

#### **PARISH CONTACTS**

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See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.



IF YOU WISH TO PREPARE NEXT SUNDAY'S **READINGS:** 

4th Sunday of Advent 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16. Ps 88:2-5, 27, 29. Rm 16:25-27. Lk 1:26-38.

#### 3rd Sunday of Advent

17th Dec 2017

Gospel Reflection for the Third Sunday of Advent **Recognising Jesus In Our Lives** 

If we were still using the Latin Mass, one of the first words we would have heard this Sunday would have been 'Gaudete' meaning 'rejoice'. The third Sunday of Advent, otherwise known as 'Gaudete Sunday' is a day upon which we are invited to rejoice. But what if we don't feel as though there is much to rejoice about? Should we pretend? Should we put on a smile and thank God for our blessings with a joy that we don't honestly feel in our hearts?

There's a well know saying that goes "Every cloud has a silver lining." The old adage is telling us to look for good in every circumstance, but in truth it's not always easy to believe in silver linings or know how to find them. Our lives can sometimes feel like a pointless spiral of problems, and finding joy can be elusive.

In the days of John the Baptist, the Jewish people had been praying for a messiah who would come in great power like a regal warrior to restore Israel. They were unable to recognise lesus as the answer to their problems, because he was just the humble son of a poor carpenter. They didn't recognise him because he wasn't what they were expecting. They were unable to embrace their 'silver lining'.

Today it is easy to recognise Jesus in our lives when things are going well, but in our suffering Jesus' presence can be harder to recognise. God's agenda is hardly ever our own agenda. The solutions we yearn for and pray for are probably not God's solutions. Today's challenge is to rejoice in God's presence in all of life's circumstances both good and bad. We need to recognise God when he comes to us in ways we do not expect.

#### **Mass Times:**

#### ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS

Sunday

Vigil 6.30pm, Sunday 10.00am & 12 Noon

Monday—Friday

7.30 am & 10.30am

**Saturday** 10.30am

Holy Days of Obligation

6.30 Vigil and 11.00am

#### **CONFESSIONS**

Sunday 7.00pm Vigil, Sunday 11.00am Holy Days of Obligation 7.00pm Vigil & 11.00am First Friday: 9.30am

ST. MARY'S, BALLYGUNNER

Confessions immediately following the 10.30am on Saturday and at the parish office by request



Last Sunday's Collection
€2,850
Thank you for your
generous offering

#### **Carols For Our Times:**

Edmund Rice Chapel, Barrack Street. Friday 22nd Dec, 8pm.

If you are reading this on Saturday, here is a reminder that

there will be a

Traditional Latin Mass with Gregorian Chant on

Sunday 17th December at 10am in

Holy Trinity Cathedral, Barronstrand Street, Waterford

City.

Royal Garden

Celebrant Fr. Andrzej Komorowski FSSP.

#### **CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS 2017**

#### **CHURCH OF ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS**

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Thursday 14th December Penitential Service Monday 18th December Masses 7.30 am & 10.30am 7.30am & 10.30am **Tuesday** 19th December Masses 7.30am & 10.30am Wednesday 20th December Masses 7.30am & 10.30am Thursday 21st December Masses Friday 22nd December Masses 7.30am & 10.30am 10.30am & 6.30pm Vigil Saturday 23rd December Masses

Confessions Monday to Saturday after 10.30am Mass

CHRISTMAS EVE

Sunday 24th December Children's Mass 10am Mass 12 noon

Confessions I pm to 2pm

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**CHRISTMAS DAY – Liturgy of the Nativity of Our Lord** 

Sunday 24th December Carol Service 8.30pm
Christmas Vigil Mass 9.00pm

Monday 25th December Children's Christmas Mass 10am

Parish Mass 12 noon

No evening Mass Christmas Day

St. Stephen's Day Tuesday 26th December Mass 10.30am

Feast of the Epiphany: Saturday 6th January: Masses 6.30pm Fri (Vigil); II.00am Sat

#### ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BALLYGUNNER

CHRISTMAS EVE SUNDAY 24TH Mass II.00am

Carol Service 8.30pm Vigil Mass 9.00pm

Monday 25th December Mass I I am Saturday 6th January Masses 7pm Vigil (Friday)

Ham

We wish all our parishioners a Happy and Blessed Christmas

Nollaig faoi mhaise do gach éinne



# IN LOVING MEMORY PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO DIED RECENTLY

PATTY FANNING
LELIA COLLINS (NÉE MORONEY)
Whose birthdays or anniversaries occur
Edward Nevins, Mary Cummins,
John Bradley, Frank Hutchinson,
Breda Brady, Anne Brady Jones, Philip Brady,
Jackie Goode, Amy Cooke, Bridget Kennedy,
Brian Fitzgerald, Anthony Coakley,
Brendan Lea, Claire & Jack O'Brien.

We have been asked to include the following notice in the Newsletter: "ALONE OR IN NEED THIS CHRISTMAS?" Please come and join us for Christmas Dinner at 12.15pm on Christmas Day at St Joseph's School, Parnell Street.

All are welcome. If you need a lift, please call 087 6889047.

The **7.30am Mass** on **Wednesday 20th January 2018** will be for a **special intention** on behalf of **Carmel** and **Emma Lahert and family.** 

The 10.30am Mass that day will be for a special intention on behalf of Nancy Morrison and family.

The Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference has provided its online Advent 2017 Calendar which can be enjoyed by people of all ages. It is online at catholicbishops.ie

Voluntary Christmas Rotas for Ministers of the Word and Ministers of the Eucharist are available in the Sacristy in St.Mary's



#### **Catholicism: the Pivotal Players:**

DVD Presentation by Bishop Robert Barron.

All are invited to the Parish Centre on Monday 18th Dec, where we will explore the life

of St.Catherine of Siena, who shaped the Church and changed the world.

7.30—9.00pm. Parish Centre.

Monday 18th Dec: St. Catherine of Siena

Ishiara Kenya- Parish Partnership

We are in the process of installing a permanent dedicated space in the church of St.Joseph & St.Benildus, to highlight our parish partnership with Ishiara Parish, Kenya. We invite you to view the display, which will be located inside the front door of the church.



MASSES 16TH/17TH DEC 2017 23rD/24TH DEC 2017

St. Joseph & St. Benildus

6.30pm Saturday Joan & Tom Foskin

Joel & Ita Sloan

10.00am Sunday Margaret (Peg ) Power

12 Noon Sunday Mary Kennedy Noeleen Lonergan

St. Mary's, Ballygunner

7.00pm Saturday Gary Murphy William, Mary, Nancy

& Rose Sharpe

11.00am Sunday Charles Murray Martin Sullivan

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- Lots of handy free parking. We are located at Ballinakill Shopping Centre on the Dunmore Road in Waterford. Opening hours: Monday to Friday: 8.30am to 6.30pm, Saturday: 9am to 6pm.



