

Happy Father's Day

"Dad: A son's first hero, a daughter's first love."

Father's day is celebrated every third Sunday of June.

As the name clearly says, the day is celebrated to appreciate the role played by fathers and father figures. The day was first celebrated in the United States of America in the year 1909 to compliment Mother's Day. The day was celebrated for the first time on June 19, 1910.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the celebrations will be a little different this time. Some of us are with our dads, while others are away from them. No matter, which category you come in, you must take out some time and make your dad feel special.

As Christians, we have a strong tradition of calling God "father" which is rooted in Jesus' reference to God as his Father. Jesus calling God "father" was not meant as a literal image but in order to convey/express something of the love and accessibility of God – the care and protection a good father would provide. It was an image which would have been well known by the early Christians and was obviously a very welcome contrast to the concept of God then prevalent - an austere and hard taskmaster.

"As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who love him." (Ps 103)

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.

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 21st June 2020

Volunteers / Helpers Required

Please contact any of the Priests or drop your name and number into the Presbytery if you are prepared to assist as a Steward and/or Usher at daily and/or w/e masses.

Stewards and Ushers are needed for our three churches: St John's, Dunmore and Johnswell to assist in ensuring that all Government are observed.

The more that volunteer, the easier it will be on everyone.

Don't Be In A Hurry

If you are cocooning or have underlying health issues we encourage you to take your time in returning to church for mass. Your health and the health of the community is more important. The official church guideline is that the dispensation from attending Sunday Mass still applies. You may consider, therefore, that watching Mass on webcam or listening to it on radio is a better alternative.

An Unexpected Setback

The Friday evening's announcement that indoor gatherings, from Monday, June 29th, are limited to 50 persons. This applies to all church buildings - irrespective of their size.

This means that the maximum we are permitted to accommodate in St John's is 50 - whereas we were banking on 100 with social distancing. Dunmore and Johnswell remain unchanged: 32 and 34 respectively.

BEREAVEMENTS

Recently Deceased:

David Hanlon, Wolfe Tone Street.

Sheila Iveson, Blackrock, Cork.

Jackie Dooley, Kennyswell Road.

Anniversaries:

Michael Brett, Frank McCarthy & Margaret Heffernan (11.30);

Michael Burke; Ken & Teresa Foley; May & Pat Shortis; Jim & Kathleen Foley;

Joseph Neary; Thomas, Bridget & Jimmy Grace; Patrick Foley.

Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €900.

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: May & Pat Shortis.

Sunday: Mary Connick
Elizabeth Hennessy.

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.

'Don't Shoot The Messenger!'

Our Parish Pastoral Council is working hard at the moment putting plans in place for the safe reopening of our three parish churches.

Our first public Mass will be in St John's on Monday morning, June 29th and all Daily and Sunday mass times will resume as per the timetable that existed before COVID-19 pandemic.

Unfortunately, as referred to on the front page, the seating capacity will be greatly reduced in our churches and to allow for social distancing.

St John's PPC continues to follow the most up-to-date public health advice and associated regulations and obligations, particularly in regard to limitations on gatherings, the requirements of social distancing, hygiene and sanitation measures and has the health and safety of our community at heart.

We look forward to your understanding and cooperation - particularly if you arrive at any of our three churches and discover that 'maximum occupancy' has already been reached. Please don't 'shoot the messenger' (the steward/usher) as he/she is only helping to apply Government law for the safety of the whole community.

What God Can't Do

A Sunday school teacher was examining her pupils after a series of lessons on God's omnipotence. She asked: "Is there anything God can't do?"

There was silence. Finally, one lad held up his hand. The teacher, disappointed that the point of her lesson had been missed, asked:

"Well, just what is it that God can't do?" "Well," replied the boy:

"He can't please everybody."

(What a clever wee chappie!)