

Family Carers Ireland

Family Carers Ireland are now accepting nominations for the 2020 Netwatch Carer of the Year. If you know of someone who is looking after a loved one at home and would like to recognise them for everything that they do, you can nominate online at www.familycarers.ie or contact the local office on 056 7721424 for a form. Nominations are also being accepted for Young Carer of the Year. Now more than ever it is time to recognise the valuable contribution that family carers bring to society.

Drive in Bingo

Graigue Ballycallan GAA club present Drive in Bingo in Tom Ryall Park, Kilmanagh this Sunday 6th Sept at 6pm. Gates open at 5pm and prize money up to €3000 with a raffle on the night. Double books and 2 sheets for €15 and single books and 1 sheet for €10. Extra Jackpot sheets are €3 each or 2 for €5. A great night is guaranteed.

Ireland's Churches unite to back facemasks at Mass

The leaders of the main churches in Ireland have united to recommend the wearing of face coverings during worship. In a joint statement, the Catholic Church, Church of Ireland, Presbyterians, and Methodists said while the government has not made face coverings compulsory at services, they strongly recommend they are worn.

'As churches we are committed to maintaining two metre physical distancing between household groups and strict adherence to all government guidance on hand hygiene, cleaning, ventilation etc,' the Church leaders said in a statement, 'to ensure that our services of worship are safe places for all who join with us.'

'It has become clear that the wearing of face coverings is likely to reduce the spread of coronavirus, thus helping to protect others. Their use is one way we can protect the most vulnerable, support our health workers and show practical love for our neighbours.'

The statement added: 'We understand that some people are exempted from the wearing of face coverings. We also recognise that whilst it may not be appropriate for those who are leading from the front during worship, including preaching, to wear face coverings, they should at all times continue to maintain at least two metre physical distancing from one another.'

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;
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.

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - 6th September 2020

Our Common Home

Today we mark the first Sunday of the Season of Creation 2020, which runs from 1st September to the 4th October. This is special season in the church calendar celebrates the joy of creation, while encouraging awareness of initiatives to protect the natural environment.

We are reminded during this time of our duty to care for what Pope Francis calls 'our common home'. When we hear the word 'home', we tend to think of the immediate place where we live and the people we share it with. Each of us lives within a particular web of relationships that we call home. But we must be conscious too that we live in a wider relationship with the earth and with all of creation. We all live in a common home, and we all must care for it, and for each other.

Our gospel today sees Jesus offer some advice about living in community. He first acknowledges that communities are far from perfect. We all struggle with our relationships and duties. But he makes one thing clear: in a community, we all have a responsibility to each other and to work to build harmony. This responsibility extends beyond our immediate environment to our world. In this Season of Creation, we remember in particular those across the world who are suffering as a result of environmental damage. The way we live on this earth has consequences for the world and its people, and indeed for future generations. Over the next few weeks, let us consider how we might make some changes that reflect our care for others and for our common home.

'We need to strengthen the conviction that we are one single human family.' (Pope Francis, Laudato Si')

Please note

It is permitted for two people from separate households to sit in each seat in the Church, at the designated signs, while still maintaining social distancing. If you arrive first, please sit at the inside sign of the seat to allow another person to sit at the outer sign.

BEREAVEMENTS

Recently Deceased:

Tommy Cummins, O'Loughlin Road.

Stephen Fanning, Kells Road.

Mary Finnerty (nee Dwyer), Roscommon, formerly of Johnswell.

Teresa Byrne, Altamount. Funeral Mass Tuesday @ 10.30am in St John's.

Interment in St. Kieran's Cemetery.

Anniversaries:

Pat Wood (6.00pm); Jane, Richard, Michael & Seamus Shortall (8.00am);

Carmel Hickey (11.00am); Martin Shelly & Eileen O'Connor (11.30am);

Seamus Murphy (7.00pm); Rose Mansfield; Jimmy Dowd;

Lauren Shortt-Halligan; Michael & Bridget Slattery; Seán Curran;

Fran Phelan; The Cassin Family; Bernard Doyle; Tommy Dillon; Joey Downey;

Elizabeth & Stella O'Rourke; Bernadette Hayes;

Readers for Next Weekend – Page 128

6.00pm Máirín Bergin

8.00am Martin Blake

11.30am Kathleen Ferguson

7.00pm Joan Galwey

Johnswell Séan Colgan

Dunmore Philip Comerford & Esther Comerford

Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €1,945.

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

The 'Red Button' is now active

Eventually, the DONATE button is active on our parish website.

So, 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..

Mass Intentions for the coming Week

Wed: Jimmy Dowd (8.00am).

Lauren Shortt-Halligan (10.30am).

Friday: Elizabeth & Stella O'Rourke (8.00am)

Saturday: Bernadette Hayes (10.30am)

Mary Marnell (6.00pm).

Sunday: Michele Reynolds (8.00am)

Michael, Sharon & Jim Brennan (11.00am).

Edward Ryan (11.30am)

Claire, Richard & Catherine Shortall

(7.00pm).

Daily Mass

Please join us each morning on our

Webcam Service, stjohnskilkenny.com, or through our Parish **Radio Service** (106.8 FM).

Weekdays: 8.00 & 10.30 am.

Sundays: 6.00 pm Vigil; 8.00 & 11.30 am and 7.00 pm

A Message from Bishop Dermot Farrell as our Schools Reopen

I want to take this opportunity to welcome our schools back after a long layoff since mid-March with the corona virus pandemic. In particular I would like to thank the Principals of the Schools, the Teachers, the members of the Board of Managements and the Parents Associations all of whom have worked extremely hard over the last couple of weeks to prepare our schools so all our children can return in a safe manner taking account of the guidance that has been provided by the Department of Education. I pray at this time that we will all stay safe and that we respect the guidance that has been given to us and that it will be a good year and we will all come safely through it.

St Mary's Restoration Draw

As you may be aware, the first draw of the Diocesan Draw 2020/2021 was due to take place on 25th March 2020 but was postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The draw will now run from September 2020 to August 2021, with the first draw planned from Wednesday 30th September.

Tickets bought prior to the cancellation of the draw are still valid for September's draw. Tickets are €10 per month and are available from Jane in the sacristy or Áine in the Parish Office. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

Monthly Rosary

The Monthly Rosary on the first Sunday of the month will be held on St James's Green at 3.00pm this Sunday. All are welcome.