

Mass Attendance During Holy Week

We were delighted to welcome so many people to our Holy Week and Easter Services. While the churches were not packed we did enjoy welcoming so many people on their return. As the pandemic diminishes we invite more people to return to worshipping the Lord with neighbours and friends.

Lost and Found

A pair of lady's spectacles were left by a visitor to the Parish Office recently. The frames have a blue tint and they may be picked up at the office during the week.

Church Painting

With the approval of the Parish Finance Committee we have decided to proceed with some painting and decorating in St. John's Church and Dunmore Church. Starting on Monday the sanctuary at Dunmore will be repainted followed by the walls in the side aisles of St. John's Church.

Disruption will be kept to a minimum and we ask your understanding and cooperation.

Ossory Times

Our quarterly diocesan magazine is available at the doors of the churches. As usual the colourful Easter edition is full of interesting stories and information. Cost: €2.

Greeting and Mass Cards

There is a selection of greeting and Mass cards available at the Parish Office. Cards suitable for First Holy Communions, be-reavements and birthdays are included. Please call to the Parish Office between 10.00am and 2.00pm Monday to Friday.

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.

Social Dance Classes

Learn to dance with Yvonne, Waltz, Quickstep, Jive and many more. Every Tuesday between 8.00 and 9.30pm at Johnswell Hall (R95 RP89). €10 pay as you go. All welcome. For more information contact Yvonne at 087 244 8535.

Rosary at the Grottos

The Rosary will be prayed each day during the month of May at grottos around 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.

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

2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) - 24th April 2022

Divine Mercy Sunday

In a series of revelations to the Polish Nun, St. Maria Faustina Kowalska in the 1930s, our Lord called for a special feast day to be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. Today, we know that feast as Divine Mercy Sunday, named by Pope St. John Paul II at the canonization of St. Faustina on 30th April, 2000.

The Lord expressed His will with regard to this feast in His very first revelation to St. Faustina. In all, St. Faustina recorded 14 revelations from Jesus concerning His desire for this feast.

Nevertheless, Divine Mercy Sunday is not a feast based solely on St. Faustina's revelations. Indeed, it is not primarily about St. Faustina - nor is it altogether a new feast. The Second Sunday of Easter was already a solemnity as the Octave Day of Easter. The title "Divine Mercy Sunday" does, however, highlight the meaning of the day.

The Divine Mercy Image

In the Image, our Risen Saviour has pale and red rays streaming from His side. These rays symbolize the Blood and Water that flowed from His side while He was on the cross. In His appearance to St. Faustina, they had been transformed into glorious rays, revealing a fount of healing graces for sinners who will turn to Him with trust. That is why the Image always bears the inscription: "Jesus, I trust in You!"

In our churches and homes, we can venerate the Image of Jesus, The Divine Mercy, by gazing upon it in prayer and adoration. As signs of our love for Jesus, we can place candles and flowers before the Image. First and foremost, as we gaze upon our Merciful Saviour in prayer, we can decide to trust in Him and to perform works of mercy — responding to the call to be merciful just as He has shown mercy to us.



The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC:

- A. Ask for His Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.
- B. Be merciful. God want us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.
- C. Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.

Remembering Those Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Paddy O'Brien, Johnswell Road. Requiem Mass at St. John's Church at 10.30am on Tuesday followed by interment in Ballylooby, Co. Tipperary. Sean Brennan, Ruthstown, Ballyfoyle. Requiem Mass in Ballyfoyle at 11.00am on Monday. Lena O'Keeffe, Ballasalla, Johnswell. Michael O'Dwyer, Auburn Drive. John Myles, Upper Patrick Street. Claire Hurley, Freshford Road, Kilkenny. Margot Downes, formerly Dean Cavanagh Place.

Months Mind: Patricia Gormely (10.00)

Anniversaries: Christy Burke Jnr (6.00); Peggy Tynan (11.00); Liam Maher (11.30); Mary Corr (7.00); Jack Mulcathy; Margaret Smyth; Brenda McGuinness; Fr. Tom Cassin; Catherine Foley; James Clutterbuck; Ellen Cassin; Emily Wilson; May Butler; Monagle and McDermott Families; Molly Dowling; Brigid O'Carroll;

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Readers for Next Weekend, 30th April/1st May

6.00pm Brigid Ahearn
8.00am Jo Browne
10.00am Teresa Dowling
11.00am Bernard O'Gorman and John McGourty
11.30am Kay Purcell
7.00pm Joan Galwey

Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €1,335.00. Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Pope Francis for World Earth Day

We all need to make a contribution to halt the destruction of our common home and to restore nature: governments, businesses and citizens - we must act like brothers and sisters who share the Earth, the common home that God has given us.



