



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



NEWSLETTER
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

16th July 2017
Volume XV Number 34

PARISH INFORMATION
PRIESTS

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MASSES THIS WEEK

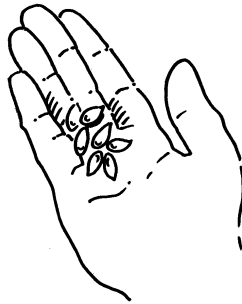
St. Joseph & St. Benildus

Mon 7.30 am & 10.30am
Tues 7.30 & 10.30am
Weds 7.30 & 10.30am
Thur 7.30 & 10.30am
Fri 7.30 & 10.30am
Sat : 10.30am & 6.30pm
Sunday 10.00 am & 12noon
St. Mary's Ballygunner
Saturday: 7pm Vigil
Sunday: 11am

**If you wish to prepare
next Sunday's Readings :
16th Sunday in Ordinary
Time**
Wis 12:13, 16-19.
Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16.
Rm 8:26-27.
Mt 13: 24-43.

Gospel Reflection for the Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Listen, Reflect, Respond.



Today's gospel reading focuses on how we listen, and more importantly how we respond to God's Word. The parable of the sower and the seeds illustrates the different ways in which God's Word is received or not received. The seed sown on the path that grew quickly but was stolen by the birds represents those of us who hear the Word but fail to understand it. The Word eludes us. The seed sown on the rocky ground represents those of us who hear the Word and receive it at once, but because the seed has no roots it is short lived. When trial and tribulation rear their ugly heads our commitment to God's Word is abandoned because our faith wasn't deep rooted to begin with. The seed sown among thorns represents those of us who hear the Word and would like to act upon it, but are so overwhelmed by worldly anxieties and diversions that the Word bears no fruit. Lastly, the seed sown in rich soil represents those of us who hear the Word, act upon it and realise results.

The Bible, and the teaching contained in it, is God's legacy to us, so how do we go about listening? Do we listen to the Sunday readings in a negative state of mind? Are we expecting to be bored by the readings, confused or indifferent before one word is even read? Do we ever take home the Mass sheet to reflect on the readings we have heard at Mass? Do we ever consider how the readings should be impacting our lives? Do we ever leave Mass determining to lead our lives a little differently?

It's obvious that a seed needs fertile ground to grow. Similarly, it's obvious that we need fertile hearts and open minds for God's Word to seed and bear fruit.

Today's challenge is to listen with an open mind, reflect and respond.

MASSES

St. Joseph & St. Benildus Church
6.30pm (Sat)

10.00am (Sun)

12.00pm (Sun)

St Mary's Church
7.00pm (Sat)

11.00am (Sun)

15th/16th July 2017

Eamon Lahert

Don Brennan

Teresa & Christopher Harrington

**Anne Mullins
& Betty Mullane
& Mary Disley**

22nd/23rd July 2017

Noreen Murphy

Eileen Dowling

Tess O'Sullivan

**John & Anne Daniels
& Ann Marshall**

**Thomas Power (M.M)
Nicholas & Mary Lyons**

Last Sunday's Collection

€2,295

Thank you for your generous offering**Recent Baptisms**

We welcome *Vivienne Isabelle Power*,
Éabha Mary O'Sullivan,
Amelia O'Sullivan,
 and *Charlie Patrick Power*
 who were baptised recently.
 Please keep them, their parents
 and godparents in your prayers.

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Emma Scanlon & Jody Briggs** who were married recently.

**Certificate in Theology
 (Pontifical University, St.Patrick's
 College, Maynooth)**

This one-year course aims to provide a dynamic learning environment for those seeking a comprehensive foundation in Catholic Theology or for those who wish to develop and broaden their Theological knowledge. Participants will gain a more thorough understanding of their lived faith and its application to both parish and public life.

KEY AREAS OF STUDY: Sacred Scripture, Social Ethics, Sacramental Theology, Liturgical Theology, Spirituality, Pastoral Theology, Church History

LECTURES Mondays and Wednesdays 6.30pm-9.30pm. Two Saturdays in the second semester.

