

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.

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.

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. 8.00pm; call 0818 222 024.

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; Jo Browne; Alan Burke; Fr Dan Carroll;

Claire Coogan; Fr Raymond Dempsey; Luke Leydon; 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

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - 16th January 2022

What Exactly is a Synod?

A synod is a gathering, traditionally of bishops, that helps the Church to walk forward together in the same direction. The word "synod" comes from the Greek *syn-hodos*, meaning "the same way" or "the same path." Synods were common in the first centuries of Christianity, giving bishops the opportunities to meet and discuss issues of importance for the life of the Church. In 1965, Pope Paul VI instituted the Synod of Bishops at the universal level of the Church. He wanted a way of continuing the fraternal, collegial exchange that had been experienced at the Second Vatican Council, where bishops from across the globe had gathered together between 1962 and 1965.



Since then, synods have been organized every two or three years, bringing together bishops, experts, and various delegates to discuss topics like the Eucharist, the Word of God, the Middle East, the new evangelization, the family, young people and the Amazon. In each case, bishops vote on a Final Document, then the Pope writes his own text – called an "apostolic exhortation" – to open new pathways and shed new light on what was discussed at the synod, so that it can radiate across the entire Church.

But the current synod is going to be unlike any other!! Since it began last October until it concludes in 2023, it will be a journey of sharing, reflecting and listening at all levels across the entire Church! Watch this space for more information.

Parish Pastoral Council

The members of the Parish Pastoral Council assist the priests in the pastoral administration of the parish. The names of the Council are provided on the opposite page.

This week we are delighted to welcome three new members to the Council: Jo Browne, Claire Coogan and Luke Leydon. We wish them well in their ministry.

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.

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@stjohnsthe lake.ie. Closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 28th January.

Bereavements

Recently Deceased: Joseph Quigley, Rosewood, Johnswell Road and late of Dean Cavanagh Place. Requiem Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral at 10.30am on Monday.

Beatrice Byrne, Callan Road. Funeral Mass Monday 11.00am St Patrick's Church.

Michael Bourke, Castlecomer and late of John's Quay. Requiem Mass in Castlecomer at 11.00am on Monday.

Bernadette Egan, Knockavan House, Dublin Road.

Mary McCarty, Bantry.

Ann Gibbons, Kilree House and late of Bonnetsrath.

Joe Slattery, Kilkenny.

Anniversaries: Michael Kinchella (6.00pm); Michael & Kevin Dowling (8.00am); Gemma Clancy (11.00am); Michael & Angela White (11.30am); Kitty Guidera (7.00pm); Alex Dewberry; Theresa Barcoe; Bridget & Patrick Slattery; Lil Redmond; Michael Mahony; Anne Prizeman; Peter & Eileen Browne; Eamon Goulding; Tom Phelan; William Hughes; Martin (Murt) Kelly;

*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 Paula Rogers
10.00am Teresa Dowling
11.00am Esther Comerford & Tom Comerford
11.30am Kathleen Ferguson
7.00pm Eileen Kinane

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.

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 this 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.

Church of Ireland News

We join in congratulating and praying for Rt. Rev. Michael Burrows, Church of Ireland Bishop of the United Dioceses of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory on his translation to the United Dioceses of Tuam, Limerick and Killaloe. Bishop Burrows worked in our area for almost 16 years and we wish him well in his new appointment.

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

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Mass Intentions for week beginning 17th January

Monday: Special Intention (8.00am).
Alex Dewberry (10.30am).
Tuesday: Theresa Barcoe (10.30am).
Wednesday: Bridget & Patrick Slattery (10.30am).
Friday: Lil Redmond (8.00am)
Saturday: Michael Mahony (10.30am)
Richard Grace (6.00pm)
Sunday: Billy Malone (8.00am)
Jim & Kitty Rice (11.00am)
Tom Walsh 11.30)
Patrick & Hugh Meany (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**

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins on this Tuesday, 18th January, and continues until Tuesday, 25th January. The theme this year is "We saw the star in the East, and we come to worship him" (Mt 2:2).

Serving the Gospel today requires a commitment to humankind, especially the poorest, the weakest and those marginalized. It requires from the churches transparency and accountability in dealing with the world, and with each other. This means churches need to cooperate to provide relief to the afflicted, to welcome the displaced, to relieve the burdened, and to build a just and honest society. This is a call for churches to work together so that we can build a good future according to God's heart, a future in which we have life, peace, justice and love.

Tobar na Gaeilge - Full Run Through of Irish Oral Exam Plus Feedback

A team of múinteoirí will hold two Irish Oral Super Sessions for Leaving Cert students in the newest Irish Hub in Kilkenny, Johnswell. Students will have an opportunity to complete three full Irish Oral Exams each session with different múinteoirí and receive feedback after each one. All elements of the Irish Oral Exam will be covered; i.e., Sraith Pictiúr, Cómhrá agus Filíocht.

Áit/Venue: Johnswell Community Hall. Dátaí/Dates: 12th February and 26th March 2022.

Teangmháil/Contact : tobarnagaeilge@yahoo.com nó 087 667 3302.

Spriocdátá/Closing date for applications: 5th February.

Sunday of the Word of God

'Sunday of the Word of God' which is celebrated next weekend is a time to acknowledge and celebrate the central place of God's Word in our lives of faith. We are a people who live by God's Word. We are gathered by God's Word. God's Word speaks to us, affirms us, guides us, forms us, challenges us and gives us new life.

We often identify the Bible as the Word of God. This is not wrong, but God speaks to our hearts in many different ways. For instance, he speaks to us in prayer and through our conscience, and often through other people. Hence, the Word of God covers much more than a printed book. Nevertheless, the Bible is the privileged collection of communications between God and his people. These stories and poems have nourished the lives of the people of Israel and the Christian Church right through the centuries, and they continue to nourish us today. They tell the story of God's love and our salvation from ancient times onwards. The scriptural texts offer us both challenge and encouragement for our lives and are especially valuable to us through the hope they offer us at dark moments.