

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

## PARISH CONTACTS

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St Joseph & St Benildus Fr Liam  
Power

## Service Times

### St. Joseph & Benildus

**Weekday Masses:**

7:30 am & 10:30 am

Saturdays 10:30 am only

**Holy Days ( unless on a Sat )**

6:30 vigil , 7.30am & 10:30 am

**Night Prayer** 8-8.30pm ( via Zoom  
only )

**Saturday Vigil Mass:** 6:30 pm

**Sunday Mass:**

10:00 am & 12:00 noon

### St. Mary's

**Holy Days**

11:00 am

**Saturday Vigil Mass:** 7:00 pm

**Sunday Mass:**

11:00 am

## Readings for next weekend

**4th Sunday of Advent**

Mic 5:1-4.

Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19.

Heb 10:5-10.

Lk 1:39-44.

## Gospel Reflection for the Third Sunday of Advent 12th December 2021

What Must We Do?



How many times are we shamed into saying, "I'll never grumble again!" We watch children who have life threatening illnesses finding something to smile about. We see families living in poverty, seemingly happy when they have every excuse to be deeply unhappy. We read about the men and women, who despite disability or overwhelming odds, adopt a positive attitude and achieve great things. These people are living proof that happiness doesn't come from everything being right in our lives.

The third Sunday in Advent is traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday, Gaudete meaning to rejoice. Rejoicing, exulting, being happy and singing for joy are the themes in today's liturgy. But how are we to feel happy in a world where there isn't much to feel happy about what must we do?

John the Baptist gives us the answer,

"If anyone has two tunics," he says, he must share with the man who has none."

We have all experienced the joy of giving a gift..... the inner glow that comes with knowing we have bought someone exactly what they always wanted. We experience this same pleasure in sharing what we have with those who have nothing.

To the tax collector and the soldier John says, "Exact no more than your rate. Be content with your pay."

What joy is there in gain if it's at someone else's expense? Do we really get any satisfaction at saving a couple of pence at the supermarket knowing it is at the expense of a third world farmer working for virtually nothing at all. At this season in particular we remember not to exploit those who work hard for little profit. We remember whilst doing our Christmas shopping to look for the 'Fair Trade' labels. If we are employers we remember not to make unreasonable demands in order to line our own pockets.

Most importantly this Christmas, we remember that happiness comes from being content with what we have.

## Upcoming Masses

**11th/12 Dec 2021**

**18th/19th Dec 2021**

### *St. Joseph & St. Benildus*

6:30 pm Vigil

Stephen Rogers  
John Hearne

Jim Whelan

10:00 am

Jack & Ellen Hatton

Margaret Power

12 noon

Ben Wadding  
Elizabeth Kirimlidis  
Phyllis Doyle  
Patrick & Marie White

Joan & Tom Foskin  
Frank McDonough

### *St. Mary's, Ballygunner*

7.00 pm:

William & Mary Sharpe

Gary Murphy  
John & Bridget Keane  
Pierce Dower,  
Fr. Joe Cullen  
Fr. Pat Burrows

11.00am:

Chacko Antoney

Charles Murray  
Mary Cummins  
John Byrne



### Pray for those whose Birthday or Anniversary occurs around this time

Edward Nevins, Lawrence Tallon, Jackie Goode, Christina Murray,  
The O'Neill Family, The Hyland Family, Stephanie O'Keeffe, Rosemary Goff,  
Bridget & Anne Brady ( & deceased members of the Brady family ), John Bradley,  
Mary Kennedy, Pat Dalton, Bobby O'Keeffe, John & Alice Barnable, Claire & Jack O'Brien.  
**Please Pray For Those Recently Deceased : Mary Patricia Cummins**

### Important Announcement re Christmas Mass Schedule

Having consulted our Parish Pastoral Council, we have decided, in the interests of health and safety, to limit the number of people attending Masses at Christmas time. To accommodate this, we have scheduled extra Masses for both St Joseph and St Benildus Church and St Mary's.

