

### 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)

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:

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 49:3, 5-6 Ps 39:2,4,7-10 Cor 1:1-3 Jn 1 29-34 The Baptism of the Lord

12th January 2020

## Gospel Reflection for the Baptism of the Lord **Happy New Year**



St. Joseph & St. Benildus

Happy New Year! It's something we've heard a lot of over the last couple of weeks, but what are we really expecting of the new year? Do we face the new year with optimism and eagerness, or do we face the new year in a spirit of "same old same old." Not all of us are starting 2020 happily. Many of us face the new year with ongoing problems. For many, illness, hardship, or difficult relationships aren't things that will simply go away. Some of us will be struggling to find work; others may be stuck in jobs they hate. Increasing numbers are trapped in inadequate housing or afflicted by addiction, depression or loneliness. Do we face the new year eager and optimistic, or tired and disillusioned?

In today's account of Jesus' baptism, we are told how the heavens opened, and how the Spirit of God descended like a dove. This marked the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Filled with the Spirit of God, Jesus had the power to work miracles, to cure the sick and raise the dead. The Spirit of God enabled Jesus to face any challenge.

In baptism we are filled with the same Spirit that filled Jesus. The very same Spirit! Our baptism might seem no more than a photograph in a dusty photo album, but could our lives be very different if we were to call upon the Holy Spirit on a daily basis. The Holy Spirit isn't going to make our problems go away, nor are we promised an easy life. What we are promised is the strength and direction to make good decisions. Through our baptism, and because of Jesus' baptism, we can resolve to confront our problems head on, and make something meaningful happen in the year ahead.

6.30pm Saturday	Michael Lane	Tom Keane
10.00am Sunday:	Margaret & Aidan O'Reilly	Geraldine Walsh

11th & 12th January 2020

12 noon Gerry Harrington Frank O'Callaghan

Seán Caraway

St. Mary's, Ballygunner

7.00pm Sat: Cissie Gough Margaret Hogan

Monica Reala

18th & 19th January

11.00a.m Sun : John Gear Lily Gaffney

# Please pray for those who died Recently Evelyn Lee.

Please pray for those whose anniversary occurs. Tommy O'Donoghue,

Michael Joseph Phelan, Richard Purcell, , Tom Sheridan, Maureen & William Robinson -& birthday remembrance of Karl Kirby

### Sunday of the Word of God 26th January 2019

Pope Francis has dedicated the third Sunday of Ordinary time to the Word of God.

To mark this special day and to highlight the importance of the Word of God, all Ministers of the Word are invited to a recommissioning of Readers in St. Joseph & St Benildus Church on Sunday 26th January at 10am and in St. Mary's Church at 11am

### Update on our Partnership Project with

Good Shepherd Parish in Ishiara, Kenya We are ready to begin construction of the sanddam in Kamuvaru the end of January (which is when the dry season begins)

A contract has been negotiated with a not-forprofit company (Sasol) who have built similar type dams in Eastern Africa. Fr. Patrick in Ishiara will take overall responsibility for the project and a qualified project supervisor will be appointed. We are satisfied that there will be tight financial controls in place and we will receive regular reports on procurement costs etc. Thanks to all who have contributed so generously to our fund-raising events.

We are also about to start the outfitting of computer rooms in two schools (St Timothy's Secondary School and St Teresa Fascia School). Working with Camara, a not-for profit company which specialises in rebooting used computers and installing them in schools, we are able to finance the necessary electrical installations in the rooms to power the computers and to supply 16 computers to each school. We were visited recently by a representative of Camara from Kenya who was very impressed by the interest and fundraising of our parishioners for this projects.

Bro. Tom is planning to go with a team from the parish in June to construct a class-room in one of the secondary schools in Ishiara. This class-room is very badly needed and will greatly contribute to the educational opportunities for young teenagers in the parish.

We would also like to thank all the parish schoolchildren who are exchanging pen-pal letters with children in Ishiara schools.



### Live Streaming of Masses

www.churchservices.tv/stjosephswaterford

### Evening with Fr. Michael Mullins on the Bible

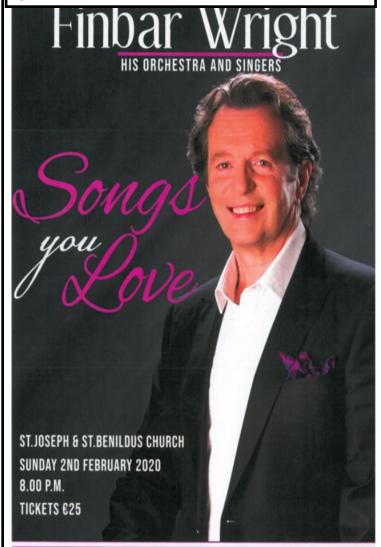
Wed. 22nd January, 7.30pm in the parish centre

In response to question box Sunday which was held recently, we have invited Fr. Michael Mullins to discuss questions which were raised in relation to the Bible (such as 'Should we bible be read in a literal fashion?' or 'what do we mean when we say that the Bible is the Word of God?' All are welcome.

#### **Ecumenical Service**

Will be held in the Cathedral of the Most Holy Trinity, Barronstrand Street, on Sunday the 19th January at 7.30pm. Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan will preside..

Finbar Wright, Ireland's best-loved popular entertainer and award-winning recording artist, returns to the Church of St. Joseph & St. Benildus, Waterford, on Sunday February 2nd, 2020 for another packed with great humour and passionate music. Celebrating his greatest hits and all of your favourite music, Finbar will be joined by an Impressive line of fine musicians in sparking performances to delight all music lovers.



TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE PARISH OFFICE 051-878977 THEATRE ROYAL BOX OFFICE 051-874402