

BEREAVEMENTS

Recently Deceased:

Ann Dockery, Dublin.

Month's Mind:

Frank Dalton (7.00pm).

Pauline McCauley.

Anniversaries:

Eileen Owens (6.00pm); Ned Brennan, Margaret Pearson, Ann Shanley (11.00am); Ned & Eddie Byrne Jr. (11.30); John Byrne; The McMahon Family; Lily & Danny Maloney; Maura Murphy; Ann & Martin McMahon; John O'Gorman; Edward Moriarty; Mick & Annie Ruth; Mary & Agnes Murphy; Bernie & Michael Comerford Snr.

Readers for Next Weekend – Page 118

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6.00pm Máirín Bergin
8.00am Seán Rodgers
11.30am Kathleen Ferguson & Bobbie Lahart
7.00pm Joan Galwey
Johnswell Seán Colgan
Dunmore Bernard O'Gorman & John McGourty

Eucharistic Ministers - Next Weekend: Panel 1
11.30am Mass - Next Weekend: Panel 1

Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €3,310.

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

Pilates Classes

Pilates Classes commencing in Dunmore Hall Thursday 9th January at 7pm. 6 weeks for €50 Places Limited to Book call or Text Margaret 086 8547710.

Side By Side Club

The Side by Side club takes place every Thursday at 2pm in the Day Care Centre. New members welcome. Contact Helen Goode on 083 4068148.

Mass Intentions for the coming Week

Monday:

John Byrne; The McMahon Family(10.30am)

Tuesday:

Pauline McCauley

Saturday:

William, Tess Murphy & Family (6.00pm).

Sunday:

John & Ann Barry (8.00am).

Seamus Hennessy (11.00am).

Michael & Angela White (11.30am).

Seán Tyrrell (7.00pm).

Social Dancing in Johnswell

Dance Classes will recommence on Tuesday 7th in Johnswell Hall at 7.30pm.

A Star To Guide

A husband asked his wife, "Why would God give the wise men a star to guide them?" She replied, "Because God knows men are too proud to ask directions."

Dates for your Diary

Confirmation: (St John's): Saturday 25th April, 11am.

First Holy Communion (St John's): Saturday 23rd May, 10:30am.

First Holy Communion (Johnswell): Sunday 24th May, 10am

Ossory Pilgrimage to Lourdes: May 17th – May 22nd

Cemetery Mass – St Kieran's Cemetery: Friday June 26th, 7:30pm

Cemetery Mass – Dunmore and Johnswell: Friday July 3rd, 7:30pm

“The Other Wise Man”

It's said that a fourth person was supposed to accompany the other three wise men on their journey to search for the newborn King. The name of that person was Artaban. As Artaban prepares for the journey, he takes with him a bag of precious stones to give to the baby King. On this way to join the other three wise men, Artaban stops to help a poor person. The delay caused him to miss the departure of the other three and never does catch up with them. He constantly runs into people who need help. And he always stops to help them. Eventually, Artaban gives away all his precious stones.

As the story ends, Artaban is old and poor. He has never realized his dream to meet the King of Kings. But the story doesn't end there. One day Artaban is in Jerusalem. Authorities are about to execute a criminal. When Artaban sees the criminal, his heart skips a beat. Something tells him this is the King of Kings for whom he has been searching all his life. Artaban is heartbroken when he sees he can do nothing to help the King. Then something remarkable happens. Artaban hears the King's voice say to him: "Don't be broken-hearted, Artaban. You've been helping me all your life. When I was hungry, you gave me food. When I was thirsty, you gave me drink. When I was naked, you clothed me. When I was a stranger, you took me in"

THE NEW MINISTER STOOD AT THE CHURCH DOOR greeting the members as they left the Sunday morning service. Most of the people were very generous telling the new minister how much they liked his message, except for one man who said, "The was a very dull and boring sermon, pastor."

A few minutes later, the same man again appeared in line and said, "I don't think you did much preparation for your message."

Once again, the man appeared, this time muttering, "You really blew it. You didn't have a thing to say, pastor."

Finally, the minister could stand it no longer. He went to one of the deacons and inquired about the man.

"Oh, don't let that guy bother you," said the deacon. "He's a little slow. All he does is go around repeating whatever he hears other people saying."

A DRUNK MAN WHO SMELLED LIKE BEER sat down on a subway seat next to a priest. The man's tie was stained, his face was plastered with red lipstick, and a half empty bottle of gin was sticking out of his torn coat pocket. He opened his newspaper and began reading.

After a few minutes the man turned to the priest and asked, "Say, Father, what causes arthritis?"

"My Son, it's caused by loose living, being with cheap, wicked women, too much alcohol, and a contempt for your fellow man."

Well, I'll be damned," the drunk muttered, returning to his paper.

The priest, thinking about what he had said, nudged the man and apologized.

"I'm very sorry. I didn't mean to come on so strong. How long have you had arthritis?"

"I don't have it, Father. I was just reading here that the Pope does."

Address: St John's Presbytery, Dublin Road, Kilkenny. **Email:** stjohns@ossory.ie

Website: 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

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

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Fergal Brennan; Mary Brennan; Alan Burke; Margaret Cleere; Fr Brian Griffin; Siobhán McKiernan; Fr Lorcan Moran; Iris O'Flynn; Karena Phelan; Fr Frank Purcell.

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:

Mary Weadick; Máirín Bergin; 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: 6.00 p.m.; Sun: 8.00 a.m., 11.30 & 7.00 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 Sunday of Christmas - 5th January 2020

The Feast of the Epiphany - Monday

Monday, 6th of Jan. is the feast of the Epiphany, and is a Holy Day of obligation.

Masses in St John's Church as on a Sunday 8.00am, 11.30am and 7.00pm

The magical story of Babushka

A story for those who miss the point.

Once upon a time there lived in Bethlehem a woman named Babushka. She kept the cleanest and neatest house in town and was also the best cook. She heard rumours of three kings coming across the desert but paid no attention because she had so much work to do. Then she heard the sounds of drums, pipes and a cavalcade of riders. She looked out the window and there were three richly dressed kings coming towards her house. They told her that they had come to honour the little prince who had been born in Bethlehem and they needed food and lodging. Babushka cooked a wonderful meal for them, remade all the beds, and wore herself out. The next morning the kings begged her to come with them to see the little prince. Babushka said she would follow after them as soon as she finished the dishes. She cleaned the house again and then took out of a cabinet the toys of her own little prince who had died so long ago. She would give them to the new little prince. But first she sat down for a moment's rest before she followed the wise men.

Hours later she woke up, grabbed the basket, and rushed into town. But the kings were gone and so was the little prince and his parents. Ever after, it is said, Babushka has followed after them. Whenever she finds a new born babe, she looks to see if he is the little prince. Even if he is not there, Babushka leaves a toy for the child. She probably found the prince early on, but we still should learn from her lesson:

we should never let the important interfere with the essential.