**St. Joseph & Benildus:** : Christmas Eve: 5pm, 7pm, 9pm.

Christmas Day: 10.00am and 12noon.

**St. Mary's Ballygunner:** Christmas Eve: 7pm and 9pm.

Christmas Day: 9.30am and 11.00am.

We are limiting the number of people at all Masses in St Joseph and St Benildus to 150 and in St Mary's, Ballygunner to 80. This is to ensure a safe environment in our churches for parishioners. Unfortunately, this means we will have to take bookings for all Christmas Masses. To facilitate the booking system, volunteers will be present at all Masses next weekend (in both churches), that is the weekend of December 11th/12th. You can give your name to a volunteer and indicate which Mass you would like to attend. People can also phone the office ( 051 878 977 ) on weekdays beginning December 13th.

**Please note:** as Christmas Day is on Saturday, the Vigil Masses ( 6.30pm & 7pm ) will not be celebrated.

The normal Sunday Masses will be celebrated on Sunday 26th in both churches.

### APPEAL FOR ASSISTANCE WITH STEWARDING

Due to the increase in Covid numbers we are asking for your support for our Christmas Masses.

As priests, we are happy to celebrate two extra Masses, but this can only happen if we have stewards.

Your gift of stewarding will help others to celebrate Christmas Mass in Church.

Please contact the office if you are available. ( 051 878 977 )

### ATTENTION ALL ENVELOPE DISTRIBUTORS:

The Christmas envelopes are ready for collection in St. Joseph & Benildus church. Your help is greatly appreciated.

### LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR, CHRISTMAS RAFFLE


Draw : 19th December @ 12.30pm

IF YOU ARE NOT IN, YOU CAN'T WIN !

Tickets available now in the office and after the weekend Masses on Sunday 12th December. Tickets €2 each or a book of 6 for €10  
PLEASE SUPPORT THE ELDERLY

All Masses can be viewed via livestream:

[St. Joseph & Benildus](#) or [St. Mary's Ballygunner](#)

 If you wish to donate, all payments to the Parish can be made via the donate button on our website **Thank you.**

### NEWS ITEMS

Please contact [jbmnews@gmail.com](mailto:jbmnews@gmail.com) by lunchtime on the Tuesday before printing, if you wish to have items included in the following week's Newsletter.

### Updating of Parish Contact Details

In relation to our ongoing updating of Parish contact details, you may receive a phone call from one of the parish team, asking for your email address. We simply want to update our records as there is quite a large number of new residents in the Parish.

### LECTIO DIVINA: ( St. Joseph & Benildus and

**St. Mary's Parish** We invite you to join us via Zoom for reflection and prayer on the Sunday Gospels of Advent.

Link for Zoom meeting 9435884859

### Friendship Lunch Cancelled

Unfortunately, due to recent Covid restrictions, the Friendship Lunch scheduled for Monday 13th December has been cancelled.

### ORGAN RESTORATION APPEAL

Parishioners are aware that our pipe organ in St. Joseph & Benildus church, is in need of a major overhaul which will bring it back to its original clarity and beauty.

There are significant defects in the organ at present and it will further deteriorate if it is not renovated. Our organists have great difficulty at present when they playing the organ during liturgies as they have to compensate for the deterioration in the organ system and have to avoid playing some keys.

Our organ, just like our houses, our car and even our bicycles, gets an annual service, doing this has served us well over the last 50+ years. Those of you with cars know that there comes a time when we need new tyres, new filters, new brake pads and other internal 'stuff' it to keep it running smoothly and get the best possible use out of it. The same goes for the organ in St Benildus.

Our organ is in need of a bit more work than its usual service; it needs a few major jobs done. The great news is that we can do the work in phases, starting with the essentials and leaving the extras until future years.

To replace the organ would cost almost €700,000 whereas to renovate and restore the current one will cost a lot less and will outlast even the best electronic organs which have a limited life-span.

We believe that the organ in our church is worth conserving as it is unique. We would like to provide an opportunity to those who would like to contribute to the conservation appeal.