

Mass of Chrism

Bishop Ger invites all to the annual Mass of Chrism at St. Mary's Cathedral at 7.30pm on Wednesday evening. During this diocesan celebration the Sacred Oils for use in the diocese will be blessed and the priests will renew their vows. Refreshments will be served in the Chapter Room after Mass. All are welcome.

Streets of Kilkenny 5k Road Race (Road Closures) - Holy Thursday

St. John's Parish has been informed that many streets in the vicinity of St. John's Church will be closed with permission from Kilkenny County Council and the Gardai from 7.00pm to 8.30pm on Holy Thursday, 2nd April 2026 to facilitate a road race organised by Kilkenny City Harriers.

Regretfully, this means the only vehicular access to St. John's Church for the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening will be via O'Loughlin Road and the Dublin Road from the Ring Road Roundabout.

Parishioners are asked to note this restriction when planning your journey to St. John's Church for the Mass of the Lord's Supper - one of the most important celebrations in the Catholic calendar. Please leave home in plenty of time and be prepared to walk some distance to and from the church.

Day Of Fasting and Abstinence

Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence; it is also recommended that Holy Saturday be so observed, 'so that the Church, with uplifted and welcoming heart, be ready to celebrate the joys of the Sunday of the resurrection' (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, 110).

Come and See Day

Interested in the priesthood? Come and See Day will take place in the Pallottine Centre, Thurles, Co. Tipperary E41 A271 on Saturday, 11th April: 11.00am to 4.30pm (including Eucharist). A day to explore priesthood: talks, time for prayer, answering your questions, discerning a vocation. For more information contact: carol.king@vocations.ie

The Priory Institute

The Priory Institute is delighted to offer a free of charge Easter Triduum retreat. Journey through the Sacred Music of the Easter Triduum. The event consists of four 20-minute recorded presentations that will become available from Holy Thursday, the last one on Easter Sunday.

It's free of charge and people can register to participate at any time during Lent. Visit our website prioryinstitute.com to register/find out more.

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: 051 350 725

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

Fr. Paul Kasu 087 390 5060 Monsignor Michael Ryan (Retired)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mary Brennan; Jo Browne; Alan Burke; Fr Dan Carroll; Claire Coogan; Fr. Paul Kasu; 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, Mr Fintan Fanning, 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

Palm Sunday - 29th March 2026

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday is celebrated this weekend. This the day on which we mark the Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Palm branches will be blessed at Masses in our parish

Holy Week and Easter Ceremonies in Our Parish

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| Monday, 30th March | Morning Mass | 8.00am and 10.30am (St. John's) |
| Tuesday, 31st March | Morning Mass | 8.00am and 10.30am (St. John's) |
| Wednesday, 1st April | Morning Mass | 8.00am and 10.30am (St. John's) |
| | Adoration | 11.00am - 1.00pm (St. John's) |
| | Mass of Chrism | 7.30pm (St. Mary's Cathedral) |
| Holy Thursday, 2nd April | Morning Prayer | 10.30am (St. John's) |
| | Mass of the Lord's Supper | 7.30pm (St. John's) |
| Good Friday, 18th April | Morning Prayer | 10.30am (St. John's) |
| | Stations of the Cross | 12 noon (St. John's) |
| | The Lord's Passion | 3.00pm (St. John's) |
| | Stations of the Cross | 7.30pm (Dunmore and Johnswell) |
| Holy Saturday, 4th April | Morning Prayer | 10.30am (St. John's) |
| | Solemn Easter Vigil | 9.00pm (St. John's) |

Priests available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation after all of the above services

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| Easter Sunday, 5th April | Mass | 8.00am, 11.30am (St. John's) |
| | Mass | 10.00am (Johnswell) |
| | Mass | 11.00am (Dunmore) |
| | Mass | 7.00pm (St. John's) |

Easter Week, 6th - 10th April Mass 10.30am (St. John's)

We invite you to join with neighbours and friends to celebrate the events of Holy Week and Easter in St. John's Parish.

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: **Michael “Mick” Lennon**, Newpark. Requiem Mass at St. John’s Church on Sunday at 11.30am. Interment in St Kieran’s Cemetery.

Michael Declan Ryan, Lower New Street. Reposing at Johnston’s Funeral Home on Wednesday with prayers at 6.00pm. Private cremation on Thursday.

Ger Meaney, Rathcash, Clifden and SOS, Kilkenny. Funeral arrangements later.

Michael Butler, Kilmogar, Johnswell

Mary Kershaw, London

Viktor Mirga, Parc na Gowan

Noeleen Kelly, Loughboy

Anniversaries: Mark Whelan; Seamus (Scun) Donnelly; Helen Cruise; Richard Fanning (6.00pm); May Brophy (10.00am); Cathy Dunne; Aileen Deegan; Mary Lawler (11.30am); Margaret & Tom O’Leary (7.00pm); Noel Lou Walsh; Liz & Joe Whyte; Bridget Tallis; Sheila & Edward Ned Delaney; Sammy Geoghegan; James & Margaret Burke.

