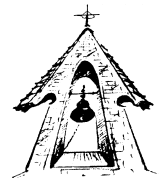




Parish of St. Joseph & St. Benildus and St. Mary's
Newtown Road, Waterford City, Ireland



NEWSLETTER
First Sunday of Lent

Date: 14th Feb 2016
Volume XIV Number 12

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 7.30 am & 10.30 am
Tues 7.30 am & 10.30 am
Wed 7.30 am & 10.30 am
Thurs 7.30 am & 10.30 am
Fri 7.30 am & 10.30 am
Sat 10.30am & 6.30pm
Sunday 10.00 am & 12pm

St. Mary's Ballygunner

Saturday: 7pm
Sunday: 11am

Gospel Reflection for the First Sunday of Lent

Keeping True to Yourself

Most of us are basically good people, and as such, we fondly imagine that temptation is something that we have under control. Temptation is something other people succumb to, not us. Temptation is the reason people end up in prison or on the street. Temptation is the domain of the weak or the greedy, but not us. We need to re-think. Temptation rears its ugly head on a daily basis; we just fail to recognise it. Temptation doesn't appear to us with horns and a scaly tail. Temptation appears to us as sensible and attractive choices. The devil is far cleverer than we give him credit for.

We are tempted by all the things we are taught to strive for as children. If we work hard we are told, we will get good grades and go on to get a good job, be successful, and have lots of money. This is temptation at its most dangerous. Temptations are presented to us as things that will make us happy. We believe we will be happy if we rise to the top of our profession. We think we will be happy if we earn huge amounts of money.

In today's gospel, the devil tempts Jesus with all of this. "I will give you all this power and all this wealth," the devil tells him, "It has all been handed over to me, and I can give it to anyone I choose." The trouble with the things the devil would have us believe bring happiness, are that they are like a mirage. Once we have them, the happiness we thought we'd have as a result evaporates. The very things we thought might make us happy have the power to change us to destroy us even.

Jesus came to us with a special mission and it wasn't a mission to become rich and successful. Jesus wasn't about to be side tracked or have his identity changed by wealth or power. At the beginning of Lent we remind ourselves that life is full of choices, not all obviously right or wrong. We remember that the bad choices, although seemingly attractive and desirable, are the choices that side track us in our mission and change our identity.

**If you wish to prepare
next Sunday's Readings:**

2nd Sunday of Lent

Gn 15:5-12, 17-18.

Ps 26:1, 7-9, 13-14.

Pjil 3:17-4:1.

Lk 9: 28-36.

Please remember in your prayers those who died recently

George Jones, St.Catherine's Grange

Those whose anniversaries and birthdays occur

John & Celia Dunne,

Maeve Twomey,

Eileen & Jim Jackman,

Catherine Coughlan

MASSES

St. Joseph & St. Benildus Church

6.30 p.m.

10.00 a.m.

12.00 Noon

St. Mary's Church

11.00a.m

7.00 p.m.

13/14th Feb 2016

Stasia & John Meade

Peter Gannon

Aidan & Margaret O'Reilly

Francis O'Keeffe

Davy Doyle

20th/21st Feb 2016

Margaret, Patrick & Noreen Phelan

Tom Keane

Kathleen Hennessy

Daniel O'Connell

Monica & Dick Kervick

Last Sunday's Collection

€2650

Thank you for your generous offering

Recent Baptisms

We welcome **Emily Broderick** who was baptised recently. Please keep her, along with her parents and Godparents in your prayers.

Mental Health & Suicide Awareness "Supports & Developments in Mental Health Care"

February 19th-20th 2016.

The Park Hotel, Dungarvan.

Further information from :

Cllr.Liam Brazil, 087 2119203.

Legion of Mary

The Annual Legion Of Mary Retreat will take place on Saturday 20th of February in the Edmund Rice Centre Barrack Street Waterford City from 10am-4.30pm. The retreat Facilitator is Fr. Paul Murphy it will consist of Mass, Sacrament of Reconciliation, talks, quiet time. Silence is requested between retreatants during the day. Bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee provided. Subscription €10. All are welcome. More details 086 [3100581](tel:3100581). email. waterfordlegionofmary@gm

Parables of Mercy

Facilitator: Dr. Michael Mullins, D.D.

St. John's Pastoral Centre,
John's Hill, Waterford.

**Thursday, 25th February &
3rd March, 7.30 p.m.**

During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, Dr. Michael Mullins will present to us the Parables of Mercy

Donation: €5 including light refreshments

Reflective prayerful reading of Scripture during Lent (Lectio Divina)

Come and join us weekly for reflective reading of Sunday Gospels with prayer, music, stillness. Thursdays Feb 18th/ 25th, and March 3rd/10th, from: 7.30pm-8.30pm. The Cry Chapel, St.Joseph & St.Benildus Church.

Join us for one evening or all ! *Lectio Divina* : "it consists of reading God's word in a moment of prayer and allowing it to enlighten and renew us". (Pope Francis)

Trócaire Lenten Boxes

Trócaire Lenten Boxes are available on tables in the church.

Day of Retreat

Day of Retreat for all those involved in Parish Ministry. A quiet day of reflection in St.John's Pastoral Centre, Saturday Feb 20th, from 10.30am-4pm. It will be facilitated by Martina Lehan Sheehan, director of retreats and programmes at Ennismore Retreat Centre in Cork.

Nightfever

A Nightfever event (or called "Lightfever" as it is on during the day), will be held in the Cathedral of the Most High Trinity, Waterford on Saturday 20th February, beginning at 2pm and finishing with Benediction at 5.45pm, in time for 6.15pm Mass. Nightfever is an afternoon of "Open Church", where street missionaries go in pairs onto the streets of Waterford and invite people to come inside and experience a special atmosphere of music, prayer, confession and candlelight, allowing us to spend some time in prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. All are very welcome. Feel free to come and go as you want. This is a national event, with churches in other cities holding Nightfever on this date also. www.nightfever.org

Social Justice Ireland – Election Briefing – Employment

Eight things Government can do 1. Expand investment programmes focused on creating employment. Prioritise initiatives that strengthen social infrastructure, such as a comprehensive school building programme, additional social housing units, and a move towards a more sustainable economy. 2. Increase resources for the up-skilling of the unemployed, particularly those at risk of becoming long-term unemployed or with low education levels, including integrated training and labour market programmes. 3. Adopt policies to address youth unemployment, in recognition of the negative long-term impact of protracted periods of unemployment for the young. 4. Reform the taxation system, making tax credits refundable, and raise the minimum wage to the level of a Living Wage, in order to address the issue of the working poor. 5. Seek to remove unemployment and poverty traps by integrating income tax, welfare and employment policies. 6. Address obstacles faced by women returning to the labour force by increasing the provision of affordable childcare, improving employment flexibility, and providing information and training. 7. Recognise the right to work of asylum seekers after six months processing of the asylum application. This would help to alleviate poverty and social exclusion among one of Ireland's most vulnerable groups. 8. Give greater recognition to the work carried out by carers and introduce policy reforms to reduce the financial and emotional pressures associated with care work. These should focus on addressing the poverty experienced by many carers and their families, as well as on improving respite care provision.