Peace Be With You

The following reflection is based on this Sunday's gospel reading...

'Peace be with you' was the greeting of Jesus on meeting his frightened apostles. Who has come to you bringing peace at times when you were afraid? To whom have you been able to bring peace?

Thomas, doubting and questioning, is possibly a person with whom we can identify. What positive part have doubting and questioning played in your life? How have such moments helped you to know that your life is worthwhile? How have questions and doubts strengthened your faith?

Note the way that Jesus dealt with Thomas. He did not give out because he doubted. He accepted how he felt and led him along to see the truth of his resurrection. Who has been that kind of teacher for you, gently taking you where you were and leading you to a deeper knowledge of some truth about life? For whom have you been that kind of teacher?

'Blessed are they who have not seen and yet believed'. That requires great trust. During the recent pandemic there were times when one wondered if we would ever see the end of it. Where did you find hope as the pandemic continued month after month?

Lough Derg 2022

One Day Retreats are scheduled to take place on many dates in May, August and September. The Three Day Pilgrimage Season is in June, July and August. Quiet Days will be held on Monday, 9th May and Friday, 9th September. Further information in church porch or from the Lough Derg Office, Pettigo, Co. Donegal, 071 986 1518, info@loughderg.org and www.loughderg.org.

Mass Intentions for week beginning 25th April

Tuesday:	(10.30am).	Brenda McGuinness
Wednesday:	(10.30am).	Fr. Tom Cassin; Catherine Foley; James Clutterbuck; Ellen Cassin; Emily Wilson
Thursday:	(10.30am).	May Butler
Friday:	(10.30am)	Monagle and McDermott Families
Saturday:	(10.30am)	Mollie Dowling
	(6.00pm).	Fr. Edmund Prendergast
Sunday:	(10.00am).	Martin and Margaret Hanlon
	(11.00am).	Joseph Galvin
	(11.30am).	Margaret Walsh
	(7.00pm)	Bernadette Molloy

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!

A Spirituality of our Times

This conference, sponsored by the Sisters of St. John of God, will be held on Saturday, 14th May 2022. Venue: St. Patrick's Parish Centre, Loughboy, Kilkenny.

The speaker: Jane Mellett. Jane Mellett is co-author of *The Deep End*, a publication reflecting on the Sunday gospels. She is a yoga and meditation teacher and spiritual director. Jane is the *Laudato Si'* officer with Trócaire.

Times: 10.00am – 4.00pm. During the day Jane will explore various avenues to an integrated wholistic spirituality. There will be a mix of input and time for reflective practice.

Cost: €10 (bring your own lunch, tea/coffee provided). Pay on the door.

Booking essential: Contact Sara or Catherina @ 056 772 2870 between 9.00am and 5.00pm or e-mail sara.bulfin@ssjg.ie before 6th May.

Life in the Spirit Seminars 2022

Seminars take place at Sacred Heart Church, Moneenroe, Co. Kilkenny (R95 F6XK).

Tuesday, 26 th April	God's Love	Eddie Stones
Thursday, 5 th May	Salvation	Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan
Tuesday, 10 th May	New Life	Fr. Billy Swan
Tuesday, 17 th May	Receiving God's Gift	Fr. John Mockler
Tuesday, 24 th May	Baptism in the Spirit	Fr. Gerry Campbell
Tuesday, 31 st May	Growth	Bishop Dennis Nulty
Tuesday, 7 th June	Transformation	Fr. Brendan Walsh

Holy Hour at 6.30pm each evening and Mass at 7.30pm

All are welcome to this sacred time of music, prayer and song and joyful celebration of the faith.

Annual Remembrance Ceremony

St. Luke's Hospital will be holding its the annual remembrance ceremony for families who have been bereaved by the death of their child through miscarriage, still-birth, in early infancy or childhood years. This ceremony will take place on Tuesday, 26th April in St. Fiacre's Church, Loughboy at 7.30pm.

While we issue a special invitation to families who have been bereaved during the past year, this ceremony is for all families who have been bereaved, regardless of how long ago. Refreshments will be available in the Parish Centre adjacent to St. Fiacre's Church.

Trócaire Boxes

Please return your Trócaire boxes/donations to the church or Parish Office during the coming week. We are anxious to forward all monies to Trócaire to deal with urgent crises and to close our file for this year. For those who forgot to use the family fast boxes donations may be returned in an envelope or transferred via the donate button on www.trocaire.org.