

PARISH OF ST. JOSEPH, ST. BENILDUS & ST. MARY'S

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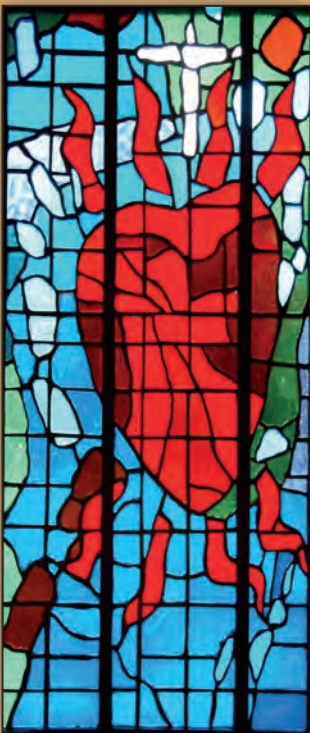
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IF YOU WISH TO
PREPARE NEXT SUNDAY'S
READINGS :
EASTER SUNDAY
ACTS 10:34, 37-43.
PS 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23.
COL 3:1-4,
JN 20:1-9.

Gospel Reflection for Passion (Palm) Sunday Walking the Walk

25th Mar 2018



What are we thinking when we pick up a palm and process into church on Passion Sunday?

Perhaps we are wondering how those very clever people weave their palm into a cross. Or perhaps we imagine we are commemorating an historic event. When Jesus rode his donkey into Jerusalem all those centuries ago, he was the centre of attention. Some thought he would be a powerful leader who would lead the people in an uprising against the occupying Romans. Others were just swept along in a sense of pageant. Few had grasped the true significance of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

Jesus had not come merely to overturn the Romans. Jesus' picture was a much more universal one. Jesus' mission was the salvation of the whole world for future generations. How many of us would remember Jesus today if his mission had been simply to lead an uprising against a Roman occupation?

Jesus was riding into Jerusalem to meet his destiny. He could have heeded the warnings of his disciples and bypassed Jerusalem altogether. He could have continued his ministry of teaching and healing into old age; but whatever else Jesus was about, he certainly wasn't about compromise.

In riding into Jerusalem, Jesus was telling us that his mission to save each and every one of us was more important than life itself.

We can all walk into church waving our palms. We can all commemorate an historical event, but the more discerning of us know that this day is about 'walking the walk'. We are the reason Jesus rode into Jerusalem. On this day we honour him not with palms but with the quality of our lives.

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

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

ST. MARY'S, BALLYGUNNER *Sunday*

7.00pm Vigil, Sunday 11.00am

Holy Days of Obligation

7.00pm Vigil & 11.00am

First Friday:

9.30am

BAPTISMS

We welcome Emily Kate Flanagan who was baptised recently. Please keep her, and her parents and godparents in your prayers.



*Last Sunday's Collection
€2,875 (Incl St.Patrick's
Day)
Thank you for your generous
offering*

OUR JOURNEY THROUGH LENT SPRING 2018

**ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS
PARISH CENTRE**

PIVOTAL PLAYERS
Tuesday 27th March

**TUESDAY AFTERNOONS
3.00pm — 1.30pm**

 **OSCAR ROMERO**
Theologian/Martyr
He spoke out against poverty, social injustice, assassinations, and torture. In 1980, Romero was assassinated while offering Mass

Reflection and discussion through DVD
Discover The Figures Who Shaped The Church And Changed The World

SOLAS CENTRE & ANAM CARA

Solas Cancer Support Centre & Anam Cara, an organisation that supports parents after the death of a child, will host an Information Evening for bereaved parents on Tuesday 27th of March in the Solas Centre, Williamstown, from 7pm to 9pm. This free event is open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age a child dies, the circumstances of the death or whether this was recent or not. Call 085 2888 888 or see anamcara.ie for further details.

'Our Common Humanity' - statement from The Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference

As pastors we are aware that the conversation about unborn life is sensitive, delicate and, indeed, painful for many. We offer our reflections with the greatest of respect for everyone while wishing to make some points clearly and unambiguously.

Fundamental right

Every one of us has a right to our life. It is not given to us by the Constitution of Ireland or by any law. We have it 'as of right', whether we are wealthy or poor, healthy or sick. All human beings have it. For us as a society to now declare that any category of human being should have that right taken from them would be a shocking step. It effectively says that unborn children do not exist or, if they do, they do not count. That is a manifest injustice.

Life begins at conception

At every point, from conception on, the baby has the potential to realise the fullness of life that God intended. All that is needed is time and nurturing. Today we see more clearly that human life begins at conception. There is no later stage in a baby's development where we can say; 'up until now the foetus was not a person and now it has become a baby'.

Are we allowing ourselves to be desensitised?

Making abortion freely available desensitises people to the value of every human life. The scientific evidence about the beginning of human life has never been clearer. It is, therefore, a great irony that we in Ireland are for the first time in our history losing our clarity about the right to life of the unborn. Knowledge about the mysterious workings of DNA and the stunningly vivid evidence of ultrasound images of little persons in the earliest weeks in the womb should be making us more committed than ever to the protection of unborn life.

