

Covid-19: Please Take Extra Care at this Time

It is more important than ever that those who attend church behave in a responsible way and look out for each other in these times. Please do not endanger others by coming to church if you feel unwell or display any symptoms of Covid-19. Everyone needs to take extra and careful steps to keep the pandemic under control. You can help by:-

- following the advice of our volunteer ushers who will seat as many people as permitted;
- wearing face masks;
- following the instructions for coming forward to receive Holy Communion;
- receiving Holy Communion in the hand only;
- making sure that indoor spaces are well ventilated;
- maintaining adequate social distancing inside and outside the church;
- taking any material (e.g. Newsletters, Mass leaflets) you handled home with you;
- covering your coughs and sneezes and
- keeping your hands virus free by using sanitizers.

New Year's Blessings

Heavenly Father, for this coming year
just one request I bring.

I do not pray for happiness or any earthly thing.
I do not ask to understand the way you lead me;
but this I ask - teach me to do the thing that
pleases You.

I want to know your guiding voice,
to walk with you each day.

Heavenly Father, make me swift to hear
and ready to obey;
and thus the year I now begin
a happy year will be,
if I am seeking just to do
the thing that pleases You.

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

Website: www.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.

Counselling 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

2nd Sunday of Christmas 2nd January 2022

Happy New Year



Frs. Dan, Lorcan, Raymond and all involved in the administration of St. John's Parish join in wishing you and yours a very happy New Year. The past twelve months have been difficult and challenging for all of us and we hope and pray that 2022 will be much better for all.

This is the time of year when we look back on the previous twelve months and as we do so we realise and appreciate the help and support for the parish provided by so many people. Thanks to the parishioners of St. John's Parish and our visitors for your attendance at liturgies

whether in person or on webcam and radio and for your prayers, goodwill and financial support during the past twelve months. We are a great parish community and, please God, we will continue to prayerfully support each other and build up the Kingdom of God in our community as we move into the coming year.

In particular we would like to thank the many volunteers, choirs, soloists, musicians, Ministers of Word and Eucharist, ushers, parish and office staff, sacristans, cleaners, and the members of the Finance and Pastoral Councils who are so generous in supporting our parish activity. Your hours of voluntary service and hard work is essential for the building up of our parish and it is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

As we move into 2022 we will hear a lot more about the Church's Synodal Journey. During this time our Church will walk a pathway of dialogue seeking new and imaginative ways of being Church. It is hoped that the voice of all in our parish will be heard and listened to during this process. Please keep an eye open for initiatives in our parish and in the diocese in general and let your voice be heard when called upon.

We hope most of you will continue to come to our churches to pray, light a candle or just remind yourself that God is near. May you and yours have a safe and healthy New Year.

Letter to Married Couples

Marriage, as a vocation, calls you to steer a tiny boat – wave-tossed yet sturdy, thanks to the reality of the sacrament – across a sometimes stormy sea. How often do you want to say, or better, cry out, like the apostles: “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” Let us never forget, though, that by virtue of the sacrament of matrimony, Jesus is present in that boat; he is concerned for you and he remains at your side amid the tempest.

These words are taken from a letter written by Pope Francis to married couples. The complete letter is well worth reading and is available under “Notices” on our parish website: stjohnskilkenny.com

Bereavements

Recently Deceased: John Joyce, Ossory Park, Kilkenny. Requiem Mass at St. John's Church at 10.30am on Monday followed by interment in St. Kieran's Cemetery.
 Mary Fenton, College Gardens, Callan Road, Kilkenny. Requiem Mass at St. Patrick's Church at 12.30pm on Sunday followed by interment in Foulkstown Cemetery.
 Frank McEvoy, St. Francis Terrace. John Comerford, Windgap.
 Joseph Brennan, St. Fiacre's Place. Helen Coogan, Cypress Avenue.
 Eileen Purcell, Butts Green.

Months Mind: John Holmes (Sunday 10.00am); Hannah Byrne (Wednesday 10.30am); Michael Reynolds (Saturday 10.30am).

Anniversaries: Eileen Owens (6.00pm); Ned Brennan, Ann Shanley & Margaret Pearson (11.00am); Mary Murphy (11.30am); Frank O'Neill (7.00pm); Peter & Eileen Browne; Liam Kelly; Hannah Byrne; Anne & Martin McMahon; John Byrne; Elizabeth & Danny Moloney; Michael Reynolds; John O'Gorman; Ann Guilfoyle; John, Sammy & Marta Kirwan; Catherine and Thomas Lyons; Maura Murphy; Bernie Comerford; Agnes Murphy; Edward Moriarty; Paddy Morris; John McKiernan. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Readers for Next Weekend 9th January

6.00pm	Ann Daly
8.00am	Jo Browne
10.00am	TBA
11.00am	TBA
11.30am	Deirdre Dowling
7.00pm	Marie Fogarty

Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €2,795. Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order.
 Your support is greatly appreciated.

