

Mass Leaflets

A number of people expressed disappointment that they are not allowed to use the usual Mass books during the pandemic. To make up for 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 with you as you leave church 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.

Kilkenny Adult Learning Service

Kilkenny Adult Learning Service, KCETB has a number of courses coming up starting week beginning 13th September. Accredited IT Courses, Computers for Beginners, Everyday Technology – Using Smart Phones, Going Online, Teams, Zoom etc., Photography Course and Driver Theory. For further information please contact the KCETB on 056 776 3149 or on mobile 087 738 5691.

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

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.

Face Coverings

We appreciate the efforts made to date regarding the wearing of facemasks. Thank you for your efforts to keep yourself and others safe.

Address: St John's Presbytery, Dublin Road, Kilkenny. **Email:** stjohns@ossory.ie

Website: 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 Lorcan Moran: 086 855 0521;

Fr Raymond Dempsey: 089 497 1924;

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

**Fergal Brennan; Mary Brennan; Alan Burke; Fr Dan Carroll; Fr Raymond Dempsey;
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

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

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: 2nd Sat. Monthly, 7.00pm; **Weekdays:** 8.00am, 10.30am. (Sat. 10.30am only).

Johnswell - Sunday 10.00am

Dunmore - Sunday 11.00am

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time - 5th September 2021

Ceremony of Light

The Ceremony of Light is a **pre-Confirmation ceremony** and is an important event in preparing the children for Confirmation. A key part of the service is when parents hand the lighted Baptismal candle to their child, acknowledging that their child is now ready to become a responsible Christian.

The Confirmation Class of 2021 will celebrate the Ceremony of Light in St John's Church on this Monday evening at 7.00pm. All candidates accompanied by one parent are asked to attend. During the ceremony use will be made of the child's baptismal candle - please bring it with you. The sacristan will provide substitute candles for those who don't have the original baptismal candle to hand.

Final information about Thursday's Confirmation Ceremony will be available.

The Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation

Bishop Nulty has asked that the Kilkenny City parishes celebrate the Sacrament at UMPC Nowlan Park at 6.30pm on this Thursday, 9th September. Candidates from all Kilkenny City schools will be present with their parents and a sponsor (maximum four people per family). Entry to the Park will be via the Hebron Road. Candidates from St. John's Senior School, Johnswell National School and the Kilkenny Model School are asked to sit with the St. John's Parish group in Section D of the new stand. Please follow the directions of our volunteer stewards and signage.

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.

We appeal to all who read this to pray for our young people at this very special time in their lives. They are now receiving full membership of our Church community and it is our responsibility to welcome them and pray for an outpouring of the Spirit into their hearts.

Congratulations to the Leaving Certs Students

Heartiest congratulations to those who received Leaving Certificate results on Friday. We hope you are pleased with your achievements and find yourself in a position to acquire the college place or work placement for which you wished and worked.

Sisters' Visit from Belarus

Sister Anna from the St. Elisabeth Convent, Minsk, Belarus will be visiting St John's tomorrow, Monday, 6th September at the 8.00am and 10.30am Masses to tell us about their charitable work that they provide to those most in need. The sisters will also have a small display of their crafts for sale to support their charitable projects in Belarus. Please welcome them.

Bereavements

Recently Deceased:

Geraldine Maher, Bishop Birch Place. Requiem Mass in St John's Church on Monday at 11.30am.

Alan Murphy, Portlaoise, late of Kilkenny County Council Yard, Hebron Road.

Mick Lawless, Ballyragget.

Month's Mind: Martin Hanlon (10.00am).

Anniversaries: Bernadette Hayes (6.00pm); Ann McDermott & Mary Barry (8.00am); Martin Shelly (11.30am); George Dowling (7.00pm); Elizabeth & Stella O'Rourke; Catherine Carroll; Eileen O'Connor; Bernard Doyle; Michael & Bridget Slattery; Fran Phelan; John (Seán) Curran; Paddy Ryan; Rose Mansfield; William (Billy) Burke; The Cassin 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	Claire Coogan
8.00am	Martin Blake
10.00am	Betsy Rice
11.00am	Stephanie Butler & Roger Curran
11.30am	Kay Purcell
7.00pm	Linda O'Leary

Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €510. Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order. Your support is greatly appreciated.

