

### Sincere Thanks

We take this opportunity to sincerely thank all of you who, despite the pandemic, have taken the time and gone to the trouble of dropping in Lenten Stations, Weekly Envelope and Donations through the Presbytery door. In the present circumstances, it is very much appreciated.

### New Webcam in Church

Inspired by the number of people participating in our liturgies on-line we have decided to upgrade our system and install an improved camera. We hope you find the improvements helpful and find it easier to participate in the Masses and services from St. John's Church.

### Trócaire

Trócaire boxes and contributions may now be returned to the Presbytery.

### Late for a Funeral

As a bagpiper, I play many gigs. Recently I was asked by a funeral director to play at the graveside service for a homeless man. He had no family or friends, and the service was in the middle of nowhere. As I was not familiar with the area, I got lost and, being a typical man, I didn't stop for directions.

I finally arrived an hour late and saw the funeral guy had evidently gone and the hearse was nowhere in sight. There were only the diggers and crew left and they were eating lunch. I felt badly and apologized to the men for being late.

I went to the side of the grave and looked down, and the vault lid was already in place. I didn't know what else to do, so I started to play.

The workers put down their lunches and began to gather around. I played out my heart and soul for this man with no family and friends. I played like I've never played before for this homeless man. And as I played 'Amazing Grace', the workers wept. They wept, I wept, we all wept together. When I finished, I packed up my bagpipes and started for my car. Though my head was hung low, my heart was full.

As I opened the door to my car, I heard one of the workers say, "I never seen anything like that before, and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years."

**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** (During Covid-19 Restrictions)

**St John's – Sundays & Holy Days:** Vigil: 6.00pm; Sun: 8.00am, 11.30am & 7.00pm.

**Polish Mass:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun. Monthly, 1.00pm; **Weekdays:** 8.00am, 10.30am. (Sat. 10.30am only).

Johnswell - Sunday 10.00am

Dunmore - Sunday 11.00am

**Easter Sunday - 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

## Happy Easter

With all this beautiful weather and the longer days we wish you time to appreciate the new life all around us and may you have time to reflect and pray in gratitude for the faithfulness of God in raising Jesus from the dead and giving us all the hope of eternal life. Happy Easter.

Frs Dan, Lorcan and Brian.

## Easter Prayer

Lord we lift our hearts to you. As the dawn breaks,  
may we carry the unity we share into every moment knowing  
that we are one with the Risen Christ.

Lord, we lift our eyes to you. As the sun rises,  
may this moment stay with us, reminding us to look for the  
beautiful colours of promise in your word.

Lord, we lift our prayers to you. As the dew air falls,  
may we breathe this morning in and know that like the earth,  
you sustain us, keep us and work within us always.

And so, we lift our voices to you.

We celebrate the greatest day in history,  
when Jesus rose from death,  
defeated darkness and bathed the world in stunning resurrection light.

May we ever live to praise you!

Amen

## The Ossory Times

Some copies of this Diocesan publication have been forwarded to us, and are available at the church. Please take a copy – to read it and be informed!!

Online copies are available at [www.ossory.ie](http://www.ossory.ie)

### Bereavements

#### Recently Deceased:

Jeanne Hickey, Slieverue. Canon Norman Lynas, former Dean of St. Canice's Cathedral. Brendan Reidy, College Road. Frank Beale, Glendine Heights. Thomas Clarke, Ardilea. Angela Kearney, Smithlands Court. Brendan Reidy, College Road. Angela Kearney, Smithlands Court. Ruth Butler, Dukesmeadows.

**Anniversaries:** Packie O'Keeffe, Kathleen O'Gorman, Bob & Patricia Quigley, Lil Morris, Sr Marion Feeney, Dick Burke, Ann Walsh, Peggy & Eamonn Holohan, Jack & Mary Parle, Patrick Coleman. *May they rest in peace.*

**Those we love don't go away,  
they walk beside us every day.  
Unseen, unheard, but always near;  
still loved, still missed and very dear.**

#### Readers for Next Weekend – Page 255

6.00pm Máirín Bergin  
8.00am No Mass  
10.00am No Mass  
11.00am No Mass  
11.30am Kay Purcell  
7.00pm Joan Galwey

#### Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €1,010. Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order. Your support is greatly appreciated.

