not compliant with modern safety standards and Tony made recommendations as to how we should upgrade our safety systems. Dr Pat Sheridan, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Consultant, supervised the project, overseeing the design and installation of the new safety mechanisms to ensure compliance with the latest standards.

New signage had to be installed to ensure that exits were clearly marked. The exit door onto the church yard had to be refitted to open outwards and panic bars installed to facilitate ease of exit. We were required to erect a new platform outside the door and a ramp for wheelchair exit.

A new emergency lighting system was designed and fitted which guarantees adequate lighting for safe evacuation of the church and hall in the case of fire or energy blackouts.

A new fire alarm system was installed in the church and hall and a security alarm which is highly recommended by our insurers (Allianz) was fitted in both buildings.

On the completion of the project, the Chief Fire Officer in Waterford Council was appraised of the works carried out and he signalled his approval that we were now fully compliant with safety regulations.

We wish to express our gratitude to Dr Pat Sheridan who oversaw all aspects of the design and installation of the new system and Mr Tony Gleeson who was available at all times for consultation.

The total outlay for the project was €24,782.00.