

### The Lighthouse Dementia Café

The next Dementia Cafe meeting will take place on next Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September from 1.30pm - 4.00pm. Dementia Cafe is a free of charge, walk in social event where people who have a diagnosis of or for family or carers are affected by dementia have a safe and non-judgmental space to go and chat to others. The café is situated at Walkin Street R95 HX7K.

Volunteer nurses are there to advise carers and signpost them to an area that they may need to avail of in the future. We serve complimentary tea/coffee and treats, creating a cafe like environment to make our visitors more comfortable. All are welcome.

### Ms Geraldine Patterson Retirement

Ms Geraldine Patterson has retired as Principal of Johnswell NS and the community are getting together to mark the occasion. Ms. Patterson has taught in Johnswell NS for 32 years and has spent the last 8 years as Principal. The parish owes her a huge debt in thanks for her contribution to Catholic education in our community.

To mark her retirement a Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated in St John the Baptist Church, Johnswell on next Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm followed by light refreshments. Please join us and show your appreciation.

### The Gardener's Prayer

I have worked in the fertile earth  
and planted a garden;  
so I know what faith is.

I have listened to the birds  
carolling in the morning and at dusk;  
so I know what music is.

I have seen the morning  
without clouds after showers;  
so I know what beauty is.

I have seen the miracle of spring,  
the fruition of summer and the beauty  
of autumn,

followed by the repose of winter;  
so I know what life is.

Because I have perceived all of those things,  
I know what God is. Amen.

### Society of St Vincent De Paul: 'Thank You'

The members of the St. John's Conference of the Society say a sincere thank you for your generous support at last weekend's collection. Remember the local conference can be contacted through the Parish Office or 086 895 1239.

### Contactless Payments

For your greater convenience we can now accept contactless payments at the Parish Office. We will shortly offer the same facility in our churches. Thank you for your support.

**Address:** St John's Presbytery, Dublin Road, Kilkenny. R95 ND2W

**Email:** stjohns@ossory.ie **Website:** www.stjohnskilkenny.com

**Office:** 056 772 1072; **Secretary:** Áine Butler; **Office Hours:** Mon-Fri 9.30 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.

**Newsletter Deadline:** Thursdays 12.00 noon

**SVP Help Line:** 086 895 1239

Monsignor Dan Carroll: 087 907 7769. Fr Tom O'Toole: 087 224 0787.

Monsignor Michael Ryan (Retired)

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

**Mary Brennan; Jo Browne; Alan Burke; Fr Dan Carroll; Claire Coogan;  
Luke Leydon; Paddy Manning; Iris O'Flynn; Fr Tom O'Toole; Karena Phelan.**

### IF YOU HAVE A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN CONTACT

The Diocesan Designated Liaison Person, Ms. Ailish Higgins, 085 802 1633 - dlp@ossory.ie

### OUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES ARE:

Brenda Whitely; Marian Eardly.

**Counselling Services - Towards Healing Confidential Helpline**

1800 313 316 - www.towardshealing.ie

**Roman Catholic Diocese and Parishes of Ossory - Registered Charity No. 20015831**

# Parish Of Saint John The Evangelist

*incorporating | St John's | Dunmore | Johnswell | church areas*

### MASS TIMES

**St John's - Saturday:** 6.00pm (Vigil); **Sunday:** 8.00am, 11.30am & 7.00pm.

**Holy Days:** 6.00pm (Vigil); 8.00am, 10.30am & 7.00pm.

**Weekdays:** 8.00am, 10.30am. (Sat. 10.30am only). **Adoration:** Wednesdays at 11.00am.

**Johnswell - Sunday 10.00am**

**Dunmore - Sunday 11.00am**

**St. John's Parish, St. Mary's Parish, St. Patrick's Parish, St. Canice's Parish  
together form the Kilkenny City Pastoral Area**

### Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025

### Welcome Fr Tom O'Toole

This weekend we welcome Fr. Tom O'Toole to our parish. Fr. Tom, who was ordained in 1981, has much pastoral experience having worked in a number of parishes throughout the Diocese of Ossory. He comes to us from Glenmore Parish where he has served for the past 11 years. Incidentally, Fr Tom, who grew up in St Canice's Parish, was born in John Street and comes from a long established and well known family in St John's Parish.

We are delighted to welcome Fr. Tom and wish him every blessing in his ministry among us.

