

### Flowers for the Altar

We are delighted to acknowledge a number of bouquets of flowers which were left into the parish during the week. These will be used in the sanctuaries in coming days. We also acknowledge some recent cash donations for altar flowers. Your generosity is much appreciated and thank you to the generous donors.

### Theology of the Arts: Does the Church Need Art?

The Priory Institute week-long Summer School will run from 8 - 13 August and again from 22 - 27 August. The course includes six recorded presentations & is very flexible as it is delivered entirely online. Find out more & register on [prioryinstitute.com](http://prioryinstitute.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. Contact [adignam@accord.ie](mailto:adignam@accord.ie).

### 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.

**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

*Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 11<sup>th</sup> July 2021*

### Remembrance Tree

At the end of May Bishop Denis Nulty, Ossory Diocesan Administrator, celebrated a special Mass of Thanksgiving and Remembrance at St. Mary's Cathedral. During the Mass, which was organised by the Ossory Middle Deanery Pastoral Council, the deceased members of our parish who had funerals curtailed by the coronavirus restrictions were prayed for and remembered. Each of the fourteen parishes involved were presented with a special remembrance tree and candle which were blessed by the bishop. Our parish tree will be planted in the grounds of St. John's Church following 11.30am Mass this Sunday. All are invited to attend this short ceremony in the grounds in front of the church.

### World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

Pope Francis has established a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which will take place for the first time on Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> July 2021 on the theme 'I am with you always' (Mt 28:20). Bishop Denis Nulty, chair of the Bishops' Council for Marriage and the Family has welcomed Pope Francis' World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, as a timely reminder for the whole Church to be close to all the elderly and grandparents at this time of pandemic. Bishop Nulty said, "There have been so many unsung heroes and heroines during the pandemic – grandparents and elders, including our older priests and religious – all who are to be applauded for how they have coped with the challenges and uncertainty brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic. As a society we have learned a lot from their stoicism and pragmatism in the face of so many challenges.

We look forward to celebrating our Grandparents and Elderly on the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup> July.

### Parish Finances

Despite the continued restrictions, the parish and priests are still dependant on the generosity of parishioners. Please, therefore, continue to put your offering in the collection buckets at the church doors or through the Presbytery letter box at your convenience. Please return your normal parish envelopes, or if you did not get parish envelopes or have misplaced them, use any kind of envelope with your name and address attached. Thanks again to those who have made financial offerings during the past couple of months. This is much appreciated.

In light of the ongoing social restrictions, the Diocese is making it easier for anybody to make a financial donation to our Parish. If you would like to do this at home and you have access to the internet, simply visit the St. John's Parish website ([www.stjohnskilkenny.com](http://www.stjohnskilkenny.com)) and click on the 'Donate' icon on the homepage. This will give you instructions on how to set up a Standing Order or make a one-off donation to the Parish.

### Bereavements

**Recently Deceased:** Patrick Lyons, Johnswell. Requiem Mass at Johnswell Church at 12.00noon on Tuesday followed by interment in Johnswell Cemetery. Teresa Magnier Lindsay, Weir View. Miriam O'Brien, Loughboy.

**Anniversaries:** Peggy Lanigan & Michael Tosh O'Connor; (6.00pm); Martin Manning (10.00am); Richard Hennessy (11.00am); Mary Nolan & Stephen Kelly (11.30am); Michael Bergin (7.00pm); PJ Mealy; Bridget Ward; Bridie Walsh; Richard Coly Dunne; Christy, Brigid & Pat Murray; David Gaffney Jnr; May Lynch; Louie Sheridan; Mary Fry; Mary Carey; Nicholas, Bridget & Jimmy Kavanagh; Patrick Foley; Richard & Stephen Cassin; The Cassin Family; Joe, Mollie, Liam, William Ellen Bergin; John & Annie Free;

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

### Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm	Bridget Ahearn
8.00am	Martin Blake
10.00am	Teresa Dowling
11.00am	Martina Brennan & Tom Keating
11.30am	Bobbie Lahart
7.00pm	Marie Fogarty

### Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €935. Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order. Your support is greatly appreciated.

