

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

Fourth Sunday In Lent

31st March 2019

## PARISH CONTACTS

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## MASS TIMES

### ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS

**Sunday:** Vigil 6.30pm,

**Sunday:** 10.00am & 12 pm

**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 :

5th Sunday in Lent

Is 43:16:21

Ps 125

Phil 3: 8-14

Jn 8:1-11

### *Gospel Reflection for the First Sunday of Lent*

## Tempted to Distraction?



If we are not criminals, and we don't particularly consider ourselves to be sinners, do we really need to worry about the devil, or the dangers of temptation? If the temptations in our lives are simply to sit at the computer too long, or indulge in the odd tiddle, how much does that really matter?

On the first Sunday of Lent we are always treated to the same lesson. We are asked to consider what we are about, how the devil might put spanners in the works, and what we can do about it. Today the devil finds Jesus in the wilderness. He finds him when he is hungry and weak and tempts him with attractive options, food, fame and protection. We don't see Jesus dithering, not even for a minute. Jesus is able to put the temptation behind him because he knows what he is about. Jesus understands his mission and it isn't about materialistic benefit or power. Jesus is able to put aside the temptation because he is confident that the same Holy Spirit that has taken him into the wilderness will lead him back out.

The wilderness comes in all shapes and sizes. For us it could be moments when we're feeling lost, broken, unloved, tired or overburdened. In these moments of weakness this is when we are most at danger. These are moments when the devil can come to us offering comfortable and attractive options. Comfortable and attractive options can tempt us to make poor decisions; decisions that provide distractions. The devil can be subtle. Temptations rarely lead the majority of us into crime or even into sin. Being tempted to finish off a bottle of wine or spend longer than we ought on Facebook doesn't seem so bad, but are the tens of little distractions we succumb to each and every day taking us away from who we really are, and from what is genuinely important?

Every day the Holy Spirit is guiding us towards our specific missions in life. Do we say 'yes' to the work God has lined up for us, or do we fall for all those comfortable little distractions?

### **St. Joseph & St. Benildus      30th/31st Mar 2019      6th/7th April 2019**

6.30pm Saturday:	John Goff	John Corcoran Harry Geraghty
10.00am Sunday:	Gary Kelly	Jack Fitzpatrick
12 Noon Sunday:	Martin Doheny	Michael Moynihan

### **St. Mary's, Ballygunner**

7.00pm Saturday:	Tommy Hearne John Byrne	Oliver Power MM
11.00am Sunday	Bobby O'Keeffe Alva Fitzgerald MM	Paddy & Maureen Moloney Michael ( Mikey) Whelan Maureen Stone MM



**Please pray for  
those whose month's mind occurs  
Alva Fitzgerald  
And those whose birthday or anniversary  
occurs  
Hugh McGoldrick**

#### ALPHA IN OUR PARISH

**NEXT TUESDAY IS OUR 4TH SESSION OF ALPHA –  
YOU ARE STILL INVITED TO JOIN US!  
AFTER THIS WEEK WE ARE  
UNABLE TO TAKE NEW  
GUESTS !**

**HOWEVER YOU CAN BOOK IN  
FOR SEPTEMBER ALPHA!**

You are probably aware that **Alpha** is an opportunity for all of us to explore our unique questions about life, faith, and God. It is a series of interactive sessions where we firstly share a meal, then watch a DVD and discuss together. All views are listened too and respected. Some of the topics explored are ;

Is there more to life than this?

Who is Jesus?

Who is the Holy Spirit?

The sessions take place over 11 weeks and last approximately 2hrs. **Alpha** is not just another programme – it helps to build community and creates a sense of belonging. All of us are encouraged to experience Alpha! For those who completed our last **Alpha** it was an uplifting experience – a meal shared, questions explored, and of course great friendship!

Do think about joining us on March 5<sup>th</sup> in St. Benildus Parish Centre.

***Alpha is for everyone!***

To book your place and for further information contact:

Parish office 051 878977

Denise Hughes 087 1512617

France Doyle 087 087 2067813



The monthly St. Vincent de Paul collection will take place next weekend after all masses

#### **Reflections: Stations of the Cross**

After 10.30am Mass every Friday during Lent, there will be Reflections on a section of the Stations of the Cross. All are welcome to attend.

#### **Maintenance Assistant Required: Ballygunner Graveyard.**

To include: grass cutting, weeding, strimming, spraying and litter control, church maintenance,

19.5 hours CE rates apply

CV to Georgina Kiely, Compact Communities,  
Lady Lane, Waterford. Phone 051 875847

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.

***Last Sunday's  
Collection  
€2,550  
Thank you***



#### **Evening Prayer During Lent**

All are welcome to attend Evening Prayer every Wednesday at St. Benildus Church, from 6.30—7pm. This includes Psalms and short Scripture Readings.

#### **Sharing Cross : Lent 2019**

The Sharing Cross is displayed in the alcove just inside the front door of St. Joseph & Benildus Church. The idea behind the Cross is that people are invited to place a nail in one of the slots provided, replacing one already inserted, praying for not only one's own intentions, but those of the person who originally inserted the nail.

Friday next 5th April 2019 is a **First Friday**. There will be Mass celebrated in St. Mary's Church at 9.30am and communion will be brought to the sick and house bound.

#### **All in the April Evening:**

An evening of seasonal music and reflection will take place in St Joseph and Benildus on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 8 pm (Spy Wednesday). Among the musicians taking part are Fearghal O'Conchubhair (conductor), Eric Sweeney (organ), Olwen Sheil (cello), Eoin Power and Sarah Luttrell (vocal solo), and the combined singers of Notable Works and the Parish Choir. Readings will be by Gerry Kane and Linda Gough.

It promises to be a wonderful event. More details to follow in the coming weeks.

**Lenten Movie** : On Thursday 4th April at 7.30pm, a Movie with a Christological theme will be shown in the Parish Centre. It is envisaged that this year's movie will be "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest". All are welcome.

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

www.churchservices.tv/stjosephswaterford AND  
www.churchservices.tv/tmarysballygunner

**The Annual Legion of Mary Retreat** will take place on Sunday, 11th of April in St. Paul's Church meeting room and hall. beginning at 10:AM - 5 PM retreat includes mass and reconciliation and private time. Facilitator is Father Pat Fitzgerald. Donation €10 bring your own refreshments tea and coffee supplied. More details contact 086 310581 or any member of the Legion of Mary.