**During these difficult times we are happy to provide the contact details of a number of help agencies.**

#### Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The St. John's Parish helpline number is 086 895 1239. Letters may be addressed to: SVP, The Presbytery, Dublin Road, Kilkenny or dropped in the presbytery letter box.

#### Samaritans - We Are Here for You

Every hour, every day, a Samaritan is waiting to answer your call. Please don't suffer in silence. We are here today, and always, on freephone 116 123 or email [jo@samaritans.ie](mailto:jo@samaritans.ie).

#### Age Action

Age Action is offering five hours tutoring, by telephone, to anyone who needs support using their smart device or laptop. For more information, please call 01 475 6989 or email [gettingstarted@ageaction.ie](mailto:gettingstarted@ageaction.ie).

#### Covid-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to Covid-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice. Open from 8.00am - 8.00pm; call 0818 222 024.

#### Accord

Call the couples and relationships support line on 01 531 3331, staffed by counsellors Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 8.00pm. Counselling is also available to anyone wanting to talk through a relationship difficulty. Visit the [accord.ie](http://accord.ie) website to check for a convenient location and arrange a face to face appointment.

#### Bereavement Support

Kilkenny Bereavement Support is a voluntary organisation that offers a free listening service to bereaved people of all ages. Because of Covid-19 we are not able to offer face to face meetings. At the moment, we support the bereaved by phone or by Zoom. For appointment: phone 056 775 6538 or email [director@kilkennybereavementsupport.com](mailto:director@kilkennybereavementsupport.com).

### Mass Intentions for the Coming Week

Sunday: Tommy & Theresa Holohan (11.30am).  
Months Mind: Paddy Fogarty (7.00pm).  
Monday: Harry Shine (10.30am).  
Tuesday: Fintan Ryan (10.30am).  
Wednesday: Months Mind: Liam Kelly (10.30am).  
Thursday: Sheila Delaney (10.30am)  
Friday: Fr Edmund Prendergast (10.30am)  
Saturday: Martin Ryan (10.30am)

**May they rest in peace.**

### Easter Sunday Reflection

*"Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" - Mark 16:3*

A stone is a symbol of something that blocks, obstructs, or prevents passage. A blocked artery keeps oxygen-rich blood from flowing into the heart muscle, causing discomfort, shortness of breath, heart disease and failure. Unless the artery is unblocked, the chances of heart failure are increased.

On a spiritual level, the love of God in our hearts is blocked by fear, anger, resentment towards others, jealousy, or selfishness. These are the stones in our hearts that can cause spiritual discomfort and death within us. Left unattended, we project our inner pain and discomfort onto others, inflicting hurt and pain in their lives.

As Christians, we believe that baptism makes us one with the risen Lord who lives in our hearts. Our attitude and behaviour towards others is supposed to be a reflection of what is in our hearts. Until the stones of fear, anger, resentment towards others, and selfishness are removed from our hearts, the love of the risen Lord cannot be experienced by others.

At Easter all the stones have been rolled back from the entrance of our hearts so that the love and peace of the risen Jesus can go forth into the world. For believers, the resurrection opens up new ways and opportunities for people to experience the liberating power of God's love.

*Lord, your rising from the dead gives the world renewed hope. Remove the obstacles from my life that keep me from believing and trusting in the power of your resurrection.*

### Reminder of our Baptisms

Easter Water will be blessed during the Easter Vigil and will be available in small bottles at the church. Please take some to bless yourselves, your homes, vehicles and property.

May God bless this house from top to bottom,  
May He bless each lintel, each stone and beam of wood,  
May He bless the household and the table on which we place the food.  
May He bless each bedroom in which we seek a peaceful sleep,  
May He bless the door we open generously to the stranger and the meek  
– as well as to our relatives and friends.  
May God bless this gathering and keep us from danger,  
And May He guide us all together to his Heavenly sanctuary. Amen!

### Daily Broadcast Mass

Please join us each Sunday and weekday on our Webcam Service, [stjohnskilkenny.com](http://stjohnskilkenny.com), or our Parish Radio Service (106.8 FM).

Please note: At the moment the webcam only broadcasts during Mass and services.

**Weekdays: 10.30am.  
Saturday: 6.00pm Vigil;  
Sunday: ~~8.00am~~, 11.30am  
and 7.00pm.**

**All are welcome!**