

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

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St Joseph & St Benildus Fr Liam Power

Mass Schedule

Weekdays Masses:

St. Joseph & Benildus:
Mon—Sat: 7:30 am & 10:30 am.

Evening Prayer

St. Joseph & Benildus:
Wednesday 4:45 pm

Saturday Vigil Masses:

St. Joseph & Benildus: 6:30 pm
St. Mary's 7:00 pm

Sunday Masses:

St. Joseph & Benildus:
10:00 am and 12:00 noon
St. Mary's: 11:00 am

All Masses can be viewed via
livestream:

[www.churchservices.tv/
stjosephswaterford](http://www.churchservices.tv/stjosephswaterford)
or

[http://www.churchservices.tv/
stmarysballygunner](http://www.churchservices.tv/stmarysballygunner)

The Parish Office is closed to
the public until further notice
but may be contacted by phone
on 051 878977 or email :
parishofficejbm@gmail.com

Second Sunday of Advent

6 December 2020

Gospel Reflection for the Second Sunday of Advent. Prioritising Our Priorities.

With Covid and the ensuing recession and redundancies comes the inevitable advice about staying out of debt at Christmas and much of the advice is about priorities. More than ever we have to prioritise the amounts of money we are going to spend on different people, and we have to know where to draw the line. We have to decide what is important and what isn't. A year of Covid has probably taught us all something about the priorities that govern our lives. Now in Advent we are asked to stop and examine those priorities, and more importantly to ask whether our priorities are what they really ought to be in God's eyes.



Today we read how John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance. Today we might easily dismiss the rantings of a strange man who dressed in camel hair and fed on locusts, but interestingly, people travelled miles into the desert to be baptised by him, so charismatic a man was he, and so important his message. Two thousand years later, his message is just as relevant to those of us who want greater meaning in our lives. The repentance that John teaches means so much more than being sorry for our sins. Repentance means changing the direction of our lives away from poor choices. Was the direction of our life decided by what exams we did or didn't pass at the age of seventeen? Has the direction of our life been determined by arbitrary decisions and random circumstances? Is that the way we want to continue? Advent is a time to decide what sort of a person we would really like to be, and in what direction we would really like to be heading. That's an exciting thought!

"Prepare the way of the Lord," John tells us, "make straight his paths." To allow God into our lives, we are asked to remove any obstacles in God's path. How can we open our minds to God's will if our time is consumed in fixing fairy lights and making Christmas puddings? Advent is an opportunity for us to make some quiet time to contemplate and prioritise. What is it exactly that is preventing God's work in our lives?

"One mightier than I is coming after me," John tells us, "I have baptised you with water, he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit." In the desert of commercialism, we are encouraged to sit down for a moment and prioritise our priorities.

St. Joseph & St. Benildus	5/6 Dec	12/13 Dec
6.30pm. Saturday	Maureen Kavanagh (MM) Rosemary Goff John Goff	Stephen Rogers
10.00am Sunday:	Francis & Josephine Hamm And sons Nicholas & Richard Hamm	Denny Murphy
12 noon Sunday	Ben Wadding Elizabeth Kirimlidis Kevin Doyle	Beryl Roche (MM)
St. Mary's, Ballygunner		
7.00pm Sat:	Harry, Maureen & Maria Sharpe Nancy O'Gorman (A) Agnes Lea (A)	Rosie & Paddy Morrissey
11.00a.m Sunday:	Kathleen & Richard Power Jo White (2nd A)	Gerry & Evelyn O'Regan



Please pray for those whose months mind occur:
Maureen Kavanagh

Those whose Birthday or Anniversary occur:
Edward Nevins, Malachy Heffernan, Tess Browne, Paddy
-Anne Frayne, Ed Fitzgerald, Paul Dunne, Christina Murray
Michael Troy Adrian Murphy, Louise Madigan, Dennis Murphy,
Kate & Pierce Dalton, Amy Cooke, Michael Coffey



Schedule of Services for Advent and Christmas (depending on restriction levels).

