

### Some Useful 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](mailto:jo@samaritans.ie)

**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.

**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 telephone or by Zoom. Appointment: Call 056 775 6538 or email [director@kilkennybereavementsupport.com](mailto:director@kilkennybereavementsupport.com).

### Lough Derg Pilgrimages 2021

Lough Derg regrets that it will not be possible in 2021 to reopen Station Island for the Traditional Three-Day Pilgrimage or even for the autumn programme of Day Retreats.

Lough Derg will again offer the opportunity to "Do Lough Derg from wherever you are" on 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> July. The outdoor Pilgrimage on the Lough Shore Pilgrim Path will also be available as the summer goes on. Further information from Lough Derg Office 071 986 1518 or [www.loughderg.org](http://www.loughderg.org).

**Address:** St John's Presbytery, Dublin Road, Kilkenny. **Email:** [stjohns@ossory.ie](mailto:stjohns@ossory.ie)

**Website:** [stjohnskilkenny.com](http://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; Fr Brian Griffin; Fr Lorcan Moran; Iris O'Flynn; Karena Phelan.**

#### IF YOU HAVE A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN CONTACT

The Diocesan Designated Liaison Person, Ms. Kathleen Sherry, 085 802 1633 - [dlp@ossory.ie](mailto:dlp@ossory.ie)

#### OUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES ARE:

Mary Weadick; Máirín Bergin; Brenda Whitely; Marian Eardly.

#### Counseling Services - Towards Healing Confidential Helpline

1800 313 316 - [www.towardshealing.ie](http://www.towardshealing.ie)

**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: 6.00pm; 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

### *Corpus Christi - 6<sup>th</sup> June 2021*

#### *The Feast of Corpus Christi*

At the Last Supper Jesus gave us his Body and Blood as food for our souls when he said to his apostles: "Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day." (John 6: 54).

The Church celebrates the Feast of *Corpus Christi* today. Literally translated this is the Feast of the Body of Christ. Pope Urban IV instituted the feast in 1274 as a day to especially recognise and promote the gift of the Blessed Sacrament. St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Bonaventure were asked by the Pope to create hymns for this new feast. St. Thomas Aquinas was also asked by the Holy Father to compose prayers for the Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours for *Corpus Christi*. He composed the great Eucharistic hymns still sung today: *Panis Angelicus*, *Pange Lingua*, *O Salutaris Hostia*, and *Tantum Ergo*.

#### *The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)*

'He has gone out of his mind'.

In the Gospel today we read that Jesus has returned home and causes quite a commotion on his arrival. Word about this healer and teacher has gotten around, the crowds have gathered, and the religious leaders are not happy. Jesus' growing popularity has started to upset daily life for his family to the point where 'they could not eat'. In an effort to protect their son and their brother, Jesus' family tries to explain away his 'unruly' behaviour. They tell the crowd and the religious leaders that Jesus does not mean what he says, he has simply 'gone out of his mind'. In their view, things have gone too far. Jesus was preaching a message that seemed radical to many. He knows that bringing about God's dream for the world involves speaking out and behaving in ways that are counter cultural. The religious leaders go so far as to say that Jesus was possessed by a demon. It was their way of 'explaining away' someone that they could not cope with, someone who was challenging their systems and practices.

We can think of those in society today who are 'explained away'; those whom society wishes would stop speaking out because it is uncomfortable to listen to. Name-calling is often a last resort when institutions or 'powers' are disgruntled. The young climate activist, Greta Thunberg, knows this well. Following taunts by Presidents and Fossil Fuel executives towards her, she famously said, 'When haters go after your looks and differences, it means they have nowhere left to go... and then you know you're winning.'

The end of today's Gospel is troubling as Jesus seems to dismiss his mother, his brothers and sisters. But Jesus' mission is now wider than his immediate family. It is not that he no longer cares for them, God's vision and Jesus' vision for this world are now one. As sometimes happens in life, we have to let go of certain things in order to follow our true path.

### Bereavements

**Recently Deceased:** Fr. Andrew (Billie) Carroll, Westmeath and Bennettsbridge.  
Jim Maher, Haughney Green and Clonmoran.      Richie Walsh, O'Loughlin Road.  
Sam Oakes, Talbot's Inch.      Michael Walsh, Bristol.  
Peggy Clancy, Trim.      Sheila Burke, John's Quay.

**Month's Mind:** Bernadette Molloy.

**Anniversaries:** Jack & Ciss Mahoney (6.00pm); Loughlin O'Keeffe (8.00am); Thomas Comerford (10.00am); Tom & Bridget Comerford, Radestown(11.00am); Mary O'Driscoll (7.00pm); Denis (Dinny) Brennan; Thomas O'Connor; Mary Grogan; Annie Carroll; Mary Brennan; Eileen Prendergast; The Bergin Family; Maureen Hanaphy; Jake Brennan; Rose Ryan; Matthew Redmond; Fr Jim Cassin; Fr Ragheed Ganni; Paul Hodgie Hogan; Joseph Maher; Nora Barcoe; Eileen Rowe; Michael & Shane O'Carroll; Ellen Mooney.

