

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

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17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

28th July 2019



Gospel Reflection for the Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time:
Does Prayer Work?

Have you ever prayed really really hard for something and not had that prayer granted? Have you ever looked back in life at a prayer you once made and thought thank goodness God didn't grant it? This week's gospel reading is a lesson in prayer, but more importantly, it's a lesson in having faith that God is a parent who will not let us down.

Let's face it, we pray hardest to God when we want something. We pray hardest when something seems beyond our human means and we need some kind of miracle; this often leads us to make inappropriate prayers. How many of us pray to win the lottery and make secret deals with God that we will donate half the winning to charity in return? Worse... we lose faith when such prayers aren't answered! We find it difficult to believe that unanswered prayers might mean that God knows better, or has a different purpose for us.

Perhaps Jesus' disciples shared some of our frustration when they say, "Lord teach us to pray." In response Jesus gives us a model by which to pray. It's important to recognise it as a model and not a prayer as such. Reciting a prayer is not the same as praying. 'The Lord's prayer', invites us to pray to God as our Father, acknowledging his holiness and praying with the shared commitment to have his will done on earth. We are invited to pray for our 'daily bread', in other words, for the things we genuinely need. Pray for forgiveness, and promise to forgive others. Prayer is about building a relationship with God, speaking to him often throughout the day. Most importantly we should approach God with the faith we approach a loving parent. "What father," reasons Jesus, "would hand his son a snake when he asks for a fish?" or hand him a scorpion when he asks for an egg?" Even parents with very average parenting skills know how to give children what they need. "How much more," says Jesus, "will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"

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)

No 7.30am Mass Bank Hols

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 :**

18th in Ordinary Time

Eccl 1:2, 2:21-23.

Ps 89:3-6, 12-14, 17.

Col 3:1-5, 9-11.

Lk 12:13-21.

St. Joseph & St. Benildus	27th/28th July 2019	3rd/4th August 2019
6.30pm Saturday	Joe Smyth	Billy & Mary Murphy
10.00am Sunday:	Mary Mc. Geary	Edward Hanrahan
12 Noon Sunday:	Tony Mescall	Maureen Quinn
St. Mary's, Ballygunner		
7.00pm	Rita & Michael Quinton	Pierce & Bridie Caulfield
11.00am Sunday	M.M. Rita McAvinue Michael Troy Ann Howard	Mary & Eddie Roles

Please pray for those who died recently

Sheila Coffey



Those who died about a month ago

Rita McAvinue

Those whose birthday or

anniversary occurs

Maureen Meade O'Brien

Recent Baptisms

We welcome all those who were baptised recently. Please keep them, their parents and godparents in your prayers.

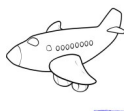
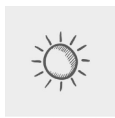


We wish you all a very

Happy Summer Holidays.

Safe travelsand come back refreshed !!

Go n'éirí an bóthar libh !



Southern Region Alpha Training

Here to help you !

Join us for training, resourcing and support.

Saturday 24th August 2019

10:00 am - 3:30pm

Rathpeacon National School,

Rathpeacon, Co. Cork.

This is a day to equip & encourage all who are interested in running Alpha, from those who are considering Alpha to those already running Alpha!

Whatever stage you are at, there is something for you to hear & learn!

Morning sessions will include

- How to get Started/Run Alpha, How to Run a Holy Spirit Day/Prayer Ministry, How to Lead a Small Group, Alpha Youth, Marriage & Parenting.

Afternoon session – Full Alpha Session - an ideal opportunity to experience a complete Alpha session as a guest! It is essential to book your place for this session!!

Lunch will be provided on the day!

There is no fixed charge for the day but donations are gratefully received to contribute towards costs.

RSVP to info@alphaireland.org to book your places

GDPR and Parish Records

What is GDPR? The General Data Protection Regulation is European legislation governing personal data which came into effect on 25th May 2018.

In compliance with GDPR, changes have been implemented in Parish office procedures. *Please contact the office well in advance if requesting items concerning certificates or any other parish records. 051 878977*

*Last Sunday's
Collection
€2,565
Thank you*



Live Streaming of Masses

www.churchservices.tv/stjosephswaterford

AND

www.churchservices.tv/stmarysballygunner

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

ADVANCE NOTICE : CHANGE IN MASS SCHEDULE

Please note, there will be no 7.30a.m Mass from Monday 5th August until Monday 2nd September.

It has been discontinued for the summer holidays.

Care for Our Common Home

Summer holiday eco driving tips from the AA

Smooth and gentle:- drive smoothly, accelerate gently and read the road ahead to avoid braking unnecessarily. Decelerate smoothly by releasing the accelerator in time, leaving the car in gear.



- Keep rolling:- stopping then

starting again uses more fuel than rolling. Slow early for traffic lights or approaching a queue and you might not have to stop completely.

- Change up earlier :- don't labour the engine but try changing up at an engine speed of around 2,000 rpm (diesel) or 2,500 (petrol). Since 2014 new car models have been fitted with a gear shift indicator to encourage use of the most efficient gear.
- Stick to the limit:- going faster uses more fuel.

Bitesize

A strict belief, fate is the worst kind of slavery; on the other hand there is comfort in the thought that God will be moved by our prayers. *Epicurus Greek philosopher (341 BC - 270 BC)*

Youth Summer Festival 2019

The Youth 2000 Summer Festival will be held from 15th - 18th August, at Clongowes Wood College, Co. Kildare. The Youth 2000 Summer Festival is both Youth 2000's largest event and the largest Catholic youth event in Ireland with over 1,000 attending. There are free buses going from all around Ireland. For more information and to book your place visit <http://youth2000.ie>

Hospital Chaplaincy

It is very regrettable that the HSE has failed to formally appoint a 2nd Chaplain in University Hospital Waterford, even though this position had already been established in Fr. Matthew's time. It means that there will be no Chaplaincy cover on Fridays and Saturdays. As a result, Mass will not be celebrated on those days, and there will be no support available for the terminally ill and the bereaved.

This is very insensitive and uncaring on behalf of the HSE. *If you feel strongly about this issue, you might consider contacting your local council / political representative(s).*