### Fr Joseph Lubula

Fr Joseph continues to work with us in the Parish and we are delighted to have him in Kilkenny. All in the Parish join in wishing him every happiness on the 15th Anniversary of his Priesthood which he celebrated last Thursday *Ad Multos Annos!*

### First Friday of September

Next Friday is the First Friday of September. The sick and housebound will be visited at the usual times. Please inform the Parish Office on 056 772 1072 or one of the priests if you have a relative or neighbour who would like this service.

### Season Of Creation - Month of September

Pope Francis published *Laudate Si* in 2015. 10 years later Pope Leo invites us again to reflect on the gift of creation during the month of September, finishing on the Feast of St Francis, 4<sup>th</sup> October. The theme this year is **Seeds of Peace and Hope**. Preaching at Mass in July in the *Laudate Si* Garden in Castle Gandolfo Pope Leo reminded us that Jesus frequently uses images of the rhythms of life and seasons inherent in nature in his parables of the Kingdom of God. On Friday at 4.00pm Pope Leo XIV will inaugurate the *Borgo Laudato Si*, a village of some 135 acres of gardens, villas, archaeological sites, and farmland, with a commitment to education, sustainability, and community life. The Centre aims to be a place to live, to pray, to learn, and to grow in communion with God, with one another, and with creation. The Holy Father will visit the *Borgo* grounds, meeting workers, collaborators, their families, and all who have worked on this project. Pope Leo XIV will bless the centre and will be joined by Andrea Bocelli and his son Matteo who will sing a hymn of thanksgiving before the Holy Father's blessing.

### Side by Side Club

The Side by Side Club will resume on next Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> September after the summer break. The Club meets every Thursday from 2.00pm to 5.00pm. New members are most welcome, contact Helen on 083 406 8148.

### Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

**Recently Deceased:** Julia Walsh, Kells Road, late of Newpark Close.  
Teresa Kennedy, Maudlin Street. Liam Carey, Granges Road.

Sr Carmel Doran, Cairns, Australia, late of Cork.

**Anniversaries:** Mary O'Brien (nee Dowd); Joe Doheny (6.00pm); Marian Phelan; Mike and Elizabeth Loughman (8.00am); Tom Ryan; Daniel & Ann McEvoy (11.00am); Eileen O'Connor & Sr Carmel Doran (Recently Deceased) (11.30am); Mary O'Brien (7.00pm); Jim Doherty; Ellen Brophy; Fr. Liam Holohan; Deceased members of the Bergin Family; Mark Downey; Sr Catherine Walsh; Michelle, Joan and Henry Laherty.

*Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day.  
Unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed and very dear.*

#### Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm Bridget Ahearn  
8.00am Niamh Carroll  
10.00am Betsy Rice  
11.00am Liam Burke & Liam Maddock  
11.30am Mary Hanafin & Mary Lynch  
7.00pm Joan Galwey



#### Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection: €490.00			
Mass	Attendance	Baskets	
6.00pm St. John's	77	220.00	
8.00am St. John's	90	316.00	
10.00am Johnswell	46	80.00	
11.00am Dunmore	92	161.00	
11.30am St. John's	218	508.00	
7.00pm St. John's	92	155.00	
	615	€1,440.00	

### St. Mary's Cathedral Draw 2025/2026

Our parish had one winner in the final draw in the present series. Maggie Sweeney won €200 on Ann Brennan's card. Congratulations and well done! A new cycle of draws will begin in September, and tickets are available from the Parish Office or any of the priests. Draw takes place on the last Wednesday of each month. Tickets cost €10 per month. Over the past ten years the draw has raised over €800,000, a figure which testifies to the generosity and commitment of so many people around the Diocese. Your renewed support and generosity is greatly appreciated.

### Canonisation of Saints Pier Giorgio Fracatti and Carlo Acutis

The Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, will canonise Pier Giorgio Fracatti and Carlo Acutis in Rome on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2025. There will be a live stream presentation of the ceremony in the Chapter House, St. Mary's Cathedral from 9.00am to 12.00 noon, organised by the Lay Dominicans. Light refreshments will be available in aid of Teach Tom.

