

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

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18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2nd Aug 2020

The Gospel is from St. Matthew 14:13-21.

This miracle was an act of kindness and loving thoughtfulness on the part of Christ. He saw the people's need - it was late for them to return to their homes and they had had nothing to eat all day - and He worked a miracle to provide for this need.

As St. John tells us, Jesus referred to this miracle the next day in order to introduce His promise of the heavenly bread which He would give them and which was to be His own body and blood, under the form of bread and wine. The bread He miraculously multiplied that day to supply the bodily needs of the Galilean multitude was but a foreshadowing of that heavenly food which He was about to give as spiritual nourishment to the millions who would become His followers down through the centuries until the end of time.

The Galileans were grateful to Him for providing so kindly and so thoughtfully for their needs. How much more grateful should we not be for the miracle by means of which He has left us Himself to be our daily spiritual food? We are grateful, of course, to our loving Lord who not only handed up His Body to His enemies to be crucified for us, but through His divine power, arranged that His glorified body, triumphant over death, should remain with us, His Church, forever under the Eucharistic species.

Though invisible to mortal eyes, He is as truly present on our altars as He was that day in Galilee, when He miraculously fed the multitude. He is present under the form of bread and wine — so that we can partake of Him as spiritual nourishment during our earthly life. Could love go any further? He Himself said: "A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends" (Jn. 15 :13). Yes, once a man has given his life he has given his all; there is nothing more he can give.

But Christ was more than man. He was God as well, and, therefore, He was able not only to lay down His human life for us, but was able and willing to remain with us after death under the Eucharistic species: to be our strength and nourishment until we join Him in the promised land of heaven.

Excerpted and adapted from The Sunday Readings by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

MASS TIMES

ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS

MONDAY TO SATURDAY(EXCEPT HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION)

7.30A.M AND 10.30AM

Sun: Vigil 6.30pm

Sun:10am and 12 pm

Holy Days: 6.30pm Vigil and 11am.

No 7.30am Mass Bank Hols

CONFESSIONS

Confessions immediately after 10.30 Mass Saturdays and by request via the parish office.

Mass Times,

St. Mary's,Ballygunner

Sun: Vigil 7pm

Sun: 11am.

Holy Days: 7pm Vigil & 11am.

NEXT

SUNDAY'S READINGS :

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kg 19:9, 11-13.

Ps 84:9-14.

Rm 9:1-5.

Mt 14: 22-33

St. Joseph & St. Benildus

1st/2nd August 2020

8th/9th Aug 2020

6.30pm. Sat

Billy & Mary Murphy

Margaret Byrne

10.00am Sunday:

Pierce & Bridie Caulfield

12 noon Sunday

Tony Mescall

Mary & Eddie Roles

St. Mary's, Ballygunner

7.00pm Sat:

Pat McNamara

Agnes Devins

11.00a.m Sunday:

Maura Phelan

Pierce & Patricia Kennedy,
& Pierce Junior

Please pray for those
whose Birthday or Anniversary occurs:



Maureen Quinn
Andrew Murtagh

Livestreaming of Masses:

Wwww.churchservices.tv/stjosephswaterford

Wwww.churchservices.tv/stmarysballygunner

CHURCH CLEANING AFTER MASS

Please be aware that St. Joseph & St. Benildus church is closed for cleaning after daily Mass.

It reopens for private prayer from 1.00 to 4.00pm.

CLARIFICATION: ACCESS TO PARISH OFFICE

Please note that access to the Parish Office is through the Parish Centre (via the outside door at the rear of the building), and not through the church. It can also be contacted by phone 051 878977 or email :

parishofficejbm@gmail.com

CHANGE IN MASS TIMES: BANK HOLIDAY
There will be no 7.30a.m Mass on Bank Holiday
Monday 3rd August.

Confirmation and First Holy Communion Ceremonies 2020

It has been a long wait for the boys and girls who are preparing for their First Holy Communion and Confirmation. We now look forward to the rescheduled Ceremonies as outlined in last week's Newsletter, and which can be read on the parish website.

Given the requirements for social distancing and the large numbers of students receiving Holy Communion for the first time, it will only be possible for the child, his/her parents and one other family member to attend the ceremony.

For the Confirmation ceremony, the child, his/her parents and the sponsor will only be able to attend. The liturgies will be simplified with teachers reading the prayers of the faithful and the Mass readings. Choirs and congregational singing is not recommended at this time but there will be a cantor and musician at each ceremony. There will be no offertory procession or procession with symbols so as to minimise the possibility of contagion.

These arrangements for First Holy Communion and Confirmation are in place as long as the current Government Road Map for reopening society continues. If there is a resurgence in cases and further lockdowns, these plans will need to be revised accordingly. It is also recommended that all attending these ceremonies wear a face mask

Nurses
Doctors
Pharmacists
Couriers
Farmers
Gardaí

Supermarket workers
DELIVERY DRIVERS Factory workers
Lab technicians **Scientists** Utility workers

**Pray for all our
frontline workers**

Priests
Carers
Postal
workers
Undertakers
Volunteers
Cleaning
staff
Paramedics
Teachers
**Social
workers**
Hospital
chaplains

@catholicbishops



EVENING PRAYER : WEDNESDAY
7.30PM

You are invited to join us in person or via livestreaming every Wednesday evening at 7.30pm for Evening Prayer of the Church, with quiet prayer and reflection.

The evening concludes with Benediction.

The monthly SVP collection will be taken up after Masses this weekend. As you may be aware, donations to charities have been reduced during the Covid pandemic, but the demand for help continues. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.



Weekend Masses

Parish of St Joseph, St Benildus and St Mary

Following the continuation of Government restrictions, we are still confined to 50 people in our churches.

We are grateful to those who help at weekend Masses : the Stewards, Ministers of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharistic. Many thanks for your ongoing assistance and support.

*Last Sunday's
Collection
€1,385*

*Thank you for
your generosity*

ATTENTION ALL MUSICIANS !!

Do you play a musical instrument and would you be willing to share your talents with the congregation ?? We are looking for volunteers to provide music at church ceremonies in the parish. The commitment will be on a rota basis, so will not take up too much time.