*May they rest in peace.*

### Readers for Next Weekend – Page 85

6.00pm	Bridget Ahearn
8.00am	Ann Marie Hogan
10.00am	Teresa Dowling
11.00am	Christy Murray & Caitriona McDermott
11.30am	Mary Hanafin
7.00pm	Anne Marie Grace

### Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €1,955. Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order. Your support is greatly appreciated.

### Bank Holiday Weekend

We hope all will have an opportunity to relax and enjoy a good and safe bank holiday weekend. Be particularly careful when socialising and using the roads. Please note that there will be no 8.00am Mass on Monday morning. Mass will be celebrated at 10.30am and all are welcome. All our Masses and services are broadcast on webcam at [www.stjohnskilkenny.com](http://www.stjohnskilkenny.com)

### Feast of St. Columba (521 - 597) Celebrated on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021

This year is the 1500th anniversary of Columba's birth in Donegal. He is one of Ireland's pilgrim-missionaries who went to Scotland and Northern England. He founded the monastery in Iona. It is an active inter-faith centre prayer and worship today. Columba is unique in that he never left a written rule. The hymn of Morning Prayer on Thursdays, 'Alone with none but thee my God' is attributed to Columba. The hymn shows that every relationship with God is special. St. Columba is also known as St. Columcille.

### A Thought on Corpus Christi

It was Mahatma Gandhi (1869 - 1948) who said 'There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread.' We pray in the Lord's Prayer: '*Give us this day our daily bread.*' This reminds us that God provides us with the bread of mercy, forgiveness, and presence to nourish us so that we can spiritually live.

### The Pope's Monthly Intentions for June

Evangelisation:- The beauty of marriage. Let us pray for young people who are preparing for marriage with the support of a Christian community: may they grow in love, with generosity, faithfulness and patience.

### Online Theology Open Day 19<sup>th</sup> June

The Priory Institute provides online theology courses to degree level. Attend Saturday lectures in Tallaght or from the comfort of your own home. Email [enquiries@prioryinstitute.com](mailto:enquiries@prioryinstitute.com) to find out more.

### Mass Intentions for the Coming Week

Saturday:	Jack & Ciss Mahoney (6.00pm).
Sunday:	Loughlin O'Keeffe (8.00am). Thomas Comerford (10.00am). Tom & Bridget Comerford (11.00am). Eugene Jordan (11.30am). Mary O'Driscoll (7.00pm).
Monday:	Bernadette Molloy (10.30am).
Tuesday:	Eileen Prendergast (10.30am).
Wednesday:	The Bergin Family (10.30am).
Thursday:	Maureen Hanaphy (10.30am).
Saturday:	Jake Brennan (10.30am).

**May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.**

### First Penance

We join this weekend in congratulating the boys and girls who celebrated the Sacrament of First Penance during the past week. Well done to all of you and thanks to the parents, guardians and teachers for all your good work in preparation. We look forward to celebrating your First Holy Communion with you early next month. In the meantime keep up the good work and prayers.

### Annual Cemetery Masses

We believe that it is inadvisable to hold Cemetery Masses at this time. Please inform relatives and friends, especially those living outside our parish, that the Masses will be rearranged for a later time.

### Prayer for Students

It is examination time once again and soon students will be sitting the Leaving Certificate examinations. The Corona Virus disrupted students' education. They missed three months of schooling last year and again this year. We wish the students of the parish good luck as we ask the Holy Spirit to come to their aid and keep them free from stress. We can say this prayer with them and for them during the coming weeks:

Lord, pour out your Spirit of Wisdom on our students, Help them to remain calm, to attend carefully to the questions asked, to think clearly, to remember accurately and to express themselves well. Grant that they may reflect on the best of the work they have done and the best of the teaching they have received. Accept their best efforts in these exams and throughout their lives on earth. May your love be upon them O Lord as they place all their trust in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Novena Prayer to the Sacred Heart

The Feast of the Sacred Heart is celebrated on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021. Many people like to pray a novena during the previous days.

O Divine Jesus, who said, "Ask and you shall receive", I kneel at your feet. From whom shall I ask if not from you, whose heart is the source of all blessings. With a lively faith in you, I come to ask... (Share your petitions silently with the Sacred Heart). I admit I am most unworthy of your favours, Jesus, but this is not a reason for me to be discouraged. You are the God of mercies and you will not refuse a contrite heart. Look with pity on me, I beg you, and your compassionate Heart will find in my weakness a motive for granting my request. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on me. 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).

**Weekdays: 8.00am and 10.30am.**  
**Saturdays: 10.30am and 6.00pm Vigil.**  
**Sundays: 8.00am, 11.30am and 7.00pm.**

**All are welcome!**