St. Mary's Cathedral Draw 2021/2022

A new cycle of draws will begin in September and tickets are available from the Parish Office or any of the priests. Draw takes place on the last Wednesday of each month. Tickets cost €10 per month. To date the draw has raised almost €600,000 for refurbishing the cathedral. Please continue to support this ongoing work.

Millennium Court SAC

Millennium Court can offer you places for children from 5 – 12 years; homework club; very low fees; Easter and Summer programmes. Opening hours: 2.00pm - 5.45pm. Partly funded places for children through the NCS Scheme (staff available to help you apply for this). Millennium Court Community Centre, Kilkenny. Telephone 087 193 9776 and 056 776 0187.

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 and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8.00am - 8.00pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

Anam Cara

Anam Cara would like to invite you to join us for an online Bereavement Information and Support Evening taking place 16th September at 7.00pm. This event will give you an opportunity to hear a bereavement professional talk about the difficult challenges and many milestones grieving a child of any age has on you and your family. If you would like to join us, please register here <https://bit.ly/3Dzyphe> or contact us on info@anamcara.ie or 085 288 8888.

Ormonde College of Further Education

There are places still available in a lot of the programmes but they are filling up quickly. The programmes provide very good supports, employment opportunities and progression options. Apply online through www.Ormondecollege.ie to avail of a place.

Mass Intentions for the Coming Week

Saturday: Bernadette Hayes (6.00pm).
Sunday: Ann McDermott & Mary Barry (8.00am).
Martin Hanlon (10.00am).
Martin Shelly (11.30am).
George Dowling (7.00pm).
Monday: Elizabeth & Stella O'Rourke (8.00am).
Catherine Carroll (10.30).
Tuesday: Special Intention (8.00am).
Saturday: Michelle Reynolds 10.30am).
*Those we love don't go away,
they walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard, but always near!*

Our Common Home 'Season of Creation'

Pope Francis has called on Catholics to take action for our common home during the Season of Creation which began on 1st September, and which ends on 4th October. In the Pope's Video for the month of September, he encourages everyone to question the way we live, and to turn "towards lifestyles that are simpler and more respectful of the environment. "The Holy Father has also stressed that the "cry of the earth and the cry of the poor are becoming increasingly serious and alarming," urging Catholics to take "decisive, urgent action to transform this crisis into an opportunity."

"Together with our brothers and sisters of different Christian denominations, let us pray and work for our common home in these times of grave planetary crisis," the Pope said.

Johnswell - Social Dance Classes

Social Dance Classes – Waltz, Quickstep, Foxtrot etc will commence on Tuesday, 21st September in Johnswell Hall from 8.00pm to 9.30pm. For more information, please contact Yvonne on 087 244 8535.

Tractor Run

The Neville Ryan Memorial Tractor Run on Sunday, 19th September in Johnswell in aid of Castlecomer District Hospital. Registration from 1.00pm. Support is very much appreciated.

'Ephphatha'

This Sunday is the First Sunday of the Season of Creation, a global ecumenical season which runs from 1st September until the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, 4th October. All Christians are invited to embrace this season in prayer, especially in our liturgies, in deep reflection, in living more sustainably and in raising our voices in the public sphere. We are invited to think more deeply about what is happening at present to the earth, the environmental destruction which now threatens our world and the call to 'eco-conversion'. The theme for this year's Season is 'Restoring Our Common Home'. It offers all of us a unique opportunity to renew our vocation to care more deeply God's creation.

In today's Gospel Jesus heals a man who was deaf and who had a speech impediment. Jesus says to him, 'Ephphatha,' which means 'Be opened'. Immediately this man was healed. There are many issues in our world to which we might be deaf or are 'closed' to, sometimes because they overwhelm us. The environmental crises are an example. Pope Francis invites us in *Laudato Si'*, his letter on the environment, to really hear and listen to the earth, which is crying out to us, to the scientific community who are sounding the alarm bells, to young people who are deeply concerned. *Ephphatha!* May we be open to hearing these cries, to praying for our world and to take action where we can. We begin with the small actions and encourage others to do the same. *Ephphatha!* Let us all be open to this call to care more deeply and 'Restore Our Common Home'.

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!