### First Holy Communion

This weekend in the Parish should have been First Holy Communion Day for all the boys and girls in Second Class. Unfortunately, we had to postpone due to the Government Guidelines. We continue to pray for the children and their families at this very special time in their lives. We will await further advice before resetting a new date.

### St. Vincent De Paul

The Monthly Collection for the Society of St Vincent De Paul in our parish will take place next weekend, 17th and 18<sup>th</sup> July. A sincere thank you for all your generous support.

### Peter's Pence Collection

Thanks to all who contributed to the recent Peter's Pence Collection. €770 was collected in St. John's Parish. This will be forwarded to the Vatican for distribution to the Pope's charities.

### Knock Annual Novena Postponed

The Parish Priest and Rector of Knock Shrine, Father Richard Gibbons, has announced that the National Novena to Our Lady of Knock is being postponed until later this year. The annual novena of prayer and reflection was due to take place next month from the 14<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> August.

Father Richard said, "We have taken this difficult decision in the interest of the health and safety of our pilgrims and staff here at the Shrine. Given the recent concern from both government and health agencies regarding the Delta variant of the coronavirus, the responsible course of action is to postpone the National Novena at this time."

"We continue to welcome pilgrims to the Shrine. All who visit can be rest assured that Knock is a very safe place and that every precaution is in place to ensure the safety of all our pilgrims. We have queueing systems in place at all public buildings on the grounds of the Shrine, as well as ushers and staff that are present to ensure everything is done correctly and in line with latest public health guidelines," Father Richard said.

### Mass Intentions for the Coming Week

Saturday: Peggy Lanigan & Michael Tosh O'Connor (6.00pm).  
Sunday: Martin Manning (10.00am)  
Richard Hennessy (11.00am).  
Mary Nolan & Stephen Kelly (11.30am).  
Michael Bergin (7.00pm).  
Tuesday: Patrick Foley, Richard & Stephen Cassin & Cassin Family (10.30am).  
Friday: PJ Mealy (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.*

### Daily Broadcast Mass

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

### Croagh Patrick Pilgrimage

Normally the National Pilgrimage to Croagh Patrick takes place on the last Sunday of July. For this year, Reek Sunday has been extended to incorporate the whole month of July; each weekday from Wednesday to Saturday in order to facilitate those who wish to fulfil the Reek Sunday Obligations. Mass on the Summit: Wednesday to Friday 12 noon; Mass on Saturday 10am (Weather permitting). Confessions before and after Mass 11.00am to 11.45am and 12.45pm to 1.15pm.

### Lough Derg 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. 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).

### The First Mission

Two phrases come to mind as I read about the disciples heading off on their first mission: 'baptism of fire' and 'to be thrown in at the deep end'. We use these expressions to describe a difficult introduction to a new job or activity, when we are expected to learn as we go and cope with whatever obstacles we face. In today's Gospel, Jesus sends the Twelve out on their first mission. It is a challenging one and his instructions are brief and very specific: they are to bring nothing but a staff - no food or money - meaning they will have to rely on the hospitality of others for all their needs. They are to stay wherever they are welcomed, rather than move around from house to house, so they can't be choosy about their lodgings. Simplicity is key - no baggage, no luxuries, no distractions, nothing but the task of reaching to people. It might not be plain sailing, but Jesus offers advice for those difficult times too. It appears their mission of preaching and healing was successful, as we are told the disciples came back eager to fill Jesus in. Imagine the experiences they must have had during this time - the people they met and helped, the generosity of those who welcomed them, the conversations on the road, the chance to share their excitement at everything Jesus was doing. They were certainly thrown into a challenging situation, but they returned with a fresh perspective and strengthened faith. Jesus calls us to step out into the unknown, his words as our guide and his bond with us unbreakable.

'A boat is safe in the harbour, but this not the purpose of a boat.' (*Paulo Coelho*)