

### 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).

### Accord Seeks Facilitators

Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG is currently recruiting people to facilitate on our Marriage Preparation Programmes. We would be delighted to hear from you if you are interested in training as a facilitator with Accord in 2021.

Please forward an expression of interest to [adignam@accord.ie](mailto:adignam@accord.ie) and we will be contact with you. For further information please contact Aisling on 01 505 3112 or visit our website - On Becoming a Facilitator with Accord - [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie).

**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; Karna 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

**Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 20<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

**'Let us go across to the other side'.**

'Let us go across to the other side' is an important phrase in Mark's Gospel which occurs many times. Jesus and the disciples are crossing the Sea of Galilee from what is a predominantly Jewish area to a more Gentile (non-Jewish) region. While this phrase signifies Jesus' geographical position, it also suggests that he is inviting the disciples to go a little deeper on their journey. They are perhaps entering into the unknown, moving out of their comfort zones and therefore feeling anxious. The crossing of the water does not go so well for the disciples as a storm begins to brew and eventually the water begins to endanger the boat. To the disciple's astonishment, Jesus is asleep through the whole ordeal. Their anxious call is understandable, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' After all, Jesus has led them, and 'other boats' into this situation and now appears not to care what will happen to them all.

In times of turmoil in life, we too may feel totally abandoned, swamped by fear and anxiety, adrift in a storm where even Jesus appears to be asleep. During such experiences, we might remember the words of Jesus from today's Gospel and repeat them, like a mantra, 'Peace! Be Still'. While the wind is howling around us it can be frightening but Christ is always with us, present within our very selves, offering us this deep peace. Often, coming back into this awareness can help us navigate through the storm and remind us that Jesus is very active in our lives, especially when we are entering into unknown territory. What is required of the disciples in this account, is a more mature faith, a deeper trust in their Teacher, that he will not abandon them. 'May the peace of Christ go with you wherever he may send you; May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm; May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you; May he bring you home rejoicing.'

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### *A Father's Day Prayer*

*Heavenly Father, you entrusted your Son, Jesus, the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.*

*Bless all fathers as they care for their families.*

*Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness, and patience;*

*support them in the work they have to do,*

*protecting those who look to them,*

*as we look to You for love and salvation,*

*through Jesus Christ our rock and defender,*

*in union with the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.*

*St Joseph, Pray for all our Fathers. Amen.*

### Bereavements

**Recently Deceased:** Oliver John Bennett, Shannon and late of Johnswell. Margaret (Daisy) Purcell, Castlecomer Road.

**Month's Mind:** Angela Persse (8.00am).

**Anniversaries:** Mary Power O'Shea (6.00pm); Richard & Mary Hennessy (11.00am); Michael Brett (11.30am); Earl Leroux (7.00pm); Ken Foley; Kitty McCarthy; Noreen King; Hugh Lennon; Bridget, Thomas & Jimmy Grace; Joe Neary;

*May they rest in peace.*

### Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm	Mary Lynch
8.00am	Jo Browne
10.00am	Seán Colgan
11.00am	Tom Comerford & Maise Powell
11.30am	Kay Purcell
7.00pm	Eileen Kinane

### Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €1,465. Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order. Your support is greatly appreciated.

### Returning to Mass

We are delighted to welcome the growing numbers returning to our parish Masses. We have two 'pods' in St. John's Church allowing a potential indoor congregation of 100 people with seating for more people outside. Many others sit in their cars in the car park and hear the Mass on the car radio or church loudspeakers. In Dunmore Mass is relayed to the local hall and seats are available outside the church in Johnswell. To enable full participation in the Eucharist Holy Communion is brought to those attending Mass outside the church buildings.

To help us reach our maximum congregation inside the buildings we ask those first to arrive at the pews to move to the marked space on the inside so that those arriving later do not have to squeeze past you to get to a vacant seat. Please do not remove the rope dividers between sections and do not move from pod to pod. These protocols are for your personal safety and for the welfare of others. As in the past we ask you to wear a face coverings, sanitise your hands, keep a safe distance and follow the stewards' advice.

Thanks for your cooperation so far and we look forward to your continued presence in church.

### Archbishop Farrell Acknowledges the Role of Catholic Schools During Covid

Archbishop Dermot Farrell of Dublin acknowledged the holistic value of Catholic schools in Ireland, and their vital support role during the Covid-19 pandemic. He made these comments in an address to the Catholic primary schools in the Republic of Ireland.

During his address, Archbishop Farrell drew attention to the use of online learning during the pandemic. He said, 'I congratulate you on how you have embraced technology to ensure continued interaction and teaching .... in what was a very abnormal educational landscape. The children's wellbeing, and indeed their mental health, has been a key priority for you and your staff. In this way you have given a very strong witness to the nature of Catholic education.'

### Theology of Child Safeguarding

The National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland has prepared a number of videos on various aspects of a theology of child safeguarding. To view the videos please follow this link [www.safeguarding.ie/national-conference-2021](http://www.safeguarding.ie/national-conference-2021).

### Mass Intentions for the Coming Week

Saturday: Mary Power O'Shea (6.00pm).  
Sunday: Angela Persse (8.00am).  
Richard & Mary Hennessy (11.00am)  
Michael Brett (11.30am).  
Earl Leroux (7.00pm).  
Monday: Kitty McCarthy (10.30am).  
Tuesday: Noreen King (10.30am).  
Saturday: Hugh Lennon (10.30am).

*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.*

*May they rest in peace*

### 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!**

### The Sacrament of Baptism

The priests of the parish are busy celebrating baptisms at this time. We are open once again to celebrating the sacrament while adhering to strict guidelines. For now the celebration will be a single-family celebration. Please contact the Parish Office to book a date.

### A Sincere Thank You

Thanks to all who continue to contribute to the parish and clergy collections during these difficult times. Your parish contributions - by envelope, standing orders and website donate button - are needed for the ongoing upkeep of the churches and greatly appreciated. The clergy also acknowledge and appreciate your generous support for them.

### Bishops Express Thanks for Submissions re Synodal Pathway

During their 2020 Winter General Meeting, bishops decided to proceed along a Synodal Pathway and, since then, have been assisted and greatly encouraged by Cardinal Mario Grech and Sr Natalie Becquart, of the General Secretariat for the Synod of Bishops in Rome, who addressed the Irish bishops on the theme of synodality on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Following the Spring 2021 General Meeting, the bishops announced that a new Synodal Pathway for the Catholic Church in Ireland is to take place which will lead to the holding of a national synodal assembly, or assemblies, within the next five years. At their meeting this week, bishops expressed their thanks for the over 550 submissions received from the public as part of the initial phase of the Synodal Pathway.

By a happy coincidence, these first two years of our Synodal Pathway in Ireland will complement the Catholic Church's worldwide journey towards the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of Bishops in Rome entitled, *For a synodal Church: communion, participation and mission*. This 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> October Pope Francis will officially launch the Universal Synod and has asked that the whole Church prepare for this Synod which is scheduled to take place in Rome in October 2023.

The Irish bishops decided to establish a Synodal Steering Committee and a Synodal Task Group to help move forward the Synodal Pathway process for Ireland. The bishops announced that Dr Nicola Brady has been appointed as chair of the Synodal Steering Committee and the vice-chairs appointed are Mr Andrew O'Callaghan and Bishop Brendan Leahy of Limerick. The full membership of the Steering Committee and of the Synodal Task Group will be published as part of the official launch of the Synodal Pathway in the coming months.