

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

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19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9th Aug 2020



In these days of Coronavirus, there has been much talk of a 'new normal'.

For those of us stuck at home there has been time to sit and re-evaluate what is truly important in our lives. Perhaps there are those who have decided that the 'old normal' is something they definitely don't want to go back to. What was it that kept us tied into that 'old normal'. What was it that kept us tied in meaningless jobs or hollow lifestyles. Was there an expectation that we live out our retirement sitting in front of daytime TV? Were we tied by fear of the unknown? Were we tied by a need to cling to what was familiar and safe? There's no doubt about it, life is a big tumultuous sea full of hidden dangers. Is it any wonder we seek to carve a little niche in which to tuck ourselves away?

In today's gospel, Peter displays some odd behaviour. The disciples have gone ahead of Jesus and are sitting alone in a small fishing boat. Suddenly a storm brews up and the disciples are terrified for their lives. Just then, Jesus walks over the water telling them, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Surely any of us at this point would have decided to sit tight and wait to be rescued. Not Peter! Peter scrambles out of the boat and begins in all faith to walk towards Jesus. The great news is that when Peter suddenly got frightened and his faith faltered, Jesus was there with a strong arm to hold him up.

Just as Jesus called Peter from the boat, so Jesus calls us over life's storms. What is it we might venture to do? We might venture to change our jobs for something more worthwhile. We might venture to take on some kind of voluntary role that we might not previously have considered or initiate a local community project a global one even! We might think it makes more sense to stick to what we know, but if Peter hadn't have obeyed the call to walk on water he might never have had the great opportunity to experience God's life changing support. So too if we spend our lives splashing around in the shallows, we are in danger of missing the opportunity to truly recognise God and so deepen our faith.

It's said that the safest place to be is not in the boat at all; the safest place is out on life's seas, because that's where Jesus is!

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 :
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 56:1, 6-7.

Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8.

Rm 11:13-15, 29-32.

Mt 15:21-28.

| St. Joseph & St. Benildus | 8th/9th Aug 2020 | 15th/16th Aug 2020 |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| 6.30pm. Sat | M.M Edward Grant Margaret Byrne | |
| 10.00am Sunday: | | |
| 12 noon Sunday | Cathal & Delia O'Connor Mary & Eddie Roles | Mary Sweeney |
| St. Mary's, Ballygunner | | |
| 7.00pm Sat: | Agnes Devins | Pierce Dower Fr. Joe Cullen Fr. Martin Crowe |
| 11.00a.m Sunday: | Pierce & Patricia Kennedy, & Pierce Junior Kathleen Leahy | Patrick Nugent |

Please pray for those whose Month's Mind

occurs:

Edward Grant



whose Birthday or Anniversary occurs:

Kora Fuller

Seán Maher,

Noeleen Lonergan

*Last Sunday's
Collection
€1,749*

*Thank you for
your generosity*

Livestreaming of Masses:

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

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



First Holy Communion Ceremonies 2020

Congratulations to the pupils of Newtown School who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday. Thanks to Ms. Ruane (Parish Catechist) and their families for preparing them so well. The dates of further ceremonies are available on the parish website.

New Government Guidelines : Places of Worship

We are following the new arrangements for Mass, in light of Government guidelines. We will be able to have a maximum of 100 people at Mass, in pods of 50. This only applies to St. Joseph & Benildus church, as the size of St. Mary's does not allow for this.

The following has been received from Bishop Cullinan:

Detailed Covid-19 Guidance has been developed for religious services. The Cabinet Committee reviewed the guidance, which state that an assessment should be carried out for each premises to determine how many can attend within the requirements of social distancing. The Cabinet Committee decided that, where the size of the premises allows for a capacity greater than 50, this may be permitted only where:

- Social distancing guidelines are adhered to ;
- The premises can be subdivided into distinct sections (cordoned or marked appropriately) of not more than 50 persons in each section;
- There is a minimum of 4m between sections;
- Each section having its own entrance/exit route;
- There are separate arrangements for elements of the service involving close contact, e.g. the distribution of Holy Communion;
- Strictly no movement of people between sections before, during or after the service;
- The premises is well-ventilated;
- Account must also be taken regarding the risk of congregation by people outside before and after any services, having regard to outdoor overall limits on mass gatherings and arrangements for staggered exiting after ceremonies;
- The use of face coverings is strongly recommended for such indoor settings.



EVENING PRAYER :

WEDNESDAY 7.30PM

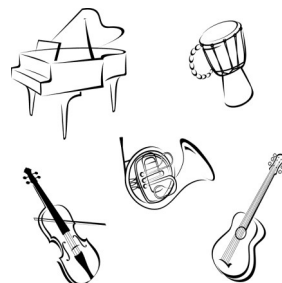
You are invited to join us in person or via livestreaming every Wednesday evening at 7.30pm for Evening Prayer of the Church, with quiet prayer and reflection.

The evening concludes with Benediction.

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. Please contact the parish office 051 878977



FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION :

SATURDAY AUGUST 15TH

Next Saturday is the Feast of the Assumption.

Mass Times:

St Joseph & Benildus church: 14th : No Vigil Mass
15th : 10.30am Mass

St. Mary's : 14th : Vigil Mass : 7pm
15th : No 11am Mass



Many thanks to Veronica, Deirdre and Breda for decorating the altar for the recent Confirmation and First Holy Communion Ceremonies, and to those who contribute to the cost of the flowers.