

### Lenten Station Envelopes

The Lenten Station Envelopes are now ready for distribution at the Presbytery. The Lenten Station contributions from our parishioners go towards the salaries of the priests. We thank the distributors for their cooperation and our parishioners for their generous contributions.

### Trócaire Family Fast Boxes

Please take a Trócaire Box home with you or you can donate online at [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org) or by phone: 1850 408 408. This year's theme is "A Better Tomorrow". Climate change and Covid are hurting loving families so please help this Lent. Every cent helps those in need.

### New CD with Healing Prayers and Hymns

A CD entitled "I Thirst" has been released which is a beautiful collection of healing prayers and hymns especially suitable for the sick. It is suitable for personal use or for use in hospitals and nursing homes. Nearly 80 minutes in duration it includes 19 participants and will be a treasured gift for every household or nursing setting. It is available online from Knock Shrine, Castle Street Bookshop, Castlebar ([mayo.books.ie](http://mayo.books.ie)). More on poster in church.

### Readings at Mass

Visit [www.universalis.com/today](http://www.universalis.com/today) and each day you will find information on the Saint of the Day, the Mass readings and Morning and Evening Prayer of the Church. This is a very useful site for those who wish to follow the Church's liturgical calendar.

### In Need of Financial Advice?

Kilkenny MABS South Leinster Money Advice and Budgeting Service offers a free, independent and confidential money management and advice service assisting people in dealing with their existing debts, mortgage arrears and helping them to begin to manage their own resources. Tel: 0818 072610.

### Lough Derg Pilgrimages

Lough Derg Pilgrimage season re-opens on 1<sup>st</sup> May: one day retreats, three day pilgrimages, quiet days. See [www.loughderg.org](http://www.loughderg.org) for further information.

**Address:** St John's Presbytery, Dublin Road, Kilkenny. **Email:** [stjohns@ossory.ie](mailto:stjohns@ossory.ie)

**Website:** [www.stjohnskilkenny.com](http://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; Karna 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.

### Counselling 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> Sat. Monthly, 7.00pm; **Weekdays:** 8.00am, 10.30am. (Sat. 10.30am only).

**Johnswell - Sunday 10.00am**

**Dunmore - Sunday 11.00am**

### Third Sunday of Lent - 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022

### Synodal Pathway

*I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to allow him to encounter them.*

With these words Pope Francis invites all of us to accept his invitation to engage in the Synodal process. The process, called "Listening Lent", is already well underway in Ossory with successful meetings up and down the diocese. On this Synodal pathway we are invited to respond to two questions: Q.1. When you think about Church and your experience, what brings joy? Q.2. When you think about Church and your experience, what brings sadness or disappointment?

The Listening Sessions for the next couple of weeks are as follows:

- Castlecomer - Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30pm - Community Hall.
- Slieverue - Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30pm - Slieverue Hall.
- Thomastown - Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.30pm - Thomastown Hall.
- Rathdowney - Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.30pm - Rathdowney Hall.
- Kilkenny - Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30pm - St. Patrick's Parish Centre, Loughboy.

We look forward to our journey together with you. We want to ensure that every voice is heard as all voices make the parish, the diocese and the Church. More information is available at [www.ossory.ie](http://www.ossory.ie) and [www.synod.ie](http://www.synod.ie). Many from our parish have already participated - we now ask you to come along to any of the sessions and let your voice be heard.

### Together for Lent

The four Kilkenny City Parishes invite you to celebrate Lent together. Mass with a guest speaker, will be celebrated at

- St. Canice's Church at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March, Maebh Mahon
- St. Mary's Cathedral at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> March, John Moloney

We invite you to come and join in our Lenten programme with our brothers and sisters in the Kilkenny City Pastoral Area.

### Safeguarding Audit

The National Board for the Safeguarding of Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland will be commencing their review of safeguarding practice in the Diocese of Ossory on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022. This review is to assess the safeguarding practice in the Diocese of Ossory against the Catholic Church in Ireland's current standards as detailed in "Safeguarding Children - Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2016". The diocese was last reviewed in 2013 and this report was published on the diocesan website, [www.ossory.ie](http://www.ossory.ie), and is still available to view there in the safeguarding section. The Parish Safeguarding Reps in St. John's Parish are Mary Weadick; Máirín Bergin; Brenda Whitely and Marian Eardly.

### Remembering Those Who Have Died

**Recently Deceased:** Patricia Gormley, Ossory Hill, Johnswell.  
Michael Geary, Milford, Co. Cork. Tom Browne, College Road.  
Joan Ryan, Dysart, Castlecomer. Fr. Christy Fox, Mill Hill Missionaries, Dublin.  
Sr Imelda Buckley, Presentation Convent, Kilkenny.