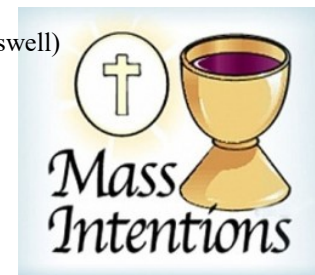
At 11.00am on the same Sunday Bishop Coll will celebrate Mass in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Castlecomer. The bishop will bless all present with a first class relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis.

### Peace in the Holy Land

The Latin and Greek Orthodox Patriarchs of Jerusalem released a joint appeal for peace in Gaza on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> August, saying there is no reason to justify "the deliberate and forcible mass displacement of civilians." On Wednesday, Pope Leo XIV joined his voice to theirs and recalled the Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace, which took place last weekend. "Today I renew a strong appeal both to the parties involved and to the international community, that an end be put to the conflict in the Holy Land, which has caused so much terror, destruction, and death," said the Pope. He also called for the safe entry of humanitarian aid into Gaza and the protection of civilians. "I appeal for all hostages to be freed, a permanent ceasefire to be reached, the safe entry of humanitarian aid to be facilitated, and humanitarian law to be fully respected - especially the obligation to protect civilians and the prohibitions against collective punishment, the indiscriminate use of force, and the forced displacement of populations," he added. The Pope concluded his appeal by invoking the Blessed Virgin Mary to pray for peace.

### Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 1<sup>st</sup> September

Monday: 10.30am Fr. Liam Holohan MHM  
Wednesday: 10.30am Geraldine Maher  
Friday: 7.30pm Geraldine Patterson (Retirement/Johnswell)  
Saturday: 10.30am Anne McDermott & Mary Barry  
Sunday: 11.00am **MM** Angela McEvoy  
11.30am Theresa Byrne  
Michael & Michelle Reynolds  
Martin Shelly  
**MM** Mary Meany  
7.00pm Bernadette Hayes  
Edward Ryan.



**May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**

### Charity Awareness Walk in Memory of Aislinn Nelson Comerford

A Charity Awareness Walk in Memory of Aislinn Nelson Comerford will take place in Dunmore Countryside Park, Castlecomer Road entrance, (Eircode: R95 HD50), next Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> of September at 2.00pm. All donations received go to Thrombosis Ireland and The Irish Heart Foundation. There will also be collection 'buckets' on the day. Online donations can be made on Just Giving, 'Aislinn's Step Forward for Thrombosis.' Donations: <https://tinyurl.com/AisieWalk>. All welcome, young and old.



### August 30<sup>th</sup> – Feast of St Fiacre

Fiacre was born in Ireland in the 7<sup>th</sup> century. He established a monastery at Kilfera (Kil-fiacre: Church of Fiacre) on the banks of the Nore, just off the Bennettsbridge Road in Kilkenny. He later moved to Graiguenamanagh and later still to France where he established a hermitage in a forest near Meaux, not far from Paris. Known for his love of nature and his gift for gardening he grew herbs and vegetables and was known for his healing remedies. Fiacre's fame spread, and he became known for his miracles. Realizing that he needed more space to accommodate visitors, he asked the local bishop for some land who granted Fiacre a plot of land. Fiacre started building a hospice for the poor and sick.

It became a place of refuge for those in need, and he spent the rest of his life caring for the sick and the poor. He died on August 30<sup>th</sup>, 670, and was buried in the hospice he had built.

Interestingly, Fiacre is the patron saint of cab drivers - French cabs are called *fiacres* because the first establishment to let coaches on hire was in the Rue Saint-Martin, near the hotel Saint-Fiacre, in Paris. Mass will be celebrated at St Fiacres Well, Kilfera at 3.00pm on Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> August. This is a long established tradition in the area and all are welcome

### French Language Classes

The Alliance Française offers classes in French, with enrolment on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> September from 7.00pm in the Club House Hotel. So, if you are a beginner and want to know what do you say after you say "Bonjour", or you want to revive your school French, or get better value from your French holiday there are classes for all levels. There are Leaving and Junior Cert French classes also. The teachers are native French but very patient.

[www.afkilkenny.org](http://www.afkilkenny.org), email [info@afkilkenny.org](mailto:info@afkilkenny.org) or call 087 429 0303 for more details.

### Careers Information Evening

Mayfair Library is hosting a Careers Information Workshop on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> September at 2.00pm. Suitable for school leavers, graduates, job seekers, career changers etc. Hosted by Statia (O'Carroll Careers) who has over 25 years' experience. Register at Library 056 779 4174.