

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.

National Remembrance Mass

Knock Shrine invites you to join us live online for a special Mass on this Sunday 22nd November at 12 noon, as we remember all who have died from COVID-19 on the island of Ireland. This Mass will be celebrated by Most. Rev. Michael Neary, Archbishop of Tuam and streamed live from Knock Basilica. As we come closer to the end of this difficult year, we come together as a community of faith to take time to pause and reflect in support of one another and to pray for strength and hope for each other and ourselves. Live stream on www.knockshrine.ie and Facebook.

Advent 2020

Advent begins on next Sunday, 28th November. Why not consider the following to help prepare for Christmas?

Faith/Hope/Love: A three night virtual Advent Retreat. Tuesday, 1st Wednesday, 2nd, Thursday, 3rd December; 8.00 to 9.00pm. Led by Fr. Billy Swan, Wexford. To request a link contact afd@ossory.ie or telephone 056 775 3624.

Thought for the Day: Online and Twitter or by Text. Simple thoughts reflections, prayer and ideas. Why not take a few moments each day during Advent to pause in prayer? Follow @ossorydiocese. For text messages submit your mobile phone number to 085 831 3100.

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.

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)

Feast of Christ the King - 21st November 2020

Living our Faith in Lockdown

We will never forget 2020! Covid-19 has changed our lives. Now we are discovering what "living with Covid" means: every day we are confronted with uncertainties. We are in lockdown again. Covid-19 has powerfully exposed the vulnerability that we all share. But looking to the past and wanting to return to what was is never a constructive mind-set. Faith cannot be quarantined. It has to be lived in the concrete circumstances of the time. Here are ten simple pointers for your encouragement to live faith in this time of Covid-19.

- 1. Believe in God's Love.** First things first! Remember God. Uncertainties, changes and restrictions easily lead to anxiety, fear and tension. Remember St. Peter's advice to the First Christians: "Cast all your anxiety onto God, because he cares for you", (1 Peter 5:7).
- 2. Slow Down and Look Deeper.** Covid-19 has helped us all realise how busy and frantic life can be and that this is not good for us. It has helped many to recalibrate, to look deeper and begin again in our approach to life.
- 3. Live in the Present Moment.** We normally spend so much time revisiting the past or planning the dreams of the future, but easily ignore to focus on the present. St. Teresa of Lisieux used to say, "You know that to love you, Lord, I only have today."
- 4. Serve.** We appreciate in these days the ways people offer services that we really need but that we can often take for granted – from truck deliveries to shop assistants. In his recent encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis speaks much of service and solidarity. He writes *solidarity finds concrete expression in service, which can take a variety of forms in an effort to care for others.*
- 5. Build up your Family as a "domestic church".** Some families set up small sacred spaces in their homes. Each of us is called to build up our family as a "domestic church", a home church, a family church. And that doesn't just mean prayers and rituals. It is about life in all its aspects. Families have learned to be creative in caring for one another.
- 6. Mark Sunday in a Special Way.** We can watch Mass on TV or on-line. Sunday is a special day also to think of doing some simple acts of love for those we know who are sick or alone. It might be an occasion to visit a cemetery to pray for our deceased loved ones.

BEREAVEMENTS

Recently Deceased:

Teresa Holohan, Bleach Road
Paulo Neta, Middleknock
Richard Moore, Bagenalstown
James Jnr. Cody, Sion Road
Aidan Monahan, Shandon Park
Rebecca Sherwood, Castlecomer Road

Month's Mind:

Nicholas Butler

Anniversaries:

Sean Walsh (6.00). Etta Shine (11.30pm). Statia, Stephen & Bosco Buckley (7.00pm). Ned Lawless, James Brophy, Ned & Bridie Langton, Ollie Bergin, Michael Kearney, Johanne Maher, Patrick & Ann Nolan, Jack Rowe, Jack Kavanagh, Michael & Margaret Smullen, Mary & Andrew Brennan, Phil & Mary O'Keeffe.

Readers for Next Weekend – Page 158

6.00pm Mary Lynch
8.00am No Mass
11.30am John Joyce
7.00pm Eileen Kinane

Living our Faith in Lockdown (continued)

7. Small Daily Practices. Faith needs to be nourished in small everyday little ways. For instance, saying simple morning, evening and night prayers and encouraging our children to do so.

8. Tune in to the Seasons. November is traditionally a time for remembering our departed loved ones, for special prayers and liturgies and for visiting cemeteries. Advent begins next weekend and runs through December bringing an atmosphere of expectation and preparation for Christmas.

9. Discover the Word of God. What a good time to reopen a Bible, to read again the words of God, expressed in human words and draw nourishment and strength. Read the Readings of the Day in your Missal or on-line or on the App UNIVERSALIS.

10. Make a Pilgrimage. Far away pilgrimages are not possible now but for something nearer home, families could consider small family pilgrimages to local churches or holy sites.

Prayer of Saint Teresa of Avila

Let nothing disturb you. Let nothing frighten you. All things are passing away: God alone is changeless. Patience obtains all things. Who has God lacks nothing; God alone suffices.

Mass Intentions for the Coming Week

Monday: Ned Lawless (10.30)
Tuesday: James Brophy (10.30).
Wednesday: Ned & Bridie Langton (10.30)
Thursday: Ollie Bergin (10.30)
Friday: Michael Kearney (10.30)
Saturday: Johanne Maher (10.30)
Mary Shelly (6.00)
Sunday: Jerry Tobin (11.30)
Helen Purcell (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.

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.