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 Mairin Bergin
8.00am Niamh Carroll
10.00am Seán Colgan
11.00am Esther Comerford & Tom Comerford
11.30am Mary Hanafin & Mary Lynch
7.00pm Joan Galwey



Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

| Envelope Collection: | | €2,115.00 | |
|----------------------|------------|-----------|--|
| Mass | Attendance | Baskets | |
| 6.00pm St. John’s | 215 | 246.00 | |
| 8.00am St. John’s | 110 | 320.00 | |
| 10.00am Johnswell | 50 | 110.00 | |
| 11.00am Dunmore | 84 | 152.00 | |
| 11.30am St. John’s | 183 | 390.00 | |
| 7.00pm St. John’s | 135 | 263.00 | |
| | 777 | €1,481.00 | |

Lenten Alms Collection - This Weekend

The annual Lenten Alms Collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend. This collection, which takes place in every parish around the world, goes towards various charities nominated by the Pope. Your generous almsgiving will be much appreciated.

Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land

Our Holy Father, Pope Leo has asked every Catholic Parish to take up a collection on Good Friday to support the needs of Christians in the Holy Land. This year the needs are massive and the plight of the Christians in the land of Jesus is desperate. The exhortation to support the saints in Jerusalem was first made by St. Paul in many of his letters. The Church has always supported this call. Please be as generous as you can on this Good Friday.

Cake Sale Johnswell

Johnswell Youth Club Team is hosting a Cake Sale on Easter Sunday after Mass in Aid of Relay for Life. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Community Garda Clinic

Garda clinics give the opportunity to local residents to meet with Garda members who can provide advice, support, and information on community safety matters. They can also discuss local issues and provide general Garda services such as signing forms.

Location – St John’s Day Centre Hall **Date** – 1st April 2026 **Time** – 2.00pm – 4.00pm

No appointment is necessary – all are very welcome.

The Men’s Shed

Are you looking for something special for your garden? Why not give us a call. We do: benches, tables and seating, flower containers, wishing wells and much more. Why not pay us a visit at The Men’s Shed at the Fen in Newpark. Open from 9.30am to 12.00 noon Monday to Friday.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 30th March 2026

Sunday: 8.00am Bob and Patricia Quigley
11.30am MM Maria Gloria Sousa (Algarve)

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.



Pope Appeals for Peace

Pope Leo XIV renewed his appeal for peace in a brief statement on Tuesday last. Recalling the international situation, the Pope said, “Hatred is increasing, violence keeps getting worse, more than a million people are isolated, and there are so many dead. We want to pray for peace, but I urge all authorities to truly work through dialogue to resolve problems,” the Pope said.

Separately, in his Angelus address on Sunday, Pope Leo XIV had expressed his “dismay” at the situation in the Middle East and in other regions of the world “torn apart by war and violence.” “We cannot remain silent in the face of the suffering of so many defenceless people who are victims of these conflicts,” the Pope said on that occasion. “What hurts them hurts all of humanity. The death and pain caused by these wars is a scandal for the entire human family and a cry that rises to God!” Pope Leo continued, “I strongly renew my appeal to persevere in prayer, so that hostilities may cease and paths to peace may finally open up, based on sincere dialogue and respect for the dignity of every human person.”

(Vatican News)

St Carlo Acutis

The relic of St Carlo Acutis will be in Castlecomer Parish Church during the Easter Season. The relic is placed in a special reliquary in the church and all are welcome to visit and pray through his intercession for their needs.

Petitions for Lourdes Grotto

On Easter Sunday morning Fr. Dan will travel to Lourdes with the Rise and Shine Trust providing a pilgrimage/holiday for young people with additional needs. Place petitions in a sealed envelope marked “Lourdes Petition” and leave it into the Parish Office at your convenience. Envelopes should not contain money, will not be opened, and placed at Our Lady’s Statue.

Celebrating the Radical Easter Message of Liberation for Women

This Conference will take place at the Pembroke Hotel, Patrick Street, Kilkenny on Saturday, 25th April 2026. The speaker will be Dr. Gráinne Doherty

Times: 10.00am – 4.30pm. Cost: €20 (includes tea/coffee). Please pay at the door.

Booking essential: Contact Sara or Catherina @ 056 772 2870 9.00am – 4.30pm Monday to Friday or e-mail regionaloffice@ssjg.ie before 17th April 2026.

Society of St Vincent De Paul Says ‘Thank You’

A sincere thank you to all for your generous support at last weekend’s collection. Your donations provide practical support to those in need. Remember the local conference can be contacted on 051 350 725 or you can request help online at www.svp.ie.

Trócaire Family Fast Boxes

It is time to return your Lenten Family Fast Box. Please remember to return your Trócaire envelopes or box to the church on Holy Thursday. Thank you for your support.

Diocese of Ossory Annual Good Friday Walk 2026

Led by: Bishop Ger Nash, Apostolic Administrator of Ossory. Gathering at St Canice’s Catholic Church, Dean Street, Kilkenny, at 7.00pm. Come join us as we walk in prayer to the Capuchin Friary for Taizé Prayer around the Cross. All are welcome.