

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, 7.30 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

Readings: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (23/01)Neh 8:2-6, 8-10.

Ps 18:8-10, 15. I Cor 12:12-30.

Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21.

Gospel Reflection for the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time



A Sign of Better Things To Come.

If you were in Jesus' shoes and you were about to grab the world's attention with your first miracle, what might that first miracle be? Might you reverse global warming or end third world poverty? Jesus' first miracle was to turn water into wine at the Wedding of Cana. To many it seems a frivolous kind of miracle something akin to a party trick, but John relates the miracle with good reason. John's gospel is quite different in character from the other three. It's written in a very symbolic style, and it doesn't follow the same order, or record the same stories as the others. St. John is concerned in showing us signs, which gradually reveal the glory

of God through Jesus. The author seems to be mainly interested in the significance of the deeds of Jesus. So what is the significance of this miracle? John writes, "This is written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name." Suddenly confronted with enough wine to swim in, the disciples had no choice but to begin to believe in who Je sus really was. Neither would the symbolism have been lost on the people of the time. It was the people's belief that at the time of salvation God would provide a table for feasting for his servants and a cup that would never run dry. In short, the substance of the sign was of no consequence at all: it was the message the sign conveyed that was all-

The symbolism we read in this first miracle speaks of an old religion bogged down with oppressive rules and laws liberated by a new faith governed by love, compassion, joy, generosity, and abundance. Being a Christian is a very serious business, and as Christians we are asked to address life and death issues, but that doesn't mean we should trudge around with long pious faces. Jesus frequently likens the Kingdom of God to a feast, so smile.... the changing of water to wine is a sign of better things to come.

15/16 Jan 2022 **Upcoming Masses** 22nd/23rd Jan 2022

St. Joseph & St. Benildus

6:30 pm Vigil James & Esther Hoey M.M Brenda McElroy

M.M Elizabeth Hale Carmel & Dearbhla Clarke

16 Jan 2022

10:00 am Aidan & Margaret O'Reilly Geraldine Walsh

12 noon Michael Wallis Jack Deegan

> Seán Caraway Gerry Harrington Niall Byrne

St. Mary's, Ballygunner

7.00 pm: John Gear Michael Carroll

> Lily Gaffney Anna O'Sullivan

11.00am: Tom Mulcahy



Pray for those whose Birthday or Anniversary occurs around this time

Frank O'Callaghan, Paschal Hartery, Peggy Brett, Margaret Hogan, lack Deegan, Margaret Gretta Walsh, Thomas Coffey, James (Jimmy) Kinsella

and for those who died recently

William (Billly) Murphy

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

Prayer requests can be submitted through the

parish office 051 878977



First Holy Communion Preparation Do This in Memory of Me

On Sunday, January 23rd, First Communion pupils from Gaelscoil Phort Lairge will attend the 11.00am Mass in St. Mary's Church, Ballygunner, as part of their preparation for Holy Communion. There will be more people at that Mass, so if you wish to attend a different Mass that weekend, please do so.

NEWS ITEMS

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

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The theme of this year's Christian Unity Week, 18th -25th January 2022 is 'We Saw His Star in the East'.

World Religion Day, 16th January
The message of World Religion Day is that mankind, which has stemmed from one origin, must now strive towards the reconciliation of that which has been split up. Human unity and true equality depend not on past origins, but on future goals. Unity means understanding what makes us the same, rather than dwelling on what makes us different. Perhaps there has never been a more important time, to look for opportunities to create empathy and share mutual goals.

Bitesize

Some are born who never need them, Others still who never read them, signs.

Neil Diamond, Signs.

U.S Singer & songwriter (1941 -)



All Masses can be viewed via livestream:

St. Joseph & Benildus or St. Mary's Ballygunner

If you wish to donate, all payments to © DONATE the Parish can be made via the donate button on our website

Thank you.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday 9am to 5:00pm Lunch 1-2pm Tuesday 9am to 5:00pm Lunch I-2pm 9am to 5.00pm Lunch I-2pm Wednesday Thursday 9am to 2..30pm Lunch I-2pm. 9am to 5.00pm Lunch I-2pm Friday

051 878977 Phone:

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CORONAVIRUS HELPLINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE

0818 222 024

If you have concerns or queries about COVID-19 call ALONE's dedicated support line everyday, 8am - 8pm. To volunteer your help, visit www.alone.ie

ALPHA ON LINE VIA ZOOM

BEGINNING THURSDAY FEB 3RD 2022! 8PM -9.15PM FOR 10 WEEKS.



WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US VIRTUALLY AS WE EXPLORE QUESTIONS LIKE:

DOES GOD REALLY EXIST? HOW DO WE COPE WITH PANDEMIC? WHO WAS THE HISTORICAL JESUS? WHAT IS FAITH AND WHERE ARE WE ON THAT JOURNEY?

COME AND EXPERIENCE OUR GATHERING IN A VERY DIFFERENT WAY! IT IS ALSO AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET OTHERS AND EXPLORE TOGETHER...EVERYONE WELCOME! CONTACT PARISH OFFICE 051 878977

IF YOU ARE UNSURE ABOUT ZOOM – LET US HELP YOU WITH A PERSONAL SESSION BEFORE ALPHA BEGINS!

A Prayer for those ill or quarantining because of Covid

Jesus, during Your ministry on Earth You showed Your power and caring by healing people of all ages and stations of life from physical, mental, and spiritual ailments. Be present now to people who need Your loving touch because of COVID-19. May they feel Your power of healing through the care of doctors

Take away the fear, anxiety, and feelings of isolation from people receiving treatment or quarantining. Give them a sense of purpose in pursuing health and protecting others from exposure to the disease. Protect their families and friends and bring peace to all who love them. Amen.