For further details contact: Dr Suzanne Mulligan

EMAIL: suzanne.mulligan@spcm.ie,
 TEL: 01 4747665

**Youth 2000 Festival, Cistercian
 College, Roscrea, Co.Tipperary.
 17th—20th August 2017**

For young people aged 16—35, an opportunity not to be missed to experience the Catholic faith and meet many new people, with over 1400 young people from all corners of Ireland attending last year.

The festival is donation only. Free buses travel from all around Ireland. See www.youth2000.ie or Tel: 01 6753690

Parish Barbecue !!!

For your Diary !! : Friday, 11th August, at 6.30pm. Details to follow. Keep an eye on the Newsletter for more information.

**Cathedral of the Most Holy Trinity, Waterford.
 "Visit of the Relic of St.Teresa of Calcutta"**

Thursday, July 20th

5.00pm: Arrival of Relic.

5.30pm: Mass, celebrated by Bishop Cullinan, followed by Veneration of Relic.

6.15pm—7.15pm : Confessions.

7.30pm: Evening Prayer.

Friday, July 21st

10.30am: Mass, followed by Veneration of Relic.

11.00am-12noon: Confessions.

3.00pm: Rosary, followed by Veneration of Relic.

5.30pm: Mass, followed by Veneration of Relic.

6.15-7.15pm: confessions.

7.30pm: Evening Prayer & Benediction.

Saturday, July 22nd

10.30am: Mass, followed by Veneration of Relic.

11.00am—12noon: Confessions.

3pm: Departure of Relic.

Visit organised by Knights of St. Columbanus

National Church collection on 22/23 July in aid of 25m people facing hunger crisis in east-Africa: Kenya, South Sudan, Somalia & Ethiopia.

The Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference has announced that special collections will take place across Ireland on 22/23 July to fund life-saving aid for people currently affected by the devastating hunger crisis in east Africa. The money raised will be donated to Trócaire, the overseas development agency of the Catholic Church in Ireland, which is delivering emergency food, water and health care to the 25 million people affected.

Severe drought, driven by climate change, is affecting Kenya, South Sudan, Somalia & Ethiopia, and has resulted in failed harvests & death of livestock. Conflict has exacerbated the effects in South Sudan & Somalia, with both countries now on the verge of famine.

Archbishop Éamon Martin, Archbishop of Armagh & Primate of All Ireland, says the situation is critical and has urged support for the collection. "All money collected will go directly to Trócaire's humanitarian relief work in east Africa." he also said: "the large number of people may shock us, but we must realise that behind these stark numbers are real people: mothers and fathers unable to provide for their hungry children".

Bishop William Crean, Bishop of Cloyne & chairperson of Trócaire, says "...Trócaire's centres in Somalia are treating approx 19,000 people each month for malnutrition & associated illnesses...over 13,000 children in Kenya will receive supplementary high-energy food, new boreholes will be provided for communities, many more people will receive monthly food rations & schools will be supplied with water". Bishop Crean added that: "the world is distracted by the actions of a handful of powerful politicians, while in east Africa millions suffer in silence".

The United Nations has described the situation as the greatest humanitarian crisis since the Second World War. Trócaire has a long-standing presence in all four affected countries, and is working with local communities to deliver life-saving aid, including food, water and healthcare to thousands of those worst affected.

Billy O'Brien & Friends: A concert of summer classics for piano and strings that will wow you !

Monday, 17th July, 8pm. The Large Room, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford.

Admission €15 & €12 concession. Tickets from Book Centre and on the door.

Please pray for those who died recently

Josephine Connolly (late of Viewmount)

Claire Carroll (née O'Donovan), Grantstown

And for the following whose anniversaries or birthdays occur:

Elizabeth Ware, Margaret McFeely,

Jack & Claire O'Brien,

Colm Long.

Newsletter Notes: This Newsletter welcomes any notices presented for non-profit making events, subject to certain conditions. Items for inclusion may be handed into the sacristy at St Joseph & St Benildus Church. **The deadline, however, is every Wednesday at 10.00 a.m.** We are particularly grateful to **Intercom** for resources used in this publication. All details included in this issue were correct at time of going to print.