

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

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21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

23rd Aug 2020

Gospel Reflection for the Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time : The Key

Who do you think Jesus is? As small children we are told that Jesus is the Son of God, and we accept it readily. When we are children God is a kindly father figure who lives in Heaven and listens to our night prayers. When we are small, Jesus is the baby we see in the Christmas Nativity scene. When we are a little older, Jesus is the teller of all those intriguing parables. Once we are young adults we see Jesus as a great teacher, a healer, a worker of miracles and a revolutionary. For some of us, doubts creep in. Is Jesus really the Son of God or simply a good man and a great prophet?

In today's gospel Jesus asks his disciples "Who do you say I am?" "You are the Christ," replies Peter promptly, "the Son of the living God." But this wasn't Peter's opinion from the start. Peter and the other disciples first met Jesus as a fellow human being. By working with Jesus and following his ministry daily, Peter and the other disciples gradually came to the extraordinary conviction that God was working through Jesus; speaking, healing, working miracles and offering eternal salvation.

Today we listen again to Jesus' question. "Who do you say I am?" It seems that the question is stretching over the centuries. It seems that the question is aimed not just at the disciples but at us. Jesus doesn't want us to give the answer we've been taught to give ... our answer has to be from the heart. Our answer might be, "I don't know!" Our answer might be, "I'm not very sure right now." Or our answer might be a resounding, "You are Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus knows that faith is a journey and our answer reflects at exactly what stage of that journey we have reached.

It may be that we think of Jesus as little more than a good man and a great prophet. If this is what we believe, the Bible becomes little more than a book filled with good stories and sound philosophy. If like the disciples we are convinced that Jesus is the Son of God, all at once we are opening ourselves to great possibilities.... all at once we have found the key to life's greatest adventure.

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 :

*22nd Sunday in Ordinary
Time*

Jer 20:7-9.

Ps 62:2-6, 8-9.

Rm 12:1-2.

Mt 16:21-27

<i>St. Joseph & St. Benildus</i>	<i>22nd/23rd Aug 2020</i>	<i>29th/30th August 2020</i>
6.30pm. Sat	Stephen & Agnes Rodgers & Stephen & Jackie Rodgers	John Hearne
10.00am Sunday:	William Kenneally	Michael & Breda O'Hanlon
12 noon Sunday	Phillip & Anastasia Lahart	Ita Keyes
<i>St. Mary's, Ballygunner</i>		
7.00pm Sat:	Milo Corcoran Frances, Joe & Mary Sharpe	Helen Cummins
11.00a.m Sunday:	Biddy & Niall Warren	

Please pray for those who died recently

Mary Ramsbottom



Those whose Month's Mind occurs

Linda O'Keeffe

**Those whose Birthday
or Anniversary occurs:**

John, Tim & Julia O'Shea

Bill & Rita O'Dowd

Lil & Thomas Marshall

Sheila & Richard Morgan

John McGailey

*Last Sunday's
Collection
€2,015*

**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

CANCELLATION OF AFTERNOON TEA AND CAKE

Unfortunately, due to new Government restrictions, we cannot hold the afternoon of tea & cake that we had planned for Fr. John.

Incidentally, Fr. John will NOT be replaced....but as we all know, he is irreplaceable anyway !

(Newsletter Ed)

Mass: Seating Arrangements

- For the past seven weeks since the church reopened, we have tried to accommodate everyone who wished to return to Mass. We appreciate that directions were confusing at times as we tried to conform with changing guidelines to keep us all safe.
- Until now if one wanted to attend Sunday Mass, one needed to book through the parish office. Many parishioners feel that this didn't work as some seats were not availed of even though they had been reserved. For the next few weeks we will Not have reserved seats, but will assign seats on a "first come" basis.
- Seats are marked with a green tick and are 2 metres apart. Where there are 2 or more ticks together, only those from the same household can sit there.
- Above all, Please maintain social distancing and Do Not sit too close to anyone else. We want our church to be able to remain open and will only be able to do so if we all protect ourselves and those around us.



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.

St. Mary's Rotas

The September and October Rotas for Ministers of
the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of the
Eucharist in St. Mary's are now available in the
Sacristy.



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

PARISH OF ST. JOSEPH, ST. BENILDUS

& ST MARY'S

ALPHA ONLINE

STARTING VIA ZOOM

Thursday 3rd September 2020

8.00pm – 9.30pm

Venue:

THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME!

BOOK YOUR PLACE !

jbmparishalpha@gmail.com

CONTACT PARISH OFFICE 051 878977



**Please note: items for inclusion in the
Newsletter must be received by Tuesday 11am
of the week prior to printing.**

jbmnews@gmail.com

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.