

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

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.

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.

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 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 telephone or by Zoom. For appointment: telephone 056 775 6538 or email director@kilkennybereavementsupport.com.

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: 2nd Sun. Monthly, 1.00pm; **Weekdays:** ~~8.00am~~, 10.30am. (Sat. 10.30am only).

Johnswell - Sunday 10.00am

Dunmore - Sunday 11.00am

3rd Sunday of Easter - 18th April 2021

Reflection

Jesus answered, "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." – John 3:17

Jesus is not here to condemn us. Jesus is here to love us. Jesus is here to make sure we understand the enormous, boundless love out of which God has made us. Jesus is here to teach us how to love ourselves, our enemies, and our neighbours with the same non-judgmental, noncondemning love God has for us.

Upon awakening each day, we need to make choices: Shall we face the day with love or with fear? Shall we put our lives and wills into God's hands or try to control events and the people we encounter? Shall we look for the positive or dwell on the negative? Shall we be truthful and sincere or deceptive and superficial in our interactions with others? Shall we treat ourselves and others gently when we make mistakes or condemn our humanity?

Life is meant to be a continual adventure where we perfect our skills at loving God, ourselves, and others. Remembering that God loves the whole world, we can start by speaking courteously to all. We can listen respectfully to others' opinions and ideas. We can politely ask for help when we need it. We can thank others when they serve us a meal or wait on us in a store. We can send a message of hope to someone who is struggling with grief, depression, or loneliness.

Any time we make the effort to show love to any of God's children, we are honouring God with the same love. We have been sent by the risen Lord to manifest the deeply personal love God has for the world.

Risen Lord, you prove the power of love over death. Help me to show love in my thoughts, words and actions. Amen.

Bereavements

Recently Deceased:

Noel Browne, Garringreen.
Jane Butler, Clontarf & late of Friary Street.
Jimmy Purcell, Leeds & late of Ossory Park.
Mary Jib Dalton, Threecastles.

Months Mind: Rita McKiernan (7.00pm)

Anniversaries: Michael Kelly (6.00pm); The Corr Family (11.30am); Jackie Byrne; Nan & Kevin Murphy & Murphy Family; Con & Johanna McGrath; Bill & Julia Carroll; Martin Fitzpatrick; Patrick, Mary & Seán McGrath; JJ & PJ McKenzie; Carol Shaw; Helen Frayne; Thomas Dowling; Patrick Price; *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 261

6.00pm Claire Coogan
8.00am No Mass
10.00am No Mass
11.00am No Mass
11.30am Kathleen Ferguson
7.00pm Linda O'Leary

Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope
collection: €2,050. Thanks to all who
contribute weekly, monthly and
annually, as well as those who pay by
Standing Order.
Your support is greatly appreciated.

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.

Trócaire

We would encourage people to return their donations for Trócaire to the Presbytery in the coming days so we can consolidate and return to Trócaire as soon as possible. Thank you to all who have supported this worthy cause. It is very much appreciated

Prayer for Guidance

Holy Spirit give me the wisdom to discern the path of life you wish me to follow.

Help me to see clearly the things that matter and the things that don't.

Help me to use every gift I have, remembering that it is from you.

Spirit of God, give me a generous and open heart, making me an instrument of peace and love in whatever choice I make.

Amen.

Mass Intentions for the Coming Week

Saturday: Michael Kelly (6pm)
Sunday: The Corr Family (11.30am).
Rita McKiernan (7.00pm). Months Mind
Monday: Jackie Byrne (10.30am).
Tuesday: Nan & Kevin Murphy & Family (10.30am).
Wednesday: Con & Johanna McGrath (10.30am).
Thursday: Bill & Julia Carroll (10.30am)
Friday: Martin Fitzpatrick (10.30am)

May they rest in peace.

Daily Broadcast Mass

Please join us each Sunday and weekday on our Webcam Service, 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!

A Fact of History

On Easter Monday, the young boys of the Hungarian villages go from house to house, and wherever young girls live, they come up to the door, recite a blessing and splash the girls with water. The girls in turn invite them in and everyone feasts on Easter specialities and the girls give the boys some of their carefully painted eggs to take home. This is Easter joy. It is right and proper that we celebrate the days of Easter with joy.

But the intensity of our Easter joy will be in the measure of our conviction that Jesus really rose from the dead. It is our belief that Jesus rose from the dead. We have historical evidence though not proof, to support our faith. Two of these pieces of evidence are the prophecy about the resurrection and the eyewitnesses who saw the resurrection of Christ.

St Peter in his address to people, placed the resurrection against the background of David's prophecy: "You will not abandon my soul, nor let your Holy One see corruption" (Acts 2: 27). And citing himself as an eyewitness to the risen Christ, Peter added, "This Jesus God raised up, and of that we are all witnesses" (v32).

Because of such historical evidence, the chief priests cover up story, that "Christ's disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep" (Mt 28:13), could not stand the test of time. The resurrection is a fact better attested than any event recorded in history. The resurrection of Jesus as a historical fact is so central to Christianity that the Gospels do not explain the resurrection, but the resurrection explains the Gospels.