

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

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3rd Sunday of Advent : Gaudete Sunday

15th Dec 2019

## Gospel Reflection for the Third Sunday of Advent : Myopic Expectation



It's at this time of year that our children are asking for every new toy they see on the TV. Our children's expectations are unrealistic and it is up to us to buy a toy that we know will be more appropriate. Today's gospel is all about myopic expectation.

From his prison cell John the Baptist sends word to Jesus. "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answers, "Go and tell John what you hear and see. The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them." Jesus doesn't send back a "Yes I am," kind of answer. Rather he sends a "Work it out yourself," kind of answer. He asks John to look at the evidence. It seems strange that John, normally so certain and so confident should declare a doubt, but perhaps we can understand his disappointment. John has been arrested and thrown into prison. He is feeling tired and disillusioned. It is likely that he'd had misguided expectations of Jesus. John has some working out to do. John needs to understand that the work of a Messiah is to teach God's love, not just push a few Romans around.

So, what of our own expectations? Do we expect God to sort out all our problems and make our lives easy and comfortable? Or do we believe that God is there to help change us and guide us through our daily choices. Do we understand that God is preparing us for his kingdom or are we guilty of myopic expectation? Perhaps we have some working out of our own to do.

## 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 :

4th Sunday of Advent

Is 7:10-14.

Ps 23:1-6.

Rm 1:1-7.

Mt 1: 18-24

### St. Joseph & St. Benildus

**14th/15th Dec 2019**

**21st/22nd Dec 2019**

6.30pm Saturday

Stephen Rogers

Michael, Mary & Catherine Hearne  
Jim Whelan

10.00am Sunday:

Margaret ( Peg ) Power

Brian Fitzgerald

12 Noon Sunday:

Joan & Tom Foskin

### St. Mary's, Ballygunner

7.00pm Sat:

M.M Alison Murphy ( née Tierney )  
Gary Murphy  
Paddy & Rosie Morrissey

William, Mary, Nancy & John Sharpe

11.00a.m Sun :

Frank Rushen

Charles Murray



### Please pray for those who died recently

Tess Brown

### Those who died about a month ago

Alison Murphy ( née Tierney )

### And whose anniversary or birthday occurs

Bridget, Phil, Anne & Noel Brady, Mary Kennedy,  
Paul & Richard Nolan, Michael Coffey, Jackie Goode,  
Agnes Lea, Nancy O'Gorman, Brendan Lea,  
Michael Higgins, Bridget Kennedy, Mary & Michael Griffin,  
Thomas & Mary Cummins, Michael Griffin & Family,  
Bridget & James Griffin, Rose O'Connor, John Bradley



### Penitential Service

A Penitential Service in preparation for Christmas will take place on Monday 16th December, 2019 at 7.30pm in St. Joseph & St. Benildus Church, Newtown Road. This is for all parishes in the city.

### Christmas Dinner

On your own on Christmas Day?

You are most welcome to a Christmas Dinner ( free of charge )...from 12.30—2.00pm in St.

Joseph's School, Parnell Street, Waterford.

Contact John 087 688 9047



### Drop—in Centre, St. Joseph & Benildus Parish Centre. Christmas Day

On Christmas Day between 2 pm and 4.30 pm the over- 50s, especially those living alone are invited for tea, cake, chat, storytelling and song at the Parish Centre, St Benildus Church, Newtown. The event is being hosted by the parish and the Waterford Older People's Council, a new county- and city- wide body set up under the auspices of Waterford Council to promote the well-being of the over 50s. That's Christmas Day between 2 pm and 4.30 pm especially for the over-50s.

### Last Sunday's



Collection  
€2,786

Thank you for  
your generosity

### Live Streaming of Masses

www.churchservices.tv/  
stjosephswaterford

AND

www.churchservices.tv/  
stmarysballygunner

### Newsletter "News"



If parishioners are aware of any forthcoming events ( of a non-commercial nature ) that might be of interest to readers, please contact jbmnews@gmail.com by 11am on the Tuesday before printing.

### PROJECT MUSIC PRESENTS



Vanessa Whelan - Soprano



Michael Murphy - Retired RTE, Author and Journalist



Valerie Leahy - Soprano



The Baum String Quartet  
South Korea



Dominic McGorrian - Tenor



Jamie Rock - Baritone



CAHAL MASTERERSON  
Transition  
International Concert Pianist  
Northern Ireland

## CHRISTMAS IN BENILDUS 4

Music, Readings and Poetry on a Christmas Theme  
WEDNESDAY 18th DECEMBER - Parish of St. Joseph's, St. Benildus' and St. Mary's  
Doors Open at 7.00pm - Concert Begins at 7.30pm

ALSO FEATURING

GERRY KANE - MUSICIAN AND ACTOR  
GALWAY CITY CHAMBER CHOIR  
PARISH CHOIR



### RESERVATIONS

pmmtickets@mail.com/Call Phyllis on 087 9293553  
Parish Office - 051 878977

PRICE - 20 EURO with a substantial donation from all ticket sales being made to the Church



**Gaudete Sunday** : Gaudete Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent in the liturgical calendar of the Western churches. The Latin Gaudete is translated as **Rejoice**, the first word of the introit. The lesson we can take from this is that Christians ought to be the most hopeful and cheerful of people, bringing both joy and peace into their homes and families, workplaces, and social circles.

### St. Mary's Rota

The Rotas for Eucharistic Ministers and Ministers of the Word for St. Mary's are available for collection in the sacristy.

### Christmas Mass Bouquets

are available for purchase in the Parish Office.

### Attention all Distributors

The Christmas Dues Envelopes for the support of the Bishop and Priests of the parish are now available for collection in the Parish Office.

### Care for Our Common Home : Eco Tips for Christmas Wrapping Paper

If you are buying your Christmas wrapping paper this week give a thought to recycling. Wrapping paper with glitter or foil cannot be recycled. Paper that can be recycled will be labelled.