Our Parish Website

We endeavour to keep our parish website updated with news, information and announcements on a regular basis. Please keep an eye on the "Notices" section for important announcements and notices of interest to the people of our parish. The website is at stjohnskilkenny.com

Collection for Priests

A word of gratitude to the many people who supported the Priests' Christmas Collection. Frs. Dan, Lorcan and Raymond thank you for your generosity to the Christmas Collection towards their income. We appreciate the very generous and constant support of so many parishioners. If you still wish to contribute, you may do so by dropping your contribution into the collection buckets at Mass, leaving it into the Parish Office or using the donate button on the Parish Website which is a very safe and secure way to contribute to the support of your priests.

Virtual Display of Family and Parish Cribs

Send an image to afd@ossory.ie of the crib in your home, parish, school or club to take part in our virtual display of cribs. Let us celebrate together "Christ with us!"

Ossory Times

The Christmas edition of *Ossory Times* - our diocesan magazine - is available in the church porches and on the web at www.ossory.ie.

The Annual Kilkenny City Churches Camino Crib Walk

The Annual Kilkenny Church Christmas Crib Walk will take place on Saturday, 8th January beginning at the Capuchin Friary Church at 11.00am.

The annual Crib Walk of the Churches in Kilkenny is a reflective walk on the meaning and traditions of church cribs in Kilkenny. Each church has its own tradition in its Christmas Crib and its design and structure often reflect not only the community of the present but the communities of the generations gone before who formed and built the various church cribs.

This year we join Santiago de Compostella for the celebration of Holy Crib Day on Saturday, 8th January. The walk will be led by Fr. Willie Purcell.

Mass Intentions for week beginning 3rd January

Monday:	Peter and Eileen Browne (10.30)
Tuesday:	Liam Kelly (10.30)
Wednesday:	Hannah Byrne (10.30am)
Thursday:	Ann & Martin McMahon, John Byrne, Elizabeth and Danny Moloney (11.30)
Saturday:	Michael Reynolds (Months Mind 10.30am) William, Tess and the Murphy Family (6.00)
Sunday:	John and Rita McKiernan (10.00am) Ann and John Barry (11.00am) Ned Byrne (11.30) Larry O'Shea (Months Mind 7.00pm)

*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.*

Home for the Holidays?

You may like to know that all Masses and Services at St. John's Church are broadcast on our webcam at stjohnskilkenny.com, and our Parish Radio Service on 106.8 FM.

Weekdays
8.00am and 10.30am.
Saturdays
10.30am and 6.00pm.
Sundays
8.00am, 11.30am & 7.00pm.
All welcome!
You can stay in touch with your parish when the holiday is over.

Feast of the Epiphany

The Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated on this Thursday, 6th January. The word "epiphany" comes from the Greek *epiphainen*, a verb that means "to shine upon," "to manifest," or "to make known." In this way, the feast of the Epiphany celebrates the many ways that Christ has made Himself known to the world, mainly the three events that manifested the mission and divinity of Christ: the visit of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12), the baptism of Jesus (Mark 1:9-11), and the miracle at Cana (John 2:1-11).

Thursday is a holy day of obligation and Masses in St. John's Church will be at 6.00pm Wednesday (vigil) and 8.00am, 11.30am and 7.00pm on Thursday. These Masses will be broadcast on webcam and radio. There will be no Masses in Dunmore and Johnswell.

Masses this Week

Monday, 3 rd January:	10.30am		
Tuesday, 4 th January:	8.00am	10.30am	
Wednesday, 5 th January:	8.00am	10.30am	6.00pm
Thursday, 6 th January:	8.00am		11.30am
Friday, 7 th January:	8.00am	10.30am	7.00pm
Saturday, 8 th January:		10.30am	6.00pm

Christmas Masses - Thanks For Your Help

Our thanks to all involved with our Christmas Masses and the preparation of our churches. We thank God that most of those who wished to be present for our Christmas Masses were able to get into the churches. So many people helped prepare our churches and helped with the arrangements and we thank you for your work.

New Parish Envelopes

These envelopes are essential to the financial life of the parish and they ensure a regular flow of income which enables the parish to meet daily current expenditure. If you have not received your new box of envelopes please contact the parish office on 056 772 1072.

Samaritans - We are here for you this New Year

Every hour, every day, a Samaritan is waiting to answer your call. This holiday season our volunteers will be here to listen 24/7, allowing you to talk without judgement, to relieve distress and reach a better understanding of your situation. Please don't suffer in silence. We are here today, and always, on freephone 116 123 or email jo@samaritans.ie.