

Holy Week in Brief

On Palm Sunday, we commemorate Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem before his crucifixion. As Jesus rode into the city on a donkey, the Jews gathered around him, throwing cloaks and palm branches on the road and shouting praises. At Palm Sunday Mass, psalms are blessed. The blessed palms are later kept in our homes as a witness to faith in Jesus Christ.

On Holy Thursday, we commemorate the institution of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper. On the night before Jesus was crucified, he changed bread and wine into his own Body and Blood, and he commanded the Apostles and their successors to do the same. At every Mass the bread and wine offered by the priest becomes Christ's Body and Blood. Just as Christ did for his Apostles at the Last Supper during our Mass of the Lord's Supper, the priest washes the feet of 12 people in the congregation.

After the Last Supper and before he was arrested and condemned to death, Jesus went to pray in the Garden of Gethsemane, accompanied by two of the disciples. So, after the Holy Thursday Mass, the remaining sacred hosts are carried out of the sanctuary to an "altar of repose," and the people go with the Eucharistic Christ to the altar of repose. People stay for a time, adoring the wondrous sacrament that Jesus instituted that day 2,000 years ago.

When the Mass of the Lord's Supper is finished the church – now without the Eucharist – is truly empty. So, the tabernacle light – which signifies Christ's presence – is extinguished, and the tabernacle door is left open. The altar is stripped bare of its linens and candles and the sacraments are not celebrated until the Easter Vigil.

Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence. Those over 18 and under the age of 60 are required to fast, which means that they can eat only one complete meal and two smaller ones during the day, with no food in between. We refrain from eating any meat, or any food made with meat, on Good Friday.

By praying the Stations of the Cross, a person makes a spiritual pilgrimage to the principal scenes of the salvific Passion of the Lord, aided by artistic representations of those scenes.

On Good Friday, the Church gathers for the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, which includes a reading of a Gospel account of the Passion, Holy Communion (consecrated on Thursday night) and veneration of the Cross. The faithful process to the cross where each person reverences the crucifix with a kiss or a bow.

On Holy Saturday, the Church waits at the Lord's tomb, and meditates on His Passion and Death and His descent into Hell. With prayer and fasting we await His glorious Easter resurrection. According to Catholic tradition, Mary represents the entire body of the Church. As she waited in faith for the triumph of Her Son over death on the first Holy Saturday, so we too wait with Mary on this Holy Saturday.

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

Palm Sunday - 10th April 2022

Holy Week and Easter Ceremonies in Our Parish

Mon & Tues	Mass	8.00am and 10.30am (St. John's Church)
Spy Wednesday	Mass	8.00am and 10.30am (St. John's Church)
	Mass of Chrism	7.30pm (St. Mary's Cathedral)
Holy Thursday	Morning Prayer	10.30am (St. John's Church)
	Mass of the Lord's Supper	7.30pm (St. John's Church)
	Sacrament of Reconciliation afterwards	
Good Friday	Morning Prayer	10.30am (St. John's Church)
	Stations of the Cross	12 noon (St. John's Church)
	Celebration of the Lord's Passion	3.00pm (St. John's Church)
	Walk the Way of the Cross	7.00pm (From St. John's to Cap. Friary)
	Stations of the Cross	7.30pm (Dunmore and Johnswell)
Holy Saturday	Morning Prayer	10.30am (St John's Church)
	Blessing of Easter Food	12.00 noon (St John's Church - Polish)
	Easter Vigil	9.00pm (St John's Church)
Easter Sunday	Mass	8.00am, 11.30am (St John's Church)
	Mass	10.00am (Johnswell)
	Mass	11.00am (Dunmore)
	Mass	1.00pm (St John's - Polish)
	Mass	7.00pm (St. John's Church)

Palm Sunday

This Sunday is Palm Sunday the day on which we remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem before the days of his passion, death and resurrection. Great crowds had gathered to welcome the famous preacher and miracle worker from Galilee. In only a few days, many of that same crowd are shouting 'Crucify him', 'Crucify him!' as they ask Pilate to put Jesus to crucify him.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

...will be celebrated in St. Mary's Cathedral on this Sunday, 10th April, at 5.30pm.

Continue the journey to Holy Week by celebrating the Sacrament of God's Forgiveness.

Remembering Those Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Mel Woods, Glasnevin. Seán Maher, Troyswood.
Fr. Dan O’Gorman, Bennettsbridge and Dalgan. Joyce Britton, Greenshill

Months Mind: Josephine Burke (11.00am).

Anniversaries: Michael Kelly (6.00pm); Martin Ryan (11.30am); Richard, Matt & Bridget Corr; Kathleen O’Gorman; Bob & Patricia Quigley; Annie & Dick Burke; Ann & Joe Walsh; Elizabeth Geoghegan; Peter Long; Annie & Arthur Connick; Elizabeth McGrath; Patrick Cahill; John Parkinson & Family; Noreen Whelan. Brigid O’Shea.

