

Preparing For The Return To The Public Celebration of Mass and the Sacraments

As we look forward in joy and hope to the re-opening of our churches for the celebration of Mass and the Sacraments we received a Framework Document Irish Bishops Conference. Its purpose is to assist us all in our preparations for re-opening of our churches in a safe and measured way.

It's a very detailed document and places great responsibility on us all to be very cautious when it states: ***"in all circumstances the safety and health of people, ministers, and priests must be paramount. No church should be opened for public prayer or worship until satisfactory arrangements, as indicated in this Framework, have been put in place."***

So, at the end of the month we hope to slowly and cautiously resume public worship in our churches, knowing that it can only happen in a limited way. We will still need patience, perseverance and self-sacrifice.

We appeal particularly to the younger members of our parishes. Your energy, creativity and enthusiasm are gifts that our parish need now more than ever, since some of our older members may be nervous or unable to offer their normal help in the current circumstances.

For many families the past few months have been a difficult time, especially where First Communion, Confirmation and other sacraments had been anticipated. We hope arrangements can be made to celebrate these sacraments as soon as practicable, albeit in a different way for the protection of all.

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

PARISH 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.

The Most Holy Body & Blood Of Christ (Corpus Christi) - 14th June 2020

A Core Group Of Helpers *Let's All Play Our Part*

The resumption of public worship should obviously not mean simply going back to where we were before.

A core group, a **'COVID-19 Support Team'** of helpers/volunteers is urgently required for our three churches: St John's Church, Dunmore Church and Johnswell Church to assist in ensuring that all guidelines of the **'Framework Document'** are fully observed.

Please don't be afraid to make contact and volunteer.

- Also, we need to contact every Reader and Eucharistic Minister and Choir to see how their situation fits in with the guidelines.
- We must take our **social distancing** places in the pews.
- Maximum occupancy in churches must, for the safety of all, be observed.
- The use of Mass Books will no longer be possible.
- Collections will be taken on the way in and the way out of mass.

These are just some of the issues to be addressed.

We have been through testing times, but these months have opened up new possibilities for the future mission of the Church.

We earnestly hope that what we have learned – as individuals, in our family homes, and as members of the family of the Church – will enrich the life of our Church and increase the joy of our celebrations as the doors of our churches open slowly once more.

BEREAVEMENTS

Recently Deceased:

Catherine Codd, Rathnure, Wexford.
Sr Annunciata, Presentation Convent.

Anniversaries:

Thomas & Clare Drennan (11.30); Tom Brennan; Bridie, Terence & Jim Doherty; Richard Bergin; John Nolan; Mary Dermody; Breda O'Neill; Michael & Margaret Fitzgerald; Phil Drohan.

Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €860.

Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order.

Despite there being no public masses, we appreciate you dropping off your envelope or donations at the Presbytery.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Donate Electronically

Some people ask: 'How can I support my parish?' Well, these days the use of cash is becoming less and less a reality. Many prefer to 'tap' and use cards and conduct transactions electronically.

Therefore, if you wish to donate to **PARISH FUNDS** you may do so by using;

IBAN: IE57AIBK93342232024285 (BIC: AIBKIE2D)

And if you wish to donate to the **CLERGY FUND** (priests' and bishop's salary:

IBAN: IE86AIBK93342232024442 (BIC: AIBKIE2D)

Please associate your name and address with any contribution.

Also, from next week, visitors to our Parish Website will have the opportunity to click on a '**DONATE**' button and choose an account to which to donate.

Mass Intentions for the coming Week

Tuesday: Bridie, Terence & Jim Doherty.

Wednesday: Richard Bergin.

Thursday: John Nolan.

Sunday: Michael Brett, Frank McCarthy,
Margaret Heffernan.

Daily Mass

Please join us each morning on our **Webcam Service**, stjohnskilkenny.com, or through our Parish **Radio Service** (106.8 FM).

Weekdays: 10.30 a.m.

Sundays: 11.30 a.m.

"I Will Not Permit Christ To Return To Albania As Long As I'm In Charge"

Mother Teresa was given a reception by the cruel communist dictator Enver Hoxha who ruled Albania for 40 years from 1945 to 1985. He imposed atheism as the official religion in 1967. The possession of a Bible or cross often meant a ten-year prison term. Welcoming Mother Teresa in 1985, he stated that he appreciated her world-wide works of charity, and then added, "But I will not permit Christ to return to Albania as long as I am in charge." In her reply after thanking the president for the reception Mother said, "Mr. President, you are wrong. I have brought not only the love of Christ into my native land but also the real presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist right into your presidential palace. I am allowed to carry Jesus in a pyx during my visit of this communist country where public worship is a crime. I keep Jesus in the consecrated host in my pocket. Jesus will return to this country very soon." Hoxha was gone a few days later on April 11, 1985. Communist rule collapsed in Albania in 1992 and Christians and Muslims reopened their churches and mosques for worship. Finally the Lord of the Eucharist has ruled the hearts and minds of the people of Albania.

When push comes to that famous shove, it doesn't matter what Mother Teresa or you or I believe about the Eucharist. What does matter is what Christ Himself believes about it. For the answer one must go to the record.

Exposition on Pope Saint John Paul II

A new exhibition celebrating the pontificate of St John Paul II has been launched online by the Polish Consulate General in Manchester. "John Paul II – the Pope of Dialogue" celebrates the 100th anniversary of the birth of Karol Wojtyla. It was created jointly by Poland's Centre for the Thought of John Paul II and the Polish Embassy in London.

<http://polishconsulatemanchester.com/popeofdialogue/>