

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

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15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

12th July 2020

Gospel Reflection for the Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary time:

In One Ear



“In one ear and out of the other,” is an expression that could be applied to most of us, for at least some of the time. Today’s gospel is about the difference between simply hearing something and really listening. Jesus uses the parable of the sower and the seeds to illustrate the different ways in which God’s word can be received or not!

Firstly the sower drops seeds on a path only to be eaten by the birds. Jesus is describing those of us who hear the word but who neither understand nor even try to understand it. Next the sower drops seeds on rocky ground and the plants grow quickly but die off because the roots are not nourished. Jesus is describing those of us who receive the word without any real thought or commitment. Without foundation our faith can soon falter when put to the test. Then Jesus describes the seeds which fall among thorns. Sometimes we want to live by Jesus’ teachings but worldly demands and temptation choke our good intentions. Lastly Jesus praises the good soil which enables the seeds to grow and bear fruit.

The parable of the sower and the seeds is clearly challenging us to be better prepared to receive the seed of the gospel. It is all too easy for us to go through the motions of listening when really not much is going on between our ears at all. The Bible is a treasure trove of inspiration but because it was written such a long time ago in words that aren’t always easily understood we are often inclined to switch off. Do we come to church expecting to be bored by the readings or confused and indifferent before one word is even read? How different things might be if we allowed God’s Word to impact our lives.

Listening is more than just opening our ears. Listening is about studying, learning, understanding ...and most importantly, turning that understanding into action.

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.

IF YOU WISH TO PREPARE NEXT

SUNDAY’S READINGS :
16th Sunday in Ordinary

Time

Wis 12;13, 16-19.

Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16.

Rm 8:26-27.

Mt 13: 24-43.

St. Joseph & St. Benildus

11th/12th July 2020

18th/19th July 2020

6.30pm. Sat

10.00am Sunday:

12 noon Sunday

St. Mary’s, Ballygunner

7.00pm Sat:

11.00a.m Sunday:

Peter Foskin

Don Kennedy

(M.M) John Caulfield

Brendan Murray

Eileen Dowling

John Walsh

Ann Marshall

Please pray for those whose Birthday

or Anniversary occurs:

Brian O'Dowd, Mary O'Shea,
David (Davy) Walsh,
Gerald Stack



Those who died recently

Margaret Upton,
Dr. Edward Grant,

Those whose Month's Mind occurs

John Caulfield

*Last Sunday's
Collection
€3,885*

*Thank you for
your generosity*



**Thanks to all who
have returned
Trócaire boxes.
Any remaining
boxes can be
returned to the
church after
Mass.**

IRISH HOSPICE BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT LINE

Have you been impacted by a bereavement during COVID-19? Are you finding it more difficult to cope with a pre-Covid bereavement at this time? Would it help to talk to someone in confidence about your loss? The Irish Hospice Foundation Bereavement Support Line is a national freephone service 1800 80 70 77 which is available from 10am to 1pm, Monday to Friday.

Livestreaming of Masses

www.churchservices.tv/stjosephswaterford
And
www.churchservices.tv/stmarysballygunner

Evening Prayer: 7.30pm Wednesday.

Livestreamed on
www.churchservices.tv/stjosephswaterford

The Prayer after the *Our Father* at Mass

The prayer after the Our Father at Mass begins with 'Deliver us, Lord, we pray from every evil'; this picks up on and prolongs the last petition of the Our Father.

The poignancy of adding 'every' puts into focus the presence of evil in the many forms that people experience it, especially in the course of the pandemic which brings woe and worry in ways that were previously imaginable only in fiction and film.

The opening 'Deliver' recognises that God is the ultimate source of our salvation (from the Latin *salus*, well-being and safety).

It is also a reminder that, as Pope Francis declares, "Jesus taught us to ask daily for deliverance from 'the evil one' lest his power prevail over us".

St.Mary's : Rotas for Ministers of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist can be collected after Mass.

Reopening of churches : Parish of St Joseph, St Benildus and St Mary

FÁILTE AR AIS

We are delighted to welcome parishioners back to our celebration of Sunday Eucharist. *We are pleased with how it went last weekend, and would ask parishioners to be patient until health regulations allow increased numbers.* Thank you for your co-operation and consideration, and we hope that Masses will continue to run smoothly. For the past few months we have been restricted to our livestreaming service. While pleased to have this facility, it is not the same as our usual Sunday gathering.

Unfortunately, we are still restricted to 50 people in our churches. This will remain in effect until July 20th when we expect the numbers to increase to 100.

As you can see, we have done everything possible to comply with Government safety regulations and protocols. We have reached our limit for reserved seating in both churches. However, there is limited availability in the church hall, where there will be livestreaming of Mass and where Ministers of the Eucharist will be present.

If other parishioners wish to book for weekend Masses after July 20th, please contact the parish office 051 878977

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

