

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.

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

Medjugorje - Evening of Prayer

Rosary, Mass, Adoration and Prayer for Healing will take place in St Fiacre's Church, Loughboy next Monday 10th January at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

Some Useful Help Agencies

Samaritans: We are here for you. Every hour, every day, a Samaritan is waiting to answer your call. on freephone 116 123 or email jo@samaritans.ie.

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

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

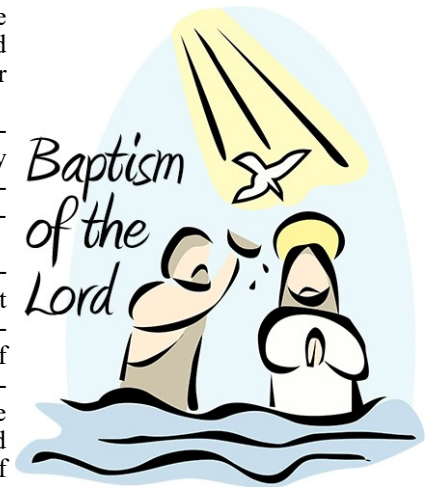
The Baptism of The Lord - 9th January 2022

Our Baptismal Calling

It is only weeks since the start of the Christmas story. It is still fresh in our minds as we abruptly come to the Feast of Jesus' Baptism. The Magi have just come and gone, and our Christmas decorations are put away for another year.

This weekend we jump from the Child Jesus to the mature Jesus setting out on his mission which is publicly inaugurated by his Baptism by John in the River Jordan. By accepting baptism, Jesus was committing himself to the work of taking away the sins of the world.

The start of the new year provides us with an opportunity to review our commitment to Christ and reflect on our calling as a member of God's family. Our special role is to announce Jesus to the world. The ways of doing this are many and varied. We are called to witness to Christ in our own sphere of living and to make the world a better place by our presence. The lighted candle which the newly baptised receives at the end of the Baptism Ceremony means we are to show forth Christ by word and deed wherever we go.



Are You Registered in Our Parish?

Please contact the Parish Office on 056 7721 072 or stjohns@ossory.ie if you are new to the area or feel that you and your family may not be registered with St. John's Parish. We are anxious to welcome newcomers and build up our parish community.

The Pope's Intentions for January 2022

For true human fraternity: We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognised, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

Ossory Times

A small number of the Christmas edition of the *Ossory Times* - our diocesan magazine - are available at the church doors. This quarterly magazine about activity in our diocese is also available online at www.ossory.ie. It is well worth the read.

Bereavements

Recently Deceased: Lucy Doyle, O'Loughlin Court, Kilkenny.
Liam O'Brien, Kells, Co. Meath late of Michael Street, Kilkenny.
John Woods, Durrow, Co. Laois.
Paddy Byrne, Higginstown Cross, Johnswell Road, Kilkenny.
Edward Hogan, Sycamore Drive, Ardnore, Kilkenny.

Months Mind: Larry O'Shea (7.00pm).

Anniversaries: William, Tess & The Murphy Family (6.00pm); John & Rita McKiernan (10.00am); Ann & John Barry (11.00am); Ned Byrne (11.30am); James Cleary; Michael Delaney; Jimmy & Chrissie Bergin; Michael O'Connor Jnr; John Lanigan; Ann Kavanagh; Bernie Kelly; Michael & Annie Ruth; Jack & Doreen Cassidy; Alice Buckley; Tess Hogan; Peg Dowling;

*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 Bridget Ahearn
8.00am Padraig O'Neill
10.00am Fiona & Sarah Manning
11.00am Martina Brennan & Tom Keating
11.30am Tony Dalton
7.00pm Joan Galwey

Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection:
€2,005. Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order.
Your support is greatly appreciated.

Senior Care Assistant Required

Senior Care Assistant required for St. John's Day Care Centre, Dublin Road, Kilkenny.
2 days per week – 9.00am to 3.00pm. (12 Hours)
Must have experience in caring for Elderly People.
Expressions of interest to be sent in writing to St. John's Homes for the Elderly c/o The Presbytery, Dublin Road, Kilkenny before 19th January 2022.

St. John's Junior School

St. John's Junior School is currently accepting applications for enrolment for September 2022. Applications forms are available by contacting the school 056 776 2888 or emailing info@stjohnsthelake.ie. Closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 28th January.

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, 15th and 16th January. A sincere thank you for all your generous support. Please remember the local conference can be contacted in writing through the Parish Office or by telephone on 086 895 1239.

Anam Cara

Anam Cara Tipperary, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Monday, 17th January at 7:20pm in the Horse and Jockey Hotel, Thurles. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not.

Subject to change in accordance with government advice

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.

Mass Intentions for week beginning 10th January

Friday: James Cleary (10.30)
Saturday: Michael (Mockey) Delaney (10.30am)
Michael Kinchella (6.00pm)
Sunday: Michael & Kevin Dowling (8.00am)
Gemma Clancy (11.00am)
Michael & Angela White (11.30)
Kitty Guidera (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.*

Parish Webcam

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 from anywhere
in the world.**

The Official Logo of the Synodal Path

On 10th October 2021 Pope Francis launched the Universal Synod of the Church. Bishop Nulty, our Apostolic Administrator, launched the Synod in Ossory on the following weekend.



Synod initiatives will continue and gain momentum in our parishes, especially during the season of Lent. It is informative to consider the Official Logo of the Synodal Path.

A large, majestic tree, full of wisdom and light, reaches for the sky. A sign of deep vitality and hope which expresses the cross of Christ. It carries the Eucharist, which shines like the sun. The horizontal branches, opened like hands or wings, suggest, at the same time, the Holy Spirit.

The people of God are not static: they are on the move, in direct reference to the history of the word synod, which means "walking together". The people are united by the same common dynamic that this Tree of Life breathes into them, from which they begin their walk.

These 15 silhouettes sum up our entire humanity in its diversity of life situations of generations and origins. This aspect is reinforced by the multiplicity of bright colours which are themselves signs of joy.

There is no hierarchy between these people who are all on the same footing: young, old, men, women, teenagers, children, lay people, religious, parents, couples, singles; the bishop and the nun are not in front of them, but among them. Quite naturally, children and then adolescents open their walk, in reference to these words of Jesus in the Gospel: "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned and revealed them to little children". (Mt 11:25).

The horizontal baseline: "For a synodal Church: communion, participation and mission" runs from left to right in the direction of this march, underlining and strengthening it, to end with the title "Synod 2021 - 2023", the high point that synthesizes the whole.

(The Synod logo is reproduced here in black and white. View it in colour on our website.)