

Stretch Fourth Your Hand to the Poor Message of Pope Francis for the World Day for the Poor

“A hand held out is a sign; a sign that immediately speaks of closeness, solidarity and love. In these months, when the whole world was prey to a virus that brought pain and death, despair and bewilderment, how many outstretched hands have we seen! A hand held out is a sign; a sign that immediately speaks of closeness, solidarity and love. In these months, when the whole world was prey to a virus that brought pain and death, despair and bewilderment, how many outstretched hands have we seen! The outstretched hands of pharmacists who at personal risk responded to people’s pressing needs. The outstretched hands of priests whose hearts broke as they offered a blessing. The outstretched hands of volunteers who helped people living on the streets and those with a home yet nothing to eat. The outstretched hands of men and women who worked to provide essential services and security. We could continue to speak of so many other outstretched hands, all of which make up a great litany of good works. Those hands defied contagion and fear in order to offer support and consolation.



The ability to stretch forth our hand shows that we possess an innate capacity to act in ways that give meaning to life. How many outstretched hands do we see every day! Let us give thanks for each and every one of them.” (Pope Francis)

Feast of the Presentation

This feast, which falls on next Saturday, is one of those that honours Mary, Mother of Jesus, and dates from early times. It is widely accepted that Mary would not have been presented in the Temple, a ritual reserved for the first born male in a Jewish family. The historical accuracy of Mary’s “presentation” is not really important. What is important for us is that from earliest times these feast days associated with Mary recognise her special place in the Church. Mary brought Jesus Christ into the world; she is not only honoured for that but continues to bring us to her Son.

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.

Roman Catholic Diocese and Parishes of Ossory - Registered Charity No. 20015831

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: 11.30 & 7.00 p.m.
Polish Mass: 2nd Sun. monthly, 1.00 p.m.; **Weekdays:** 10.30 a.m. (Sat. 10.30 a.m. only)

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - 15th November 2020

Prayers for the Deceased

We continue to pray for our deceased family members, relatives, neighbours and friends during the month of November. Their intentions are remembered in all our Masses. May they rest in peace.

You are invited to include the names of deceased family members in our sacred space. Write the names on any slip of paper and drop it into the basket provided.

Bishop Farrell’s Pastoral Reflection: Remembrance of the Dead

Copies of the bishop’s Pastoral Reflection for November are available in all our churches and on www.ossory.ie.

Parish Finances

We are grateful to all who continue to make Trojan efforts to contribute to the parish and clergy funds. We particularly appreciate your generosity during these financially uncertain times. Thanks to all who continue to make donations through envelopes, standing orders and online - your parish needs your support now more than ever.

We now have a “Donate” facility on our parish website. This can be used for all collections and donations to the parish. It is very user friendly. Just click on the “Donate” button, choose which collection you wish to support and the amount you wish to give. This can be a once off donation or a regular payment. Thanks again.

Getting Married Soon?

Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service has temporarily suspended face-to-face marriage preparation programmes and instead Accord facilitators will offer the interactive adapted programme. So, if you, or one of the family, is planning marriage, get on to the Accord website, www.accord.ie for more information.

Couples and Relationship Support During Covid-19

If you need to speak to an experienced couples and relationships counsellor during this time of unprecedented stress and pressure on family life contact 01 531 3331 or visit accord.ie. Our support line is open Monday to Friday 9.00am - 8.00pm where you can speak to an experienced counsellor.

BEREAVEMENTS

Recently Deceased:

Martin Drohan, late John's Green
Sarah Dobbyn, Lyrath

Month's Mind:

Sean Pielow

Nicholas Butler

Anniversaries:

Mary Mulcahy and Pat Mulcahy (6.00). Tom and Kathleen Cody (11.30pm). Tom and Carmel Ryan (7.00pm). Peggy and Dick Pielow. Terence, Bridie and Jim Doherty. Mick and Julia Roche. Maura Leahy. Katherine Walsh. Kitty and Jack Hennessy. Sean Walsh. Seamus Loughman. Phil and Mary O'Keeffe. Mary and Andrew Brennan. Michael and Margaret Smullen. Jack Kavanagh. Deceased Malone and Maher Families. Greg and Steve Moynihan.

Readers for Next Weekend – Page 155

6.00pm Máirín Bergin
8.00am No Mass
11.30am Kay Purcell
7.00pm Linda O'Leary

Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €1,160. Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Ossory Times *Sharing the Life of our Diocese*

The November 2020 digital edition of our diocesan magazine is available now on www.ossory.ie. Some hard copies are available at the doors of our parish churches.

This edition is free and through its pages reflects on the manner in which the Church is adapting during the pandemic. The writers reflect on what it is to exist behind closed doors; how can we continue to be there for one another; how do we open our school year with Mass; what is our experience of lockdown and how we experience Sacraments in these times.

Read your copy now.



Mass Intentions for the Coming Week

Monday: Sean Pielow, Peggy & Dick Pielow (10.30)
Tuesday: Terence, Bridie and Jim Doherty (10.30).
Wednesday: Mick and Julia Roche (10.30)
Thursday: Maura Leahy (10.30)
Friday: Katherine Walsh (10.30)
Saturday: Kitty and Jack Hennessy (10.30)
Sean Walsh (6.00)
Sunday: Etta Shine (11.30)
Statia, Stephen & Bosco Buckley (7.00)

Daily Mass

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

Weekdays: 10.30am.

**Sundays: 6.00pm Vigil;
11.30am and 7.00pm**

Daily Programme for this Week

Mass will be celebrated in St. John's Church at 10.30am each weekday morning, including Saturday. Mass will be celebrated at 6.00pm on Saturday evening and at 11.30am and 7.00pm on Sundays. Funerals and weddings may take place but are restricted to an overall attendance of 25 people.

All ceremonies take place behind closed doors at the present time but can be viewed on the parish webcam www.stjohnskilkenny.com and on our radio link (106.8fm). Our churches will open each day for personal prayer and devotion with the exception of Mass times in St. John's Church.

The priests may be contacted on 056 772 21072 or on individual mobile numbers listed on the back of this newsletter.

World Day of the Poor

Pope Francis announced in 2016 that this particular Sunday be dedicated to the poor. The theme given to us by the Pope this year is "Stretch forth your hand to the poor" (Sir 7:32). The Pope has asked us to pay heed to the poor at this time of Covid-19. He insists that we must trust in God even in time of hardship and pray for poor people worldwide and for those who support them. Christ himself is among us. "I was hungry, and you gave me to eat" (Matthew 25:35). Saint Vincent de Paul said "The poor are our masters. Christ himself is among us". Mother Teresa chose to serve the poorest of the poor and to live among them.

On this Sunday we can reflect on the Corporal Works of Mercy:

- To feed the hungry.
- To give water to the thirsty.
- To clothe the naked.
- To shelter the homeless.
- To visit the sick.
- To visit the imprisoned.
- To bury the dead.

Stretch forth your hand to the poor!

