

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 7.30am & 10.30am Holy Day of Obligation 6.30pm Vigil and 11.00am

CONFESSIONS

following the 10.30am on office by request

St. Mary's, Ballygunner

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

2nd Sunday of Advent Bar 5:1-9. Ps 125. Phil 1:3-6, 8-11. Lk 3:1-6.

1st Sunday of Advent

2nd Dec 2018

Gospel Reflection for the First Sunday of Advent: Saving Souls

Martin Lewis, the 'money saving expert' made a video this month that went viral. He called on people to agree not to spend money on gifts that were overpriced or unnecessary. The point was take the burden from others who might be embarrassed into buying an expensive gift back, and to release families from buying presents that would put them into debt. The idea was to avoid the commercialism of Christmas. As Christians this message goes much deeper. Avoiding the commercialism of Christmas obviously isn't about saving money, it's about saving souls.

The trouble with Advent is that Christmas comes at the end. We know that Advent is a time for taking stock, but with Christmas just around the comer, we're far too busy with shopping lists to think about the state of our souls.

It seems obvious that we should spend our lives in preparation for the final judgement day, but it is all too easy to take our eye off the ball. At this time of year in particular it is easy to get swamped in the things that the ads convince us we must do before Christmas. We end up feeling trapped and unable to see the bigger picture. All of a sudden it's too late. We never get to do the things we know we should have done. The Gospel paints a frightening picture of the end of the world, but it is not meant to terrify us. Advent is a time of waiting and of looking forward, not just to Christmas but to the second coming of Jesus. The signs of the second coming are there to liberate us from the preparations of Christmas and the other things that weigh us down. We are invited to take a long-term view. It would be a pity to get to the other side of Christmas only to realise that a host of fake Santa Clauses had distracted us from contemplating the real direction of our lives.

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St. J	laseol	1 & St	. Ben	ııaus

1st/2nd Dec 2018 8th/9th Dec 2018

6.30pm Saturday: M.M Della Keane Marie White Pat Murnane

10.00am Sunday: Dick & Anna Tilson Jack Hatton Denise Walsh

John Byrne

12 Noon Sunday: Kitty Fitzpatrick Ben Wadding Elizabeth Kirimlidis Harry Flynn Joe & Joan Costello M.M. Edith Phelan

St. Mary's, Ballygunner

7.00pm Saturday John, Anne, Paddy & Jim Morrissey

Eddie Doyle Maurice Gough Anne Shortt

Alice, Mick, & Jack Parle

Anita Curry

11.00am Sunday: Kevin Doyle Michael Troy Joan, John & Patrick Pierce Kathleen Power M.M Joan English Helen Lewsley

Please pray for those whose Month's Mind occurs Della Keane

For those whose anniversaries and birthdays occur

Marie Cullinan, Elizabeth Moynihan, Kathleen Hearne, Kate & Pierce Dalton. Nancy O'Gorman, Agnes Lea, Marie Madigan, Rosemary Gough, Denis & Sarah Murphy

Recent Baptisms We welcome Joao Gabriel Rodrigues Da Costa, Gerard Patrick Keane. Casey Brendan O'Brien, Calvin Gerard Hogan.

who were baptised recently. Please keep them, their parents, godparents, and family in your prayers.



Advent Reflection

Cultivating a Contemplative Awareness – a listening heart and a peaceful spirit. An uplifting, inspirational evening through the medium of prayer, imagery, music & reflection as we approach the season of Advent, St. John's Pastoral Centre. Thursday, 29th November, @ 7.00 p.m. Facilitator: Antoinette Dilworth rsj.

MESSIAH: G.F. Handel

St. John's Church, 2nd December 7.30pmCity of Dublin Chamber Orchestra & the Notable Works Chorus. Conducted by Kevin O'Carroll. Tickets 20 Euro from Theatre Royal Box Office. This much loved Christmas favourite will be sung by a choir of 70 singers from Waterford and Wexford.

Christmas in Benildus 3

An Evening of Music, Poetry and Readings on a Christmas Theme.

Valerie Leahy



Vanessa Whelan



The Trinitones

lane Hackett

Dominic McGorian



Billy O'Brien





Special Guests: The Parish Choir, Gerry Kane.

Date: Dec 19th, 7.30-9.30pm. St. Joseph & Benildus Church.

Time: Doors open 7.00pm.

<u>Tickets</u> €15. (a percentage of all proceeds goes to the Church). Tickets available from the Parish Office, Mon—Fri, 11am—1.00pm.

Email: pmmtickets@mail.com Or call Phyllis on 087 9293553

Project Music



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.

Scripture Reflection Lectio Divina

Please join us throughout Adventon Friday mornings—in the Parish Centre after 10.30am Mass. All welcome.

World Gifts and Ethical Christmas Shopping

Most charities now run a 'virtual Christmas present' scheme. You buy a goat, a mosquito net or a survival kit for a family in need, and your loved one gets a card to say that their present has been shared with someone who really needs it. Asking your children to choose the gifts is a wonderful way of teaching how other people live.

Live Streaming of Masses in both St.Benildus & St.Mary's:

www.churchservices.tv/

stiosephswaterford www.churchservices.tv/

stmarysballygunner

Annual Vincent de Paul **Christmas Collection**

Envelopes were distributed last weekend for the Annual Vincent de Paul collection. Collection will be taken up this weekend. Thank you for your continued generosity.

An Evening of Taizé

Edmund Rice Centre, Barrack Street, Waterford. Friday 7th December, 8pm. All Welcome.

Parish Liturgy Group

There will be a meeting of the Liturgy Group at 6.00pm on Monday 3rd December in the Parish Centre.

ENROLMENT

Gaelscoil Phortláirge is currently enrolling pupils to begin school in September 2019. If you are interested in a place for your child, please, contact the office on 051 879736 or email gsphortlairge@gmail.com.