

### Accord Recruiting Volunteers

Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators.

Accord is seeking registration of interest from those who have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church and the enthusiasm to be part of a team supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage.

Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally in accordance with best practice.

Contact Aisling on 01 505 3112 or by email to [info@accord.ie](mailto:info@accord.ie). The closing date for receipt of registration of interest forms to be included in Selections for this year is Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> August.

### National Heritage Week 14<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2021

National Heritage Week will take place from 14<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> August and we encourage all community groups to showcase their work for Heritage Week. To find out more information see [www.heritageweek.ie](http://www.heritageweek.ie) or contact the Heritage Office, Kilkenny County Council at [heritage@kilkennycoco.ie](mailto:heritage@kilkennycoco.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.

**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

## Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 8<sup>th</sup> August 2021

### The Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation

In a letter to all parishes this week Bishop Denis Nulty, the Apostolic Administrator of Ossory wrote:

*I saw, with great pride, the many young people who queued this past weekend at the walk-in vaccination centres to avail of their first dose of the much-needed vaccine. Such was the turn out that we drew the attention of other nations. We have done so much as individuals, as parishes, as communities, as counties and as a country. Better days are, we all feel, within touching distance.*

*In this context, and in a recognition of the great sacrifice we have all already undertaken, I am asking parishes to continue to abide by current official guidelines. I am hopeful that these will ease in the weeks ahead and I do hope that as the month progresses and we start a return to schools that the resumption of all sacramental celebrations will be possible.*

With this instruction in mind the celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion will not take place in St. John's Parish until sometime next month. On the reopening of our schools, we will discuss the issue with parents/guardians and teachers and announce a date for the celebration of the sacrament.

Bishop Denis Nulty has fixed Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021 as the date for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation for all Kilkenny City parishes. This celebration is due to take place at Nowlan Park at 6.30pm on that day. At this time, we have no reason to believe this celebration will not go ahead.

We promise to keep parents and candidates for both sacraments updated. In the meantime, candidates and their families are encouraged to continue to pray and make preparation for the celebration of these important sacraments.

### Come on the Cats

All at St. John's Parish join in wishing our Kilkenny Senior Hurlers all the best in this Sunday's All-Ireland Semi-final against Cork. We wish Brian Cody and all associated with the team – especially those from our parish – all the best for a successful outing. Beir bua agus beannacht.

### A Thought for the Day

*"Laugh as much as possible, always laugh. It's the sweetest thing one can do for oneself and one's fellow human beings." – Maya Angelou*

### Bereavements

**Recently Deceased:** Maurice Hennessy, Weir View. Clive O'Carroll, Sete, France & Late of John's Quay. Martin Hanlon, Johnswell. Patsy Crimin, Bennettsbridge. Requiem Mass at St Bennett's Church on Wednesday at 10.30am, internment in Tullaherin Cemetery. Gloria Martinez, El Salvador. Liam O'Brien, College Road and late of Emmet Street. Requiem Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral at 11.00am on Tuesday. Interment in St. Kieran's Cemetery.

**Anniversaries:** Laurence & Ann Morrissey (6.00pm); Eveline Hennessy (10.00am); Paddy & Peggy Tynan (11.00am); Tony Teehan (11.30am); Dan & Bridie Herlihy (7.00pm); John Browne; Eileen Roche; Mary Boland.

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

### Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm Ann Daly  
8.00am Martin Blake  
10.00am Fiona & Sarah Manning  
11.00am Eddie Holohan & Liz Holohan  
11.30am Tony Dalton  
7.00pm Anne Marie Grace

### Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €870. Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order. Your support is greatly appreciated.

### Johnswell Road Hurling

Johnswell Road Hurling will take place next Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> August. Registration is at 5.00pm. Teams of three. Adults: €10, Children U14: €5. BBQ to follow.

### Society of St. Vincent De Paul Collection

The Monthly Collection for the local conference of the Society of St Vincent De Paul will take place next weekend, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> August. A sincere thank you for all your generous support.

