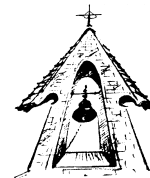


**Parish of St. Joseph & St. Benildus and St. Mary's
Newtown Road, Waterford City, Ireland**



NEWSLETTER
Third Sunday of Advent
Gaudete Sunday

Date: 13th Dec 2015
Volume XIV Number 3

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 St. Joseph & Benildus Church**

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

MASSES THIS WEEK

St. Joseph & St. Benildus

Mon 7.30am & 10.30 am
Tues 7.30am & 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.

Gospel Reflection for the Third Sunday of Advent What Must We Do?

How many times are we shamed into saying, "I'll never grumble again!" We watch children who have life threatening illnesses finding something to smile about. We see families living in poverty, seemingly happy when they have every excuse to be deeply unhappy. We read about the men and women, who despite disability or overwhelming odds, adopt a positive attitude and achieve great things. These people are living proof that happiness doesn't come from everything being right in our lives.

The third Sunday in Advent is traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday, Gaudete meaning to rejoice. Rejoicing, exulting, being happy and singing for joy are the themes in today's liturgy. But how are we to feel happy in a world where there isn't much to feel happy about what must we do?

We have all experienced the joy of giving a gift..... the inner glow that comes with knowing we have bought someone exactly what they always wanted. We experience this same pleasure in sharing what we have with those who have nothing.

What joy is there in gain if it's at someone else's expense? Do we really get any satisfaction at saving a couple of pence at the supermarket knowing it is at the expense of a third world farmer working for virtually nothing at all. At this season in particular we remember not to exploit those who work hard for little profit. We remember whilst doing our Christmas shopping to look for the 'Fair Trade' labels. If we are employers we remember not to make unreasonable demands in order to line our own pockets.

Most importantly this Christmas, we remember that happiness comes from being content with what we have.

Please remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries and birthdays occur

**Helen Lewsley, Jackie Goode,
May, Bob & Maeve Quinn,
Kate & Pierce Dalton,
Bridget Brady, Claire O'Brien,
Mary Kennedy, Bridget Kennedy,
Bridget Butler, Jim Whelan.**

**If you wish to prepare next
Sunday's Readings:-
4th Sunday in Advent
Mic 5:1-4.
Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19.
Heb 10:5-10.
Lk 1 39-44.**

MASSES

St. Joseph & St. Benildus Church

6.30 p.m.

Bridget & Edward Butler

Noreen Phelan

10.00 a.m.

Michéal White

Margaret Power

12.00 Noon

Ben Wadding

Mary Margaret Murphy

St. Mary's Church

7.00 p.m.

Margaret & Helen Power

Garry Murphy (A)
& Teresa Harrington (M.M)

11.00 a.m.

Cathleen Power

Charles Murray

12th/13th Dec 2015

19th/20th Dec 2015

Last Sunday's Collection

€2,390

Thank you for your generous offering

Recent Baptisms

We welcome **Logan Donoghue** and **Robin Murphy** who were baptised recently. Please keep them, their parents and Godparents in your prayers.

Christmas Reflection

St. John's Pastoral Centre, Waterford, Monday, 21st December from 7.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.
Facilitators: Antoinette Dilworth rsj & Ann O'Farrell.

Lectio Divina

We invite you to join us for our last evening of Lectio Divina. This way of praying helps us to bring Scripture alive in our daily lives. Thursday Dec 17th. **Time: 7.30pm—8.30pm.** **Cry Chapel, St. Joseph & St. Benildus Church.**

Gaultier Camogie Annual Christmas Fair

Sunday 13th Dec in Jack Meade's. Doors open 2.30pm. An afternoon of fun and bargains for all the family.

Blessed Sacrament Exposition

There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in St. Joseph & St. Benildus Church this Wednesday as usual.
It will resume on 13th January 2016.

Advent Evening Prayer

Advent, a time of waiting, conversion and of hope.
Evening prayer for Advent, with Music, Psalms and Readings, in **St. Joseph & St. Benildus Church** on **Sundays from 5.30pm-6pm.**

Coffee Morning

The Wednesday Coffee Mornings in St. Joseph & St. Benildus Church resume on Wednesday 13th January.

Do This In Memory Mass

The next First Communion Mass as part of the *Do this in Memory of Me* programme in St. Joseph & St. Benildus Church will be on Saturday 19th December at 6.30pm

Taizé-style Christmas Penitential Service

There will be one Penitential Service in the Parish this Advent. *A sub-group of the Liturgy Committee has worked on this to make it more meaningful, in light of the Year of Mercy. The Service will include Music, Readings, Reflections etc., as well as the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Monday 21st December in St. Joseph & St. Benildus Church at 7.30pm*

Gaelscoil agus Gaelcholaiste

Mass will be celebrated **as Gaeilge** in St. Mary's, Ballygunner on Friday 18th at 9.30am for both the Gaelscoil and the Gaelcholaiste. All welcome. **Fáilte roimh chách !**

St. Mary's Ballygunner Notices

The Rotas for Ministers of the Eucharist and Ministers of the Word are available in the Sacristy in St. Mary's. *People have not been rostered for Christmas, so when collecting Rotas we would be grateful if you would fill in the Christmas Volunteer Sheet, indicating availability.*

Christmas Eve Children's Masses

To avoid overcrowding, and for Health and Safety reasons due to the ongoing work on the link corridor, there will be two children's Masses in the Parish this Christmas Eve.
Both Masses will be celebrated at 5pm, one in St. Mary's and one in St. Joseph & St. Benildus.

Year of Mercy

To mark the start of the Year of Mercy, which began on Dec 8th, a procession, with the symbolic opening of a Holy Door, will take place on Sunday 13th at 11.00am from the Dominican Church to Waterford Cathedral.
The Holy Door is a Door of Mercy. Pope Francis says "anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons and instills hope". ***Leaflets available in the Churches.***