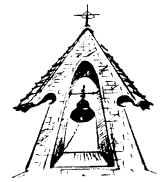




**Parish of St. Joseph & St. Benildus and St. Mary's  
Newtown Road, Waterford City, Ireland**



**NEWSLETTER**

**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Date: 6th Sept 2015**

**Volume XIV Number 42**

**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**

**A priest is available to help you  
in Ss. Joseph & Benildus Church**

**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY  
from 7.00 pm - 8.00 pm.**

**MASSES THIS WEEK**

**St. Joseph & St. Benildus**

Mon 7.30a.m & 10.30 am

Tues 7.30a.m & 10.30am

Wed 7.30a.m & 10.30 am

Thursday 7.30a.m & 10.30am

Friday 7.30a.m & 10.30am

Sat 10.30 a.m & 6.30pm

Sunday 10.00 am & 12noon

**St. Mary's Ballygunner**

Sat 7.00pm

Sunday: 11.00 a.m.

**If you wish to prepare next**

**Sunday's Readings:-**

**24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Is 50:5-9.**

**Ps 114:1-6, 8-9.**

**Jas 2:14-18.**

**Mk 8:27-35.**

**Gospel reflection Twenty Third Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**A Sign of Our Times**



A woman gets on the bus, she is talking to herself and we suspect dementia or drug abuse. We spread ourselves out on the seat hoping against hope that she chooses to sit somewhere else. An old man stumbles in the high street and doesn't get up again. We suspect he's had too much to drink and hurry on. Perhaps someone else better qualified will lend a helping hand. We respond with fear and discrimination. It's a good job that although many of us choose to close our eyes and ears, there are equally as many people who want to help. We only have to look at the number of aid agencies, charity campaigns and caring individuals to see signs of Jesus in our midst.

This is the significance of today's gospel story. What at first seems to be a straightforward account of the healing of a deaf man turns out to be much more. The story points to the miracle as a sign that Jesus was the Messiah the Jews had been expecting. It was prophesied that the ears of the deaf would be unsealed and that the tongues of the dumb would sing for joy. The curing of the deaf man was exactly the sort of miracle the Jews would have been expecting of the awaited Messiah.

What seems like a straightforward account of a miracle takes us a step further. The deaf man happened to be a Gentile. In biblical times, orthodox Jews would have considered a Gentile unclean. By choosing a Gentile as the subject of his miracle, Jesus is telling us that there is no discrimination when it comes to God's salvation.

Today we ask God to help us see and hear the needs of others. There has never been a better time to show the world that Jesus is at the heart of our teaching. The migrant crisis that is on our news on a daily basis, shows some countries acting with empathy and others with inflammatory language and high barbed fences. We are reacting with the fear and discrimination that Jesus fought against.

We cannot turn a deaf ear or a blind eye; we have to act like Christians in the way we speak, in the way we give, in the way we campaign and in our prayers.

**MASSES**

**St. Joseph & St. Benildus Church**

6.30 p.m.

10.00 a.m.

12.00 Noon

**St. Mary's Church**

7.00 p.m.

11.00 a.m.

**5th/6th September 2015**

Kathy de Coloet

Tim Daly

Mary Mascall

Vincent McElroy

Garry O'Keeffe

**12th/13th Sept 2015**

Dick Jones ( 1st Anniv )

Helen Upton

Brian Sheridan

Michael Doyle

Anna Doyle ( 1st Anniv )

## Last Sunday's Collection

€2,408

*Thank you for your generous offering*

## Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

(Tuesday Sept 8th)

*"We celebrate the Nativity of the B.V.M, who brought the dawn of hope and salvation to the world."*

The Annual Diocesan Rosary Procession in honour of Our Lady's Birthday will take place on Tuesday 8th September at 7p.m, leaving Ballybricken Green to the Cathedral of the Most Holy Trinity, Barronstrand Street.

All are very welcome to attend.

## Annual Harvest Mass

The first Harvest Mass in this parish took place last year. The 2015 celebration will be held during the weekend of Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th September.

A special Harvest Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 12th at 7pm in St.Mary's, Ballygunner and on Sunday 13th at 12 noon in St.Joseph & St.Benildus Church.

## Volunteers

If you would like to be involved in any of the following Parish activities, please contact the Sacristy or Parish Office ( 878977 )

- *Ministers of the Word,*
- *Eucharistic Ministers,*
- *Member of Liturgy group.*

Training will be provided for Ministers of the Word and Eucharistic Ministers.

The Liturgy Group meets once a month.

## DOWN SYNDROME IRELAND

### Coffee Morning, Weds Sept 16th

A coffee morning in aid of Down Syndrome Ireland will be held in the Parish Centre at 11a.m on Wednesday 16th September. All are welcome.

All money raised will go to DSI as part of Fr.Treacy's charity cycle of the Tour of Leinster.

Thank you for your generosity.

## Parents Meeting before Baptism of Children

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 9th September, and thereafter on every 2nd Wednesday, monthly. This is an opportunity to meet with other parents and also a time to deepen our understanding of the Sacrament of Baptism, the great gift we give to our children. Meetings are facilitated by Fr.Liam and members of the Baptism Team. Venue: Parish Centre, Room 1 ( Upstairs ) *Entrance via Parish Centre in back car park.* Time: 7.30p.m—8.30p.m

## Trócaire : Response to Migration Crisis

Trócaire has called on the EU to treat the European migration crisis as a humanitarian emergency and to commit to providing a response that is legal, dignified and compassionate. To read the full statement by Éamonn Meehan, Executive Director of Trócaire, see [www.trócaire.org](http://www.trócaire.org).

## Conference on local responses to Laudato Si, Pope Francis' encyclical on Caring For Our Common Home. Saturday 3rd October 2015, W.I.T. Registration 9.00am

## National Eucharistic Congress

### Knock on September 26th and 27th.

Chief Celebrant: Archbishop Michael Neary of Tuam.

Homilies: Archbishop Charles Brown, Papal Nuncio.

Waterford coach: leaving at 6.45a.m. ( phone for details )

Cost: 20euro ( not including food, but with a hotel stop )

Contact Mai Cushing 087 714 8100. See [www.nec2015](http://www.nec2015) for details.

## Saturday night cards

Saturday night cards will resume on Saturday 12th September in the Parish hall. All are welcome. If you would like to play 30's on a Saturday night, please contact the Parish office ( 878977 )

## Our Lady's Medjugorje message, 25 August 2015

Dear children, also today I am calling you to prayer. May prayer be for you the wings for an encounter with God. The world is in a moment of trial because it forgot and abandoned God. Therefore, you, little children, be those who seek and love God above all. I am with you and I am leading you to my Son, but you must say your "yes" in the freedom of children of God. I intercede for you and I love you little children with an endless love. Thank you for having responded to my call.

*Please remember in your prayers those who died recently*

*Kitty Lyons, Ballygunner*

*And those whose anniversaries and birthdays occur*

*Richard & Rita Fitzpatrick, Mary Aylward,*

*Bridie & Ned Dunne*