

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

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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, 7.30 am & 10:30 am

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

Saturday Vigil Mass: 6:30 pm

Sunday Mass:

10:00 am & 12:00 noon

St. Mary's

Saturday Vigil Mass: 7:00 pm

Sunday Mass:

11:00 am

Holy Days

11:00 am

**There will be no
7.30am Mass from Dec
27th until the feast of
the Epiphany (Jan 6th)**

Gospel Reflection for the Second Sunday after Christmas

02/01/22

Called to Witness



People often declare that their faith is a private and a very personal thing. Of course our faith is very personal, but does that mean it should be private? In keeping our faith private we are missing a very important opportunity. How often has our own faith taken a little leap forward because of something we have heard or something we have read? Similarly there may be something you have heard or learnt that would help someone else. You might not consider yourself a theologian, but there might be something seemingly small that you could contribute that would make a big difference to someone else.

Someone else's testimony is the way we learn. Without the internet, books, Catholic papers, TV documentaries, homilies and the testimonies of friends and family, how would we develop our faith? Without the work of missionaries, teachers and parents, how would our faith have been handed from generation to generation? Without the gospel writers, how would Jesus' work and God's word be remembered? Without John the Baptist and the first disciples, how else would Jesus' identity have been known?

Bearing witness is essential. Without witnesses we would know nothing of Jesus. Staying quiet and making religion a private matter is simply not an option. There are still those that would benefit from Christ's teaching either directly or indirectly. If Christianity is something very important to us, why be reticent about sharing it? If bearing witness to Christ can change lives, shouldn't we make our voices ever more persistently heard by friends, neighbours, family, politicians, community leaders TV producers and anyone else with the willingness and the know-how to bring about change?

Like John, we are called in our baptismal promises to be witnesses to the work of Christ. We are called to be witnesses in every circumstance of our lives.

Athbhliain faoi mhaise

We wish all our parishioners a safe and Happy New Year.

Upcoming Masses

01/02 Jan 2022

08/09 Jan 2022

St. Joseph & St. Benildus

6:30 pm Vigil

Paul Rogers

10:00 am

Brian Fitzgerald

Paddy Troy

12 noon

M.M. Breda Tyrrell

Barbara & Donal Costigan

Mary Burke

& Costigan family

Noel O'Shea

St. Mary's, Ballygunner

7.00 pm:

Sissie Gough

11.00am:



Pray for those whose Birthday or Anniversary occurs around this time

Noel O'Shea, Michael Lane, Liam Flynn,
Michael, Mary & Catherine Hearne,
Mary Burke Moynihan

For those whose Month's Mind occurs :
Breda Tyrrell

2022 World Peace Day message: Pope Francis calls for investment in education, not weaponry

Pope Francis called for more investment in education and less in weaponry in his 2022 World Peace Day message, released Tuesday.

In the [message](#) published Dec. 21, the pope said the world had witnessed a "significant reduction" in education funding in recent years, while military spending had soared beyond Cold War levels. "It is high time, then, that governments develop economic policies aimed at inverting the proportion of public funds spent on education and on weaponry," he wrote in the message, signed on Dec. 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

The World Day of Peace — instituted by St. Paul VI in 1968 — is celebrated each year on Jan. 1, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. The pope provides a message for the occasion, which is sent to foreign ministers around the world. The pope's message for the 2022 World Day of Peace, the 55th celebration, is entitled "Dialogue between generations, education, and work: tools for building lasting peace."

In the text, Pope Francis outlined three "paths for building a lasting peace": promoting dialogue between generations, investing in education, and improving labor conditions. The pope called for a new alliance between the young and elderly to address the problems of isolation and self-absorption heightened by the coronavirus pandemic. "Although technological and economic development has tended to create a divide between generations, our current crises show the urgent need for an intergenerational partnership," he wrote. "Young people need the wisdom and experience of the elderly, while those who are older need the support, affection, creativity, and dynamism of the young."

The pope expressed the hope that a new dialogue between generations could become "the driving force behind a healthy politics." He lamented the tendency to see education and training as expenditures instead of investments. He said that they should be considered "the primary means of promoting integral human development," because they help to shape free and responsible people. He added that greater investment in education must be accompanied by the promotion of a ["culture of care,"](#) which could become "a common language working to break down barriers and build bridges." Support for education helps young people to take their rightful place in the labor market, he wrote, and build "a more habitable and beautiful world" through their work.

But he noted that COVID-19 had made it harder for the young to find stable employment. "Millions of economic and productive activities have failed; short-term workers are increasingly vulnerable; many of those who provide essential services have an even lower public and political profile; and in many cases, distance teaching has led to a deficit in learning and delays in completing programs of study," he said. "Furthermore, young people entering the job market and recently unemployed adults presently face bleak prospects." Migrant workers, meanwhile, have been left exposed "to various forms of slavery and with no system of welfare to protect them."

From Catholic News Agency

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.**

Night Prayer of the Church

Night Prayer of the Church is held via Zoom,
Mon to Fri from 8-8.30pm.

Log-in I.D 943 588 4859



Readings for Sunday 9th Jan: The Baptism of the Lord

Is 40:1-5, 9-11.

Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-39.

Tit 2:11-14, 3:4-7.

Lk 3:3:15-16, 21-22.

NEWS ITEMS

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

Ishiara Sponsored Swim

The sponsored swim in aid of our partner parish of Ishiara, Kenya was very successful. It took place on St. Stephen's day at 12noon in Councillor's Strand, Dunmore East and a simultaneous event took place in Curracloe, Co. Wexford. A number of our committee members, family and friends took the plunge and to date €2000 has been collected. We will have a final figure in the next few weeks. Many thanks to all who participated and contributed.

Feast of the Epiphany, 6th January. (Nollaig na mban)

Vigil Mass will be held in St. Joseph & Benildus church at 6.30pm, with morning Masses at 7.30am and 10.30am. There will be no Vigil Mass in St. Mary's, Ballygunner, but Mass will be celebrated on the 6th at 11.00am.

Reminder: Friday 7th January is the First Friday of the month