

## Ministers of the Word

*Reflect on the importance of Scripture in our faith and at our liturgies.  
For new and existing readers*

The Second evening, led by Ms Olivia Maher, will offer a chance for our Ministers of the Word, new and existing, to come together to reflect on their ministry, and their important service, as part of an Advent journey.

We encourage all those who read in our parish to head along to this short evening. The next evening will take place in St Kieran's College at 7.30pm this Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> December.

### Repentance and its associated colour Purple

Repentance and its associated colour purple remind many people of the season of Lent rather than Advent but it is not difficult to see why it is so central to our preparation for the coming of Jesus.

Without it, the season of Christmas can simply slide into an excuse for over-indulgence, an opportunity to party in an effort to get over the darkness of winter.

These readings show the true meaning of repentance, for they speak about leaving aside anything that might blind us to what God wants for us, and opening ourselves to something new and wonderful and beyond our wildest dreams: God coming in the person of his Son.

A poet wrote: "when I am an old woman I shall wear purple", to remind her that life can be different day by day or that she might be personally noticed and change her life.

This time of the year the Church wears purple and we remind ourselves that Jesus is near, that life can be different and that we can change our lives.

**Add:** St John's Presbytery, Dublin Road, Kilkenny. **Email:** stjohns@ossory.ie **Web:** stjohnskilkenny.com

**Parish 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

Fr Frank Purcell: 086 601 0001; Fr Brian Griffin: 087 064 4158; Fr Lorcan Moran: 086 855 0521

#### PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mary Brennan; Alan Burke; Margaret Cleere; Paul Colgan; Fr Brian Griffin;  
Siobhán McKiernan; Fr Lorcan Moran; Aidan Phelan; Fr Frank Purcell; Pat Ryan.

#### SAFEGUARDING

**If you have a safeguarding concern contact**

The Diocesan Designated Liaison Person, Mr Cathal Cullen, 087 100 0232 - dlp@ossory.ie

**Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are:**

Kathleen Ferguson; Phil Curran; Brenda Whitely; Marian Eardly.

## PARISH OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

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

#### MASS TIMES

**St John's – Sundays & Holy Days:** Vigil: 6.30 p.m.; Sun: 8.00 a.m., 10.30 a.m., 12 noon & 7.30 p.m.

**Polish Mass:** 2nd Sun. monthly, 2.00 p.m.; **Weekdays:** 8.00 a.m. & 10.30 a.m. (Sat. 10.30 a.m. only)

**Johnswell – Sunday** 10.00 a.m.

**Dunmore – Sunday** 11.00 a.m.

Second Week of Advent - 9th December 2018

### An Invitation to Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Mindful of the question the people asked John in next Sunday's Gospel: **What must we do to prepare for the coming of Christ?** we invite you to prepare for the celebration of that coming, as we continue to prepare for Christmas by availing of the Sacrament of Reconciliation after all Masses next weekend.

### Christmas Offerings Envelopes and Weekly/Yearly Envelopes for 2019

The **Weekly/Yearly Envelopes & Christmas Offering Envelopes** are available for distribution. We would very much appreciate if the Distributors, whose generous help is always valued, would collect their respective Areas from the presbytery.

The **"Weekly/Yearly/Standing Order"** contributions go in their entirety to capital expenditure and maintenance of the three parish churches & buildings, as well as all the running costs of the parish.

The **"Christmas Offering Collection"** goes towards the salaries of the Priests of the parish as well as our contribution towards Bishop's salary.

If you have let the practice of supporting your Parish or Personnel slip, we urge you to recommence and play your part in the running this very fine parish of St John's.

We are very conscious of the sacrifices you make as you support these collections, and once again we take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to all who do so.

## BEREAVEMENTS

### Recently Deceased:

Finbar Coughlan, Callan Road.

### Months Mind:

### Anniversaries:

Mary Coyne (6.30pm); Eileen O'Donnell & Tom McGloine (8.00am); Etta Shine (10.30am); John, Mary & Catherine Butler (11.00am); Joseph & Alice Bambrick (12.00 noon); Mary Malone (7.30pm); Tommy Grace; Nan Brennan; Philip & Ann Fogarty; Milo and Ann Fry; Christy Galvin; Delia & Jim Lynch; John Byrne; Frances Guidera; Billy Loughman; Paddy, Nan & Eddie Keyes; Margaret Hennessy; Maud Phillips; Michael Brennan; Christopher & Catherine Molloy.

### Readers for Next Weekend – Page 87

6.30pm	Seamus Brennan
8.00am	Anne Marie Hogan
10.30am	Peggy Wall
12.00noon	Tony Dalton
7.30pm	Eileen Kinane
Johnswell 10.00am	Betsy Rice & Teresa Dowling
Dunmore 11.00am	Stephanie Butler & Rodger Curran

### Eucharistic Ministers for Next Weekend – Panel 1

### Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €1,632.

Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order. Your support is greatly appreciated.

## Our Life has Meaning, Direction, Purpose and a Goal

As we saw the first of our Advent candles lit at the beginning of last week's Mass we got a sense of a new beginning, of a setting out, a sense of journey. To me it was a reassuring affirmation that we are all 'going somewhere'; that we are on our way to meet a future, a glorious future, which lies ahead in the uncertainty of our troubled lives and our troubled times.

Those candles tell us our life has meaning, direction, purpose and a goal - all given to us by Christ.

They are candles of hope; giving light and yet, like us, being consumed.

This week it is the second candle, and then soon the third and fourth, and then all too quickly it will again be Christmas. Yes, the liturgical year goes round and round in a circle but it is always an ascending circle, a spiral of longing reaching upward for a moment of fulfilment.

## Mass Intentions for the coming Week

**Tuesday:** Tommy Grace (10.30am).

**Saturday:** Nan Brennan (10.30am).  
Tommy Dowling (6.30pm).

**Sunday:** Joe Fogarty (10.30am).  
Jim Rice (11.00am).  
Mary Burke (12.00 noon).  
Richard Gaule (7.30pm).

## Readers Rota

The Readers' Rota St John's Church is now available for collection from the Sacristy. Please pick up your copy after Mass.

### St Vincent De Paul

The Christmas collection for St Vincent de Paul Society will take place this weekend 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> December.

Sincere thanks for all your generous support.

## Johnswell School Craft Sale and Coffee Morning

The annual Christmas craft sale and coffee morning will be held in Johnswell National School after 10am Mass this Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December. There will be a great variety of items for sale-Christmas wreaths and logs, home baking and much more. Please come and support this annual event.

## The Kilkenny Choir

The Kilkenny Choir conducted by Thomas Kehoe will perform a Ceremony of Carols and other seasonal favourites in St Johns today at 4.30pm. Tickets €15, Children free. Come along and bring your friends to make the start of the Christmas Season.

## Giveblood.ie

Your next Blood Donation Clinic will take place on the dates below

### Newpark Hotel:

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> Dec to Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December from 4.30pm to 8.00pm  
Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> December from 11.30am to 3.00pm.

***"You get more than you give"***

## Medjugorje – Evening of Prayer

Rosary, Mass, Adoration & Prayer for Healing will take place on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in St Fiacre's Church, Loughboy. All are welcome.