Choose life

The child in the womb has life and potential. However, like all babies, before birth or in the early years, she or he has no choice. Powerless to defend themselves they rely on the rest of us to protect their lives and vindicate their rights. By using the word 'choice' we need to remember that, for the baby waiting to be born, the choice we make can be a matter of life or death.

Two lives, one love

An expectant mother needs and deserves the care and support of everyone around her, particularly if her pregnancy poses a serious crisis for her and her family. A mother may be informed that her baby faces serious challenges or is perhaps terminally ill. She might be pregnant as a result of rape. Especially in those tragic cases both the mother and her unborn child can - and must - be loved and cherished. A compassionate society will do all in its power to support and love the mother and baby, and encourage responsible support from fathers. This vision of life makes sense to people of all faiths and none. While it is enriched by our Catholic faith, it is our common humanity that convinces us of the right to life of every human being.

A declaration of equality

Article 40.3.3 is a declaration of equality and respect for human life. It represents, at the very foundations and substructure of our laws, a conviction that all human life is worth cherishing equally. To repeal this Article would leave unborn children at the mercy of whatever permissive abortion laws might be introduced in Ireland in the future.

We invite people of faith to pray earnestly that Ireland will "choose life" and that the lives of all women and their unborn children will always be loved, valued, welcomed and respected in this country.

Reconciliation Service

You are invited to join us for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Monday 26th March at 7.30pm, in St. Joseph & Benildus church. Please consider joining us and making an extra effort for Holy Week, the most important week in the Church year. This is not Mass, but a chance to go to Confession and receive absolution. The service will consist of prayers, readings & Taizé hymns. During the ceremony you will be invited, if you wish, to approach one of the five priests and ask forgiveness for your sins. Every time we celebrate this sacrament, we become more deeply aware of the infinite mercy and love God has for us, and accepts us as we truly are. We held a similar service on the Monday of Holy Week last year, and the feedback was very positive.

It is a very meaningful ceremony, and all are invited to attend.

IN LOVING MEMORY

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO DIED RECENTLY

JIM MORRISON

MELANIE STYNES

THOSE WHO DIED ABOUT A MONTH AGO:

MICHAEL MULLAN, JOAN RYAN,

SHEILA HEFFERNAN

Whose birthdays or anniversaries occur :

Seán Phelan, Cormac McNamara

St.Mary's and Havenwood Rotas

The Rotas for Ministers of the Word, Eucharistic Ministers and Rotas for Havenwood are available in the Sacristy in St.Mary's. A volunteer list for ministers at Easter is also in the Sacristy.....please sign if you are available to take part.

Coffee Morning

A Coffee Morning will be held in Room 1 in the Parish Centre on Tuesday 17th April 2018 for 11 am to 1pm for the Pro Life Campaign.

EASTER CEREMONIES AND MASSES

Church of St Joseph & St. Benildus

Palm Sunday: Procession & Blessing of Palms before Masses. Mass times as usual.

Monday 26th Mar: Masses as usual. Penitential Service 7.30pm.

Tues 27th Mar: Masses as usual.

Weds 28th Mar: Masses: 7.30a.m., 10.30a.m.

Holy Thursday: 11.00am: Mass of Chrism in Cathedral.

7.30pm: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

(Renewal of Commitment for Eucharistic Ministers / Procession to Altar of Repose / Adoration of Blessed Sacrament, concluding with Night prayer 10.pm). **“ Watch & Pray “**

Good Friday: 3pm: Solemn Liturgy of the Passion. Collection for the Holy Places.

7.30pm: Stations of the Cross.

Holy Saturday: 9pm: Easter Vigil.

Easter Sunday : 10am & 12p.m Mass.

Confessions: Monday: Penitential Service. Tues & Weds: after 10.30am Mass.

Holy Thurs: after Ceremonies.

Good Fri: 11am—12.30pm, and after ceremonies at 3pm & 7pm.

Holy Sat: 11am—12.30pm & 2pm—3pm.

St.Mary's:

Palm Sunday: Procession & Blessing of Palms before Masses. Mass times as usual.

Holy Thurs: 7..30pm: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Fri: 12noon: Stations of the Cross

7.30pm: Solemn Liturgy of the Passion. Collection for the Holy Places

Holy Sat: 12noon : Confessions

9pm: Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday: 11.00 Mass

MASSES

24th/25th Mar 2018

St. Joseph & St. Benildus

31st Mar/1st Apr 2018

6.30pm Saturday

John Goff

10.00am Sunday

Robin Dawson

Mary Flavin

Christine Whittle

12 Noon Sunday

Martin Doheny

Lily Marshall

Cormac McNamara

St. Mary's, Ballygunner

7.00pm Saturday

John Byrne

Tommy Hearne

(M.M) Michael Mullan

11.00am Sunday

(M.M) Joan Ryan

Bernard Hayes

Michael Fitzpatrick

(M.M) Pat Hennessy

James & Catherine Ellickson

Tony Power



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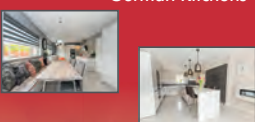
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