Saturday 19th December:

Special Vigil Mass at 6.30pm including Carol Service with pupils from St John of God School. Mass will be live-streamed on our YouTube channel and from our regular live streaming service.

Penitential Service:

Monday December 21st at 7.30pm.

Live-streamed from Church Services platform

Carol Service:

Tuesday December 22nd at 7.30pm.

Carol Service from St Joseph and St Benildus Church: Live- streamed on our YouTube channel.

Christmas Eve:

Liturgy around the crib with children at 6.00pm

This liturgy will be live-streamed on our YouTube channel. You might like to join us on the live-stream with the family around the crib at home.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

St Joseph and St Benildus :

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass: 7pm and 9pm

Christmas Day Masses: 10.00am and 12 noon

St. Mary's Church

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass: 7pm and 9pm

Christmas Day Masses: 10.00am and 12 noon

EVENING PRAYER - Wednesdays at 4:45 pm

You are welcome to join us in Church or via livestreaming at: www.churchservices.tv/stjosephswaterford



Prayer and Praise

Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. on Zoom

The programme includes readings from the Psalms, hymns and a short litany. Participants can share and discuss readings from works that have inspired them. A reading from the following Sunday is examined, intercessory prayers are offered, followed by the Angelus. All are welcome.

Contact: Fintan Power :086 321 5773.



ADVENT LECTIO DIVINA

We invite you to a time of personal reflection, and prayer as we explore Gospel readings for the Sundays of Advent.

Do come and join us!

Thursday Evenings

8:00 - 8:45pm via Zoom

Meeting ID for Thursday, December 10th:

Meeting ID: 824 6562 9611 Passcode: 288168

MASS READINGS Mon 7 December — Sun 13 December

Mon 7 Dec	St Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (Memorial) Is 35:1-10, Ps 84:9-14, R/ Is 35:4, Lk 5: 17-26
Tues 8 Dec	The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary Gn 3:9-15, 20, Ps 97: 1-4, R/ v1, Eph 1:3-6, 11-12, Lk 1:26-38
Wed 9 Dec	2nd Week of Advent Is 40:25-31, Ps 102:1-4, 8, 10, R/ v1, Mt 11:28-30
Thurs 10 Dec	Blessed Virgin Mary of Loreto (Optional) Is 41:13-20, Ps 144:1, 9-13 R/ v8, Mt 11:11-15
Fri 11 Dec	2nd Week of Advent Is 48:17-19, Ps 1:1-4, 6, R/ Jn 8:12, Mt 11:16-19
Sat 12 Dec	Our Lady of Guadalupe/ St. Finnian, Bishop (Optional) Eccles(Sir) 48:1-4, 9-11, Ps79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19, R/ v4, Mt 17:10-13
Sun 13 Dec	3rd Sunday of Advent—Gaudete Sunday Is 61:1-2, 10-11, (Ps) Lk 1:46-50, 53-54, R/ Is 61:10 I Thess 5:16-24, John 1: 6-8, 19-28

“He will feed his flock like a shepherd.”

Allow our Lord to enrich your life through service to Him.

Speak to your local priest or email the National Vocations Office on info@vocations.ie

This Week's Notices:

- * Ishiara Parish Partnership Committee will meet on Monday at 8:00 pm on Zoom.
- * Voluntary rota for Eucharistic Ministers and Readers for Christmas masses will be available in the sacristy from Sunday, December 6th.
- * Coordinators for Envelope distributors are advised that Christmas dues envelopes are available for collection in the Sacristy. Thank you for all your hard work. We sincerely appreciate it during this busy time of year.
- * Items for inclusion in the Newsletter must be received by Tuesday 11am of the week prior to printing : jbmnews@gmail.com

Pope Francis' Intentions for evangelization— For a life of prayer. We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.