

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:

4th Sunday of Easter Acts 13:14, 43-52. Ps 99:1-3, 5. Apoc 7:9, 14-17. Jn 10:27-30.h Third Sunday of Easter

5th May 2019

Gospel Reflection for the Third Sunday of Easter

New Lease of Life

Ever been entrusted with a big job and completely messed up? If you've made big mistakes in the work place, the chances are that you won't be entrusted with that job again. If you make a mistake in family circles, the people who love you most probably will give you a second chance but they might be keeping a watchful eye on you just the same.

In the days after Jesus' death and resurrection Peter must have been suffering huge guilt. He had been one of Jesus' most ardent followers and yet it was Peter who had denied Jesus three times during his arrest and trial. When we have had a difficult or traumatic time it is human nature to retreat into our comfort zones. This is exactly what Peter is doing in today's story. Jesus might have hoped that his disciples would be out and about spreading the good news, but Peter is back on the lake doing what he knows best.... fishing! When we hit difficult times in our lives and all we are able to do is hide from the world, what we need most is for someone to give us a helping hand. What we might need is for someone to let us know that we are still valued. When we give someone who has lost their self esteem a special job, we can give them a new lease of life.

In today's gospel Jesus appears to Peter and the disciples from the shore whilst they are out fishing. Peter, as impetuous as ever, jumps into the water and swims to meet him. The others follow in the boat. On the shore Jesus takes some bread, and some fish that his disciples have just caught, and they share a simple meal. Then Jesus turns to Peter and asks "Do you love me?" Three times he asks the same question, and three times Peter replies that he does. It's as though Jesus is giving him the opportunity to make amends for his three denials. Jesus is offering more than forgiveness. He's offering healing and recovery. Then he says to Peter "Feed my lambs," and "tend my sheep." Jesus gives Peter an important job, the job he has been training him for all along — to give the growing community of disciples his support, guidance and leadership. It isn't hard to imagine how delighted Peter must have felt on this day. Perhaps he hadn't let Jesus down after all. Jesus still loved him and valued him. This was Peter's big second chance and new lease of life.

St. Joseph & St. Benildus	4th/5th May 2019	11th/12th May 2019
6.30pm Saturday	Margaret Byrne	Susan Whelan
10.00am Sunday:	Anastasia Lahert	
12 Noon Sunday:	Nora Holden	Michael Crowe
St. Mary's, Ballygunner		
7.00pm		John Barry Michael Phelan
11.00am Sunday	Colm Hartley	Christy O'Sullivan Marie Dwyer

Please pray for those whose birthday or anniversary occurs



Mary Sadlier, Nicholas Kennedy, Gregory Walsh, Phillip & Elizabeth Hartley

Easter Dues

Many thanks to all who returned their Easter Dues Envelopes. Anyone who wishes to return theirs may drop it into the Sacristy or Parish Office.

If you did not receive an envelope, they are available at the back of the church, in the Sacristy and in the Parish Office. If you would like to have one delivered to your home, please let the Parish office know and this will be organized for you.

Recent Baptisms

We welcome Ava Josephine Howlin who was baptised recently: Please keep her, her parents and godparents in your prayers.



Lasallian Development World Projects.

Seven Lasallian volunteers will return to Keelamudiman in Southern India, to complete the upper floor, a multipurpose hall for the local people. Next Saturday and Sunday, Br. Thomas Walsh and Mr Tom O Neill will speak at all

Masses in the parish. Thank you all for your very generous donations each year towards the projects. God bless and take care. (Br.Tom)

61st Annual Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage

Wednesday 5th June to Monday

10th June 2019.

Bookings: Lourdes Office,

St.John's Pastoral Centre, John's Hill, Waterford.

051 878900.

Cost €785, inclusive of Tax,

Insurance, Airport Transfers. Full Board Basis.

Gaelscoil Confirmations

Congratulations to all pupils from Ballygunner Gaelscoil, who were confirmed on 29th March 2019. Thanks to all their parents and teachers who



helped prepare them for the ceremony. Comhghairdeas libh go léir.

Darkness Into Light

Pieta House / Electric Ireland.
Register now for Darkness Into Light,
5Km Walk. Waterford Regional Sports Centre,

Saturday Morning, 11th May, 2019, 4.15am.



Live Streaming of Masses

www.churchservices.tv/ stjosephswaterford

AND

www.churchservices.tv/

marysballygunner

Recordings of recent concerts are also available to watch on the St. Joseph's site.

Pilgrimage to Lough Derg

Lough Derg has been welcoming pilgrims for over a thousand years. The flame of faith, hope and love once lit in Ireland by St Patrick in the fifth century, continues to be rekindled year after year by generations of pilgrims' families.

Some are searching...

...they may be successful in the sense of having a job and good friends but somewhere their lives seem in a bit of a rut and they lack a sense of fulfilment... ...this place apart and the pilgrimage can give them just the lift they need to enter into a new stage in their lives and in their relationship with God. ...others seek answers to life's questions and have come to pray for guidance, patience, courage and peace of mind.

For others Lough Derg is simply an indispensable part of their relationship with God. They come every year so they can better face the challenges of their day-to-day lives.

Please consider joining us on Pilgrimage to Lough Derg from Sunday 8th June to Tuesday June 10th. Contact: Frances Doyle 087 2067813 or Parish Office 878977



Ishiara Parish Partnership: Kamavara Sand Dam Project Present Situation: 90% of people in Ishiara have no running water,

so it is impossible to grow crops in most of the area. <u>Solution</u>: sand dams are relatively low cost constructions that are

managed by the local community. They provide drinking water and

the means to grow crops.

<u>Benefits</u>: Kamavara Dam will benefit 50 families, 300 people and their livestock; reclaimed land will be a minimum 2000sq m.

Total Cost of Project: €25,000.

Amount raised to date: €10,000