

### Thanks, Farewell and Good Luck

On behalf of Fr. Lorcan, the Parish Pastoral Council and all others in our parish I would like to say a sincere thanks to Fr. Brian on his departure to Camross and Castletown Parishes. Fr. Brian has been a hard working diligent priest in our parish over the past six years and leaves behind a legacy of great achievements. I believe he will be remembered above all for his kindness and approachability and gentle ways with young and old. He will be missed. We wish him God's blessing as he takes on new responsibilities and duties. *Ad multos annos.*  
Fr. Dan

### 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.

### 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.

**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**

**Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time - 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2021**

### Final Farewell

Dear Parishioners of St. John's Parish,

It is with a heavy heart that I leave St. John's this week to move onto pastures new. My time here in St. John's has been extremely rewarding and I want to acknowledge with deep thanks your many kindnesses to me over the past six years. I feel that I have been truly blessed.

I have many happy memories and will always remember and be grateful for your encouragement, support and friendship. We shared the Liturgy together, I presided at weddings, baptised your children, and I was a part of your children's First Holy Communion and Confirmation. I was there for the sad times too, such as anointing of the sick and funerals. These moments will remain with me forever.

It is customary to thank people in goodbye messages such as this. I couldn't possibly thank everyone who deserves acknowledgement, but I can at least try to highlight a few who made my six years in St John's the meaningful experience it is. I am grateful to Fr Dan Carroll, Fr Lorcan Moran, Fr Frank Purcell and Fr Sean O'Connor who shared a home with me and from whom I've learned much about priesthood. Thank you for your time, you're mentoring and reassuring presence. To all the church volunteers who ensure the smooth running of our parish, servers, stewards, collectors, choirs, co-ordinators, workers, readers and Eucharistic ministers for their dedication to the liturgy and to St. John's parish. To Mary O'Neill, Geraldine Patterson, Brian Roche, the school boards, staff and students of St. John's Junior and Senior schools and Johnswell NS. To our Parish Pastoral Council, Finance Committee and Holy Communion team. To all the members of our Side-by-Side Club, who keep me young at heart. To Jane Dineen, Marian Eardly, Linda Nolan our sacristans and their assistants who keep the diamonds that are St John's, Dunmore and Johnswell Churches so well polished. Special thanks to Aine Butler, our secretary and Agnieszka Wrona, our housekeeper for their hard work and for keeping us so well organised and on our toes. Special thanks to all those wonderful individuals who helped me in times of crisis, especially moving to my new home in Camross.

It's been a privilege to serve the people of St. John's Parish. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your lives. My prayers and best wishes to you always. And, until we meet again, take care and God bless.

Fr Brian Griffin

### Bereavements

**Recently Deceased:** Oliver Doran, Emmet Street and late of Glendine Court. Bee O'Sullivan, 40 Larchfield. Requiem Mass at 12.00 noon on Monday at St. Fiacre's Church, Loughboy. Siobhan Murphy, Maddockstown. Requiem Mass at St. Colman's Church, Clara at 11.30am on Sunday.

### Month's Mind:

**Anniversaries:** Jim & Betty Canty (6.00pm); Paddy Deegan (11.30am); Jim, Terence & Brigid Doherty; John & Ann Breen; Patrick Ruth; Denis Foley; Martin Ward; Patrick Culleton; Natilie Hunt; Dominic Tynan; Paddy Tynan; Dick Tynan; Margaret Tynan; Josie Hackett; Masry Duggan and Family; Catherine Ryan and Family.

*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	Máirín Bergin
8.00am	Padraig O'Neill
10.00am	Seán Colgan
11.00am	Jim Kavanagh & Claire Hanrick
11.30am	Mary Lynch
7.00pm	Joan Galwey

### Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €1,725. Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order. Your support is greatly appreciated.

### Leap of Faith

Children are often adept at looking beyond the practicalities and seeing the possibilities. Where a parent or guardian might only see a messy room in need of tidying, a child sees an obstacle course, a castle, a jungle, a magical fairy forest. It can be refreshing to take a breath and remember that there is more to life than our physical, tangible world with its daily routines and to-do lists. Sometimes circumstances can leave us blinded to life's beauty or meaning.

In today's Gospel, some of Jesus' followers are finding it difficult to see beyond the physical. He has been teaching them that he is the living bread, but it is hard for them to accept. They dismiss it as 'intolerable language' and they wonder 'How could anyone accept it?' His teachings are too difficult to comprehend, and they are annoyed and offended. Some of them even walk away.

But Jesus is offering something more than the practicalities, more than physical food or drink: he offers the bread of life, living bread, his very self. It is a difficult message, but Simon Peter gets to the heart of it: 'You have the message of eternal life, and we believe.' He is able to see beyond the obvious, to hear the truth at the heart of Jesus' words. Jesus demands a lot of his followers, who must each decide whether or not they want to follow. Are we ready to make that leap of faith?

### Thank You

The members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in our parish would like to thank you for your kindness to their church-door collection on last weekend. Your generous contributions will be used to help those in need in St. John's Parish and environs. Your contributions help alleviate poverty and hardship in our community.

### Mass Intentions for the Coming Week

Saturday: Jim & Betty Canty (6.00pm).  
Sunday: Paddy Deegan (11.30am).  
Jim, Terence & Brigid Doherty (7.00pm).  
Saturday: Jim & Ann Breen (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, 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 Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation

"The date for the celebration of Confirmation has not changed" is all we can say to the many people who contact the Parish Office re the arrangements for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Bishop Nulty has asked that the Kilkenny City parishes celebrate the Sacrament at Nowlan Park at 6.30pm on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> September. The detailed arrangements are being hammered out and we hope to be in a position to give more information in emails to the candidates' parents and in future newsletters and on the parish website.

We remind all families celebrating the Sacrament of the need to be responsible as regards any social gathering that may take place after the Sacrament. Each person and family needs to take personal responsibility for their behaviour at this time.

### Side By Side Club

The club has resumed in the Day Centre. We will be adhering to all the government guidelines in relation to the opening. New members are always welcome. For details, please contact Helen Goode on 083 406 8148.

### Mass Leaflets

A number of people expressed disappointment that are not allowed to use the usual Mass booklets during the pandemic. To make up the loss we now provide leaflets which contain the readings and the text of the Mass. Please take one as you enter church, use it during the Mass and take it from church with you at the end of Mass. It is important that you do not return the leaflets you have handled for fear of cross contamination.

Thank you for your assistance in this.

### A Prayer for Afghanistan

<b>For those who are fleeing:</b>	<b>sanctuary.</b>
<b>For those who are staying:</b>	<b>safety.</b>
<b>For those who are fighting:</b>	<b>peace.</b>
<b>For those whose hearts are breaking:</b>	<b>comfort.</b>
<b>For those who see no future:</b>	<b>hope.</b>

*(Poor Clares, Galwey)*