*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 Paula Rogers
10.00am Betsy Rice
11.00am Jim Kavanagh & Claire Hanrick
11.30am Mary Hanafin
7.00pm Anne Marie Grace

Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week’s envelope collection:
€1,165. Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order.
Your support is greatly appreciated.

Mass/Service Times for Kilkenny City Churches during Holy Week

Spy Wednesday	7.30pm	St. Mary’s Cathedral, Mass of Christ
Holy Thursday	6.00pm	Black Abbey
	6.15pm	St Fiacre’s Church
	6.30pm	St Mary’s Cathedral
	7.30pm	St John’s Church, St Canice’s Church
Good Friday	8.00pm	St Patrick’s Church
	3.00pm	St John’s Church, Black Abbey, Capuchin Friary, St Canice’s Church, St Fiacre’s Church, St Patrick’s Church,
	3.00pm	St Mary’s Cathedral
Holy Saturday	7.30pm	St Canice’s Church
	8.00pm	St Mary’s Cathedral
	9.00pm	St John’s Church, St Patrick’s Church and Black Abbey

Society of St Vincent De Paul Collection

The monthly collection for the St John’s Parish Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will take place this weekend, 9th and 10th April. Thank you for your generous support. The conference can be contacted through the Parish Office or by telephone on 086 895 1239.

Trócaire

Let them know they’re not forgotten! Climate shocks. Poverty. Covid. Conflict. In forgotten crises this Lent, families like Thandekile’s are suffering. Your Trócaire Box donations will help them. Please give.

Meditations on the Easter Triduum with Fra Angelico

The Priory Institute is delighted to offer a free of charge online retreat from Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday. Visit www.prioryinstitute.com or click on <https://bit.ly/3DWfTkx> to register/find out more.

Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine

There will be a pilgrimage to Knock Shrine on Saturday 7th of May. For booking, please contact Ann Kennedy on 087 932 9561. Organised by the Irish Catholic Nurses’ Guild. Bus leaving The Butts Green at 7.30am. All are welcome.

Mass Intentions for week beginning 11th April

Monday: Brigid O’Shea (8.00am)
Sunday: John Byrne (8.00am).
Tommy Holohan (11.00am).
Elizabeth Hanlon (11.30am).

*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.

The Chrism Mass

Bishop Denis invites all to the Chrism Mass which will be celebrated at St. Mary’s Cathedral at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 13th April. The sacred oils to be used throughout the Diocese for Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick, and Ordination to Priesthood will be blessed. All parishioners are invited and will be welcome.

Attention All Choir Members: Re Chrism Mass

The intended practice for choirs scheduled to take place on this Sunday has been cancelled. Choir members are invited to come as part of the congregation and to take part in this manner. This is to ensure best practice with the ongoing covid concerns. Thank you.

Road Closures on Holy Thursday Evening

Church goers please be aware: to facilitate a Kilkenny City Harriers Athletic Club road race there will be road closures in the vicinity of St. John’s Church between 6.30pm and 8.00pm on Holy Thursday evening. This may impede access to our annual Mass of the Lord’s Supper. The closures have been authorised by An Garda Síochána and Kilkenny County Council.

Annual Good Friday Walk

The annual Good Friday Walk will take place this year to remember the people of Ukraine. The walk will begin at St John’s Church at 7.00pm and finish in the Capuchin Friary for Prayer Around the Cross. Members of the Ukrainian community will lead the walk.

Blessing of Easter Food

The traditional Polish blessing of Easter food will take place at St. John’s Church at 12.00 noon on Holy Saturday. All are welcome to drop in and join in the celebrations.

Collection for the Upkeep of the Holy Shrines in the Holy Land

The Irish Bishops have asked that there be a collection on Good Friday for the support of Holy Places. Your contribution will be greatly appreciated.

Choral Concert

There will be a Choral Concert on Monday, 18th April at 8.00pm in St Mary’s Cathedral featuring Martha’s Vineyard Minnesingers, Massachusetts, The Unity Singers and Sospiro. Admission €10. All proceeds go to Ukrainian Relief Fund

Medjugorje - Evening of Prayer

Prayer for Healing, Rosary, Mass, and Adoration will take place in St Fiacre’s Church, Loughboy next Monday, 11th April at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

Rosary at the Grottos

The Rosary will be prayed each day during the month of May at hundreds of grottos around the Island of Ireland. To see a list of locations, or to register a grotto (or other suitable location) simply visit www.coastalrosaryireland.ie You can register by texting 087 278 6552.

Lough Derg

Pilgrimage Season re-opens 1st May. One day, three day and quiet day retreats. For further information phone 071 986 1518 or visit www.loughderg.org, or email info@loughderg.org.