### Tobar Na Gaeilge

There will be a Leaving Cert Irish Course running in Johnswell this summer. This course will primarily focus on the Irish Oral Exam and will also feature lessons on grammar, essay writing, comprehension etc. All the benefits of Gaeltacht style classes without having to travel far from home! Áit/Venue: Johnswell Community Hall. Dáta/Date: 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> August. Am/Time: 10.00am - 1.00pm. Táille/Cost: €80. Uimhir Teangmhála/Contact: Maria 087 667 3302 / Nick 087 225 5751. "Beatha teanga, í a labhairt!"

### Youth 2000 Summer Festival

The Youth 2000 Summer Festival for 16 to 35 year-olds will take place online from 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> August at www.youth2000.ie. Masses will be celebrated in St. Paul's Church, Waterford on Friday at 8.00pm, Saturday at 4.00pm and 8:30pm (reconciliation and healing service) with the closing Mass on Sunday at 2:30pm with Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan. Register now to hear inspiring workshops, testimonies and talks from our keynote speaker Fr. Aelred Magee OSCO.

### The Patron Saint of our Difficult Century

Saint Maximilian Kolbe, was a Polish Catholic priest and Conventual Franciscan friar who volunteered to die in place of a stranger in the death camp of Auschwitz. Pope John Paul II canonized Kolbe and declared him a martyr of charity. The Catholic Church venerates him as the patron saint of amateur-radio operators, drug addicts, political prisoners, families, journalists, and prisoners. His feast day falls on next Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> August, the day of his death.

### Mass Intentions for the Coming Week

Saturday: Laurence & Ann Morrissey (6.00pm).  
Sunday: Eveline Hennessy (10.00am).  
Paddy & Peggy Tynan (11.00am).  
Tony Teehan (11.30am).  
Dan & Bridie Herlihy (7.00pm).  
Monday: John Browne (10.30am).  
Friday: Jim Langton (10.30am).  
Saturday:

*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*

### Uphill Struggle

Have you ever felt like giving up? Elijah certainly did. In today's first reading we meet a prophet who has had enough. He is fleeing from trouble and things seem so hopeless after a day's journey that he sits under a bush and begs God to take his life. Life has a way of getting on top of us, such as when we are grieving a loss, when we are hurt by a friend, when illness strikes, or when we are simply exhausted. We experience the feelings described in the famous anonymous poem *Don't Quit*:

*When things go wrong as they sometimes will,  
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill...*

At these times of struggle it is helpful to pause and to refuel for the journey. Elijah was visited by an angel who offered him comfort and respite, giving him the strength, he needed to carry on.

In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus again say he is the living bread. Some people have been complaining about his teaching. Surely this is the son of Joseph, they say, demonstrating their lack of understanding of who Jesus really is. Again, he explains that he is the Bread of Life - more than physical food, more than an ordinary man, he is the Living Bread, and he is God.

In all our struggles, especially when we feel like giving up, Jesus offers us nourishment for the journey. This gift is there for us especially in the Eucharist, offering comfort and strength.

*The Eucharist, although it is the fullness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.* (Pope Francis)

### Prayer to St. Maximilian Kolbe

St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe, most faithful son of St. Francis, the beggar of Assisi, inflamed with love for God; you journeyed through life practicing heroic virtues and performing true apostolic deeds. Turn your gaze on us who honour you and have recourse to you.

Radiating with the light of the Immaculate Virgin, you brought countless souls to holiness and introduced them to various apostolic endeavours for the victory of good over evil and to thereby extend the Kingdom of God throughout the whole world.

Obtain for us the light and the strength we need to do good and to bring many souls to Christ. Perfectly conformed and united with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, you achieved such a high degree of love of neighbour that you were able to freely offer your life in exchange for a fellow prisoner in witness of true evangelical charity.

Beg the Lord on our behalf that, filled with the same fire of love, our faith and good example might also bring others to Christ and secure for us the reward of everlasting life, where we shall praise Him together with you in eternal glory. Amen.

### 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!