

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

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17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

26th July 2020

Gospel Reflection for the Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Buried Treasure



“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure buried in a field; which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all he has and buys it.” In both parables both men appreciate the true value of what they have discovered. Both men are certain about the wisdom of what they must do and are willing to put everything on the line to secure their newfound treasure.

Today Jesus is asking us to determine how much we treasure the Kingdom of Heaven. How valuable is Heaven to us and what are we prepared to do to secure it? Are we prepared to give all we’ve got and to renounce everything that gets in the way? If the two men in the parables had passed their treasure by or failed to recognise the treasure’s value, we would have thought them insane, yet this is how we behave all the time.

All too often we are prepared to let the Kingdom of Heaven slip through our fingers. Perhaps we do this because we have never stopped to reflect on how valuable the Kingdom of Heaven is. Perhaps we have recognised the value of God’s Kingdom to us but have forgotten it in the day-to-day distractions of putting meals on the table and paying the bills. Perhaps heaven’s rewards seem so distant that we prefer instead to work for more immediate and tangible rewards , home improvements, fame, social acceptance and career development. Perhaps we think we can work on God’s agenda and our own agenda simultaneously, recognising the value of God’s Kingdom but not quite able to renounce our own self-interest.

Jesus gives us some concrete advice. He tells us that those who study the scriptures and search diligently will find the discernment to recognise God’s treasure and the wisdom to secure it.

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 :

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 55:1-3.

Ps 144:8-9, 15-18.

Rm 8:35, 37-39.

Mt 14:13-21.

St. Joseph & St. Benildus

25th/26th July 2020

1st/2nd August 2020

6.30pm. Sat

Mary McGeary
Joe Smyth

Billy & Mary Murphy

10.00am Sunday:

(M.M) Kevin Kenneally

Pierce & Bridie Caulfield

12 noon Sunday

Tony Mescall

St. Mary's, Ballygunner

7.00pm Sat:

Rita & Michael Quinton

Pat McNamara

11.00a.m Sunday:

Michael Troy

Maura Phelan

Please pray for those who died recently

Linda O'Keeffe

Rita Gough



Whose Birthday or Anniversary occurs:

Jim & Betty O'Sullivan

Those whose Month's Mind occurs

Kevin Kenneally

Reopening of churches : 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 extremely 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.

[Livestreaming of Masses](#)

www.churchservices.tv/stjosephswaterford

www.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.

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 below. 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

PARISH OFFICE

CLOSED

PLEASE NOTE

THAT BECAUSE OF COVID RESTRICTIONS, THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC, BUT CAN BE CONTACTED BY PHONE 051 878977

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.

Parish of St. Joseph St. Benildus and St. Mary's

First Holy Communion and Confirmation Ceremonies 2020

ALL CEREMONIES WILL BE CELEBRATED IN ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS CHURCH



CONFIRMATIONS	DATE	CLASS	TIME
Gael Scoil, Phort Laige (Girls)	Friday 7 th August	Ms. Ni Chonchubhair	12 noon
<i>PRACTICE NIGHT BEFORE IN ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS @ 6.00PM</i>			
Gael Scoil, Phort Laige (Boys)	Friday 7 th August	Ms. Ni Chonchubhair	2.30pm
<i>PRACTICE NIGHT BEFORE IN ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS @ 7.30PM</i>			
St. Mary's NS	Friday 14 th August	Mr. O'Leary	12 noon
<i>PRACTICE NIGHT BEFORE IN ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS @ 6.00PM</i>			
St. Mary's NS	Friday 14 th August	Mr. Kirwan	2.30pm
<i>PRACTICE NIGHT BEFORE IN ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS @ 7.30PM</i>			
St. Mary's NS	Friday 21 st August	Ms. Murphy	12 noon
<i>PRACTICE NIGHT BEFORE IN ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS @ 8.00PM</i>			
St. Mary's NS	Friday 21 st August	Mrs. Hayden	2.30pm
<i>PRACTICE NIGHT BEFORE IN ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS @ 7.00PM</i>			
St. John of God NS	Friday 21 st August	Ms. Shane	10.30am
<i>PRACTICE NIGHT BEFORE IN ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS @ 6.00PM</i>			

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION	DATE	CLASS	TIME
Newtown NS	Saturday 1 st August	Ms. Ruane (Parish Catechist)	12 Noon
<i>PRACTICE NIGHT BEFORE IN ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS @ 6.00PM</i>			
St. Mary's NS (Girls)	Saturday 8 th August	Ms. Murphy	12 Noon
<i>PRACTICE NIGHT BEFORE IN ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS @ 6.00PM</i>			
St. Mary's NS (Boys)	Saturday 8 th August	Ms. Murphy	2.30pm
<i>PRACTICE NIGHT BEFORE IN ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS @ 7.00PM</i>			
St. Mary's NS	Saturday 15 th August	Ms. Walsh	12 Noon
<i>PRACTICE NIGHT BEFORE IN ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS @ 7.00PM</i>			
St. Mary's NS	Saturday 22 nd August	Mr. O'Neill	12 Noon
<i>PRACTICE NIGHT BEFORE IN ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS @ 7.00PM</i>			
St. John of God	Saturday 29 th August	Ms. Crowley	10.30am
<i>PRACTICE NIGHT BEFORE IN ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS @ 6.00PM</i>			
Gael Scoil Phort Laige	Saturday 29 th August	Ms. Bane	12.30pm
<i>PRACTICE NIGHT BEFORE IN ST. JOSEPH & ST. BENILDUS @ 7.00PM</i>			

Last Sunday's Collection
€1,060

Thank you for your generosity