

St Mary's Restoration Draw

The first draw of the Diocesan Draw 2020/2021 will take place on Wednesday 30th September.

Tickets bought prior to lockdown are still valid for Septembers draw.

Tickets are €10 per month and are available from Jane in the sacristy or Áine in the Parish Office.

No Accident

There are more than 25,000 varieties of orchid, and the orchid is just one of 270,000 flower species. There are more than 100 billion stars like our sun within our galaxy, and our galaxy is one of more than 100 billion other galaxies. It's said that for every grain of sand there are a million stars. I love the fact that it almost feels like a throwaway line in Genesis when the writer tells us, 'He also made the stars' (Genesis 1:16). Clearly God does not do things by halves. God operates on the most massive scale, a scale too big for us to get our heads around.

But there's something even more mind-blowing than the size and detail of creation. It's the fact that God knows each one of us by name. He knows everything about us, and He loves us.

'You know me inside and out, you know every bone in my body; you know exactly how I was made, bit by bit, how I was sculpted from nothing into something' (Psalm 139:13)

You weren't a mistake, and you're not overlooked. You are known and loved by the most powerful force in the universe.

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 Dan Carroll: 087 907 7769; Fr Brian Griffin: 087 064 4158; Fr Lorcan Moran: 086 855 0521

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Fergal Brennan; Mary Brennan; Alan Burke; Fr Dan Carroll; Margaret Cleere; Fr Brian Griffin; Fr Lorcan Moran; Iris O'Flynn; Karena Phelan.

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-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 27th September 2020

WELCOME FR DAN

This weekend we welcome Fr Dan Carroll to St John's Parish as our new Team Leader. Fr Dan comes to us from the Parish of Danesford where he has been P.P. for over four years. Fr Dan has also gained much pastoral experience from working in parishes such as St Patrick's, Kilmacow and in St Kieran's College.

We welcome Fr Dan back into the city and we wish him many years of happiness with us in St John's and look forward to all that he will bring. Fr Dan is a native of Castlecomer, being a priest of the diocese since 1980.

First Holy Communion

The celebration of First Holy Communion will take place in St John's Church on the next two Saturdays, the 3rd and 10th of October at 12 noon and 2pm each day.

We encourage you to say the following prayer for all the children and families involved.

Loving Father,
we thank you for the gift of our children,
who bring so much light and love into our lives.
We thank you for this opportunity to think
about how to help them grow in faith.
May we support one another as we journey
toward our children's Holy Communion.

BEREAVEMENTS

Recently Deceased:

Kevin Prendergast, Drakelands.

Anniversaries:

Diarmaid Ryan (6.00pm); Tommy Gormley (10.00am); Elizabeth Brett (11.30am); Marie Holohan (7.00pm); Alan Bergin; Mary O'Neill; Eleanor Molloy; Kathleen Beale; Johnny Parker; Philip Walsh; Margaret Dowling; Catherine O'Keeffe; Ann Breen; Elizabeth Connick; Billy & Patty Reinhardt; Kathleen Murphy; Margaret Morris; Michael & Thomas O'Connor; Liam O'Gorman;

Readers for Next Weekend – Page 137

6.00pm Ann Daly
8.00am Martin Blake
11.30am Jimmy Connolly
7.00pm Anne Marie Grace
Johnswell Seán Colgan
Dunmore Eddie Holohan & Liz Holohan

Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €2,150.

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

Drive in Bingo - Fundraiser for Johnswell Development Fund

Drive in Bingo will take place on Saturday 17th October at 7pm in City Lime Works (*Entry Via John's Green Car Park).

Single Book €10, Double Book €15.

Bingo Books can be purchased through

- ◆ John Joe Cullen, 48 John Street,
- ◆ Edel Holmes, Poccoke Golf Centre,
- ◆ Brennan's Bar, Johnswell,
- ◆ or call 087 0516040

Mass Intentions for the coming Week

Tuesday : Alan Bergin (8.00am)

Mary O'Neill (10.30am)

Wednesday: (8.00am) John Foley, Michael & Bridget Maher

Thursday: Eleanor Molloy; Kathleen Beale; Johnny Parker (10.30am).

Saturday: Philip Walsh & Margaret Dowling (10.30am).

Michael O'Driscoll (6.00pm)

Sunday: Eamon Morrissey (11.30am)

Statia, Stephen & Bosco Buckley (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

Farewell and Tribute to Fr Frank Purcell: St John's 2002 - 2020

Fr Frank, we wish to thank you sincerely for your eighteen years of ministry and wonderful service to us. You have celebrated with us at happy times and you have commiserated with us during sad times, but at all times you have been a wonderful leader who has given of your time freely and have brought us all closer to God.

The year 2008 stands out in our memory as a particular highlight. It was centenary year of our beautiful church. Among many other things that year you renovated the church and restored it in all its splendour. Then when all that work was completed you restored the beautiful icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help at the back of the church. It was a thanksgiving for the wonderful Redemptorist Novena which began that year under your leadership and took place every year for ten years. The Novena sustained us all, increased our faith and brought us closer to God.

Thank you, Fr. Frank, for installing the webcam.....one of the first in the Diocese and indeed the country. It sustained us during lockdown and brought the beautiful Easter ceremonies and other liturgies into our homes.

Fr. Frank, we wish to thank you for all your work on the St. John's Senior School Board of Management during your time in the parish. You were always there for us in the school and indeed it was you that began the custom of celebrating the Beginning of Year School Mass each September and celebrating the end of the School Year with the Sixth Class Graduation Mass in the month of June. You were Spiritual Director of our School - without the title.

We could pay tribute to you, Fr. Frank, for many more things. Suffice to say that St. John's loss is Inistioge's gain. It's just so sad that we can't celebrate in the Day Centre with a cup of tea. We know that you requested that you would depart our parish without any celebration - another mark of you as a great priest and caring person - always putting the health and welfare of others ahead of yourself. We wish you well in your new parish. We hope you have great health and happiness and another wonderful ministry in South Kilkenny. - from an address given by Pdraig O'Neill on Sunday 20th Sept 2020