**Anniversaries:** Eamon Hennessy (6.00pm); Benny Grogan (8.00am); Edward, Billy & Jimmy McEvoy (11.00am); Thomas, Bridget & Michael Long & Ann Coffey (11.30am); Eithne Ivory (7.00pm); Ann Butler; Bridget O'Driscoll; Pat Grogan; Bridget Tallis; John, Annie, William, Ellen and Liam Bergin; Michael Dowling; Michael Parkinson and Family; Fr Joe Delaney; Noel Walsh.

*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 Martin Blake  
10.00am Teresa Dowling  
11.00am Nora Guilfoyle & Fiona McGeary  
11.30am Deirdre Dowling  
7.00pm Joan Galwey

#### Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection:  
€640. Thanks to all who contribute  
weekly, monthly and annually, as  
well as those who pay by Standing  
Order.  
Your support is greatly appreciated.

#### National Day of Remembrance and Reflection

This Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> March, the country pauses to remember the many people who have died during the pandemic. It is estimated that over 2,100 in the country's nursing homes and other care settings died during the pandemic. This day is an opportunity for people to support each other and as a nation to be there for each other.

#### Message from the Archbishops of Armagh

"Like millions of others in Europe and around the world we are deeply disturbed and saddened by the terror of war which has been devastating life and property in Ukraine for the past three weeks. We call for an immediate ceasefire and an end to the relentless bombardment which has trapped countless civilians in a nightmare of destruction and displaced millions of others from their homes and families. We fear that the humanitarian crisis which this madness has caused may yet accelerate before it dissipates.

It would be unconscionable for us to celebrate the feast of Saint Patrick this year without offering the solidarity of our prayers, charity and welcome for the people of Ukraine. We pray for the Ukrainian people who already share this island with us, and for their families and friends who are trapped in the horror of destruction and bloodshed at home. We join our small Lenten sacrifices with their immense suffering. We also acknowledge the many Russian people, here and in their homeland, who bear no responsibility for this heart-breaking situation and who share our desire for peace and an end to this terrible violence.

Tradition tells us that Saint Patrick himself, in the face of great danger and peril to his own life, prayed his *Breastplate Prayer*, taking comfort in his faith that God does not forsake us, and that Christ is present with all who suffer... We appeal through our prayers this Saint Patrick's Day for an end to this pointless massacre and pulverising of the property, bodies and spirit of the Ukrainian people. May all Christians of Europe, including Patriarch Kirill and the Russian Orthodox Church, unite in daily spiritual and practical efforts in support of a ceasefire, humanitarian outreach and the immediate laying down of weapons. Christ's cause can only be advanced by Christ's means."

### Mass Intentions for week beginning 21st March

Friday Pat Grogan (10.30am).  
Saturday: Bridget Tallis (10.30am).  
Frank Beale (6.00pm).  
Sunday: Christina Barcoe (8.00am).  
Caiden Hennessy (10.00am).  
Margaret Ryan (11.00am).  
Mary & John Fenlon (11.30am).  
Ann Butler (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](http://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!

### Consecration of New Altar at Mary's Cathedral

The consecration of the new altar will take place at the 5.30pm Mass in St. Mary's Cathedral on Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> March. Parishioners are invited to join in this special moment in the life of our Diocesan Cathedral.

### Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to Our Lady of Fatima

The consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be pronounced by the Pope at 4.00pm (Rome time) on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> March. Pope Francis has invited bishops of the whole world along with priests to join him in the prayer for peace and in the consecration and entrustment of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Join us at St. John's Church at 3.00pm (local time) for the Rosary for Peace and the Act of Consecration.

### A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,

we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

"Could you not watch one hour with me?" (Mt 26:40). Could you spend an hour with Jesus? A holy hour is spending time with God. Just as communication in marriage means listening, so the holy hour means listening; only in this case it means listening to God. The holy hour places one in the presence of God to do just that. We invite you to Join us at St. John's Church following 10.30am Mass on Friday mornings and spend an hour in prayer with Jesus.

### Can you Donate to Help Families in Need?

Can you help us to gather much-needed essential items for vulnerable mothers and babies and drop them off at Kilkenny Presbyterian Church Car Park, 16 New Road, Kilkenny on Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> March from 1.00pm to 3.00pm? Every item donated will go directly to a family in need, including refugees and those in homelessness. Items accepted (new items only please): Nappies (sizes 1 to 7), baby wipes, nappy sacks, baby wash/shampoo, nappy cream, baby sponges, baby cotton wool, packs of babygros and vests (newborn to 3-6 months), baby hooded towels, baby blankets, packs of baby bibs. Financial donations also accepted in an envelope. Thank you for your support. For information see: [communityconnect.ie/driveanddrop/](http://communityconnect.ie/driveanddrop/)