

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

PARISH CONTACTS

Fr. Liam Power PP

051-873073

Fr. John Treacy CC

051-843207

Fr. R. Liddane AP

051-874284

Parish Office & Sacristy

051-878977

Newsletter Team

jbmnews@gmail.com

MASS TIMES

ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS

Sunday: Vigil 6.30pm,

Sunday: 10.00am & 12 Noon

Monday—Friday

7.30am & 10.30am

(except Holy Days of Obligation)

Holy Day of Obligation

6.30pm 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

IF YOU WISH TO PREPARE NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS :

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wis 7:7-11.
Ps 89:12-17.
Heb 4:12-13.
Mk 10:17-30.

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7th Oct 2018

Gospel Reflection for 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time

To Love and To Cherish

It's easy to make promises in the first flush of romance. "I'll love you forever" and "I've only eyes for you," trip off the tongue easily. When we're young the idea of marriage is romantic and highly desirable. The vows we make when we marry don't seem too difficult. In sickness and in health? We don't imagine that our spouse might become an alcoholic or succumb to a disability. For richer or poorer? We don't think that our partner will lose his or her job or become swallowed up in bad debt. For better or worse? We don't think for a moment that our loved ones will fall out of love with us and look elsewhere. So what happens when things go wrong? Does God really expect us to stay in abusive or loveless marriages?

This week's gospel text is one of the most heatedly debated passages in scriptures. "What God has joined together, no human being must separate." These are tough words for those who cannot make their marriage work. Yet the gospel is more about the hardness in man's heart than an instruction on marriage and divorce. At the time Jesus spoke these words divorce was permitted. It was a man's prerogative to 'dismiss' his wife for little reason. The wife was very much a disposable possession. It was this attitude that Jesus abhors in his answer to the Pharisees. In a world where marriage was taken lightly because divorce was managed easily, Jesus condemned the hardness in men's hearts and called them to look at God's plan that from the beginning of creation male and female should become one.

Of course we don't hold the same attitudes today, or do we? Sadly the answer is yes. We are surrounded by quick fix relationships, couples that only stay together while the going is good; couples that promise nothing and make no commitment; couples that are in it only for what they can get.

Marriages fail for all sorts of reasons, not always anyone's fault - this is a reality. It is hard to imagine that God would want us to stay in a marriage where we were the subject of abuse or real misery, but what we know for sure is that we shouldn't enter into the sacrament of marriage with the attitude that it is simply a contract with a let out clause if things go wrong. We enter marriage believing it to be a relationship in which we can love and cherish.

St. Joseph & St. Benildus

6.30pm Saturday:

6th/7th Oct 2018

Bid Power

Eileen Kearney



13th/14th Oct 2018

Stephen, Agnes Rogers & sons

Jackie & Stephen

10.00am Sunday:

Eileen, Tom & Harry Lupton

Pádraig Dowling

12 Noon Sunday:

Ned & Statia Leamy

Brenda Dwyer

Anne Cooke

St. Mary's, Ballygunner

7.00pm Saturday:

M.M. Breda Quann

Liam Walsh

Paddy Walsh

11.00am Sunday:

Michael Boland

Hugh Sweeney

Alan, Kathleen & Tom Leahy

Willie Mortell

Richard & Ellen Quilty

James & Margaret Leahy

M.M Patrick Kennedy



**Please pray for those
who died recently**

Edward (Ned) Donegan

Those who died about a month ago

Breda Quann

Patrick Kennedy

For those whose anniversaries and

birthdays occur

Harry Cotter

Bill Nolan

Ellen O'Sullivan

AUTUMN COLLECTION

The Annual Autumn Collection for the support of the Bishop and Priests of the Parish was taken up last weekend.

Any remaining envelopes may be handed in at Masses this weekend or through the Sacristy or Parish Office.

Thank you for your support



Last Sunday's Collection

€1,908

*Thank you for your
generosity*

Friendship Lunch : Change of Venue

The next Friendship Lunch will take place on Monday 8th October in the Cove Bar and will continue on the 2nd Monday of each month.

PRAYER GROUP

The Wednesday Evening Prayer Group meets every Wednesday at 8.15pm in the Parish Centre.

Live Streaming of Masses

Parishioners are reminded that Live Streaming of Masses in both St. Benildus & St. Mary's is available online, and can be accessed on : www.churchservices.tv/stjosephswaterford or www.churchservices.tv/stmarysballygunner

Recent Baptisms

We welcome **Jayden Petersen, Jude Ziggy Nagle, and Jack Patrick McDonald** who were baptised recently. Please keep them, their godparents, parents and families in your prayers.



"A Room at the Inn"

The Bishops' pastoral message *A Room at the Inn?* addresses the root causes of the housing crisis and offers solidarity with anyone experiencing homelessness. The text of *A Room at the Inn?* is now available on catholicbishops.ie and its key findings are:

- housing be recognised as a human right and that it should be safe, affordable and appropriate;
- the provision of housing cannot be left solely to the market;
- housing should not be treated as any other commodity;
- housing policies should recognise the rights of families and seek to bring about greater equality in our society;
- action must be taken to increase the supply and reduce the price of housing;
- the private rental sector needs to ensure fair pricing and security of tenure in the context of its recent growth at the expense of home ownership and social housing;
- cooperative housing should be encouraged and supported with the introduction of a new 'Cost Rental' sector which focuses on actual cost of providing housing and not profit.

Month of the Holy Rosary

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is because the liturgical Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7th. It was instituted to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful. Pray the Rosary this month for world peace.



Parishioners are invited to contact the Newsletter Team : jbmnews@gmail.com with items of interest (of a non-commercial nature) for inclusion in the bulletin. Please note that the deadline is 11.00am on the Tuesday before printing.

Home Visitation Team

If you are feeling lonely and would like a member of the Parish Visitation Team to call for a chat, or if you know of anyone who might like a visit, please contact the parish office 051 878977.

Rosary on the Coast for Life & Faith

The Waterford venue for "Rosary on the Coast for Life and Faith" is Wallace Plaza, The Quay, at 2.30pm, on Sunday Oct 7th. For further info: 087 27806552

Irish Bishop's claim that "Government's abortion legislation is an affront to conscience."

The Irish Catholic Bishops have issued a very strong challenge to the Government and the Dail which has begun to debate the Regulation of the Termination of Pregnancy Bill this week. The bishops say in a press release that "the Government's abortion legislation is an affront to conscience" and calls for "healthcare professionals and pharmacists who oppose it to be allowed opt out on the grounds of their fundamental right of conscientious objection".

The bishops ask the Government and wider society "to respect the right of all healthcare professionals and pharmacists to exercise conscientious objection not only by refusing to participate actively in abortion but also by declining to refer their patients to others for abortion."

They propose that Ireland "adopt the model used in New Zealand where healthcare professionals opt in to the provision of abortion if they wish and where conscientious objectors are not obliged to refer their patients to others for abortion." They say the "the fundamental right to freedom of conscience is recognised in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and that conscience is that private space in the heart of every person in which the truth is discovered and accepted."

Saint Vincent de Paul Monthly Collection

The monthly SVP collection will be taken up after all Masses this weekend. Thank you for your continued generosity.

To contact SVP: Phone 051 350725

