

Parish Facebook Page

The St. John's Parish Page can be reached at "facebook.com/stjohnskilkenny". Many people are clicking in for news and information. In time it will contain even more interesting facts and information about the parish as well as regular reflections and thoughts for the day. In the meantime please visit and press the 'Like' and 'Follow' buttons.

Towards Peace

The vision of Towards Peace is to provide a safe supportive space, where people who have been affected by abuse in a Church context can be accompanied, as they seek their own experience to spiritual peace, one step at a time. There is no pre-determined roadmap on this journey. Towards Peace: Tel: 01 505 3028, mobile: 086 771 0533, email: towardspiece.ie, website: www.towardspiece.ie.

Side by Side Club

The Side by Side Club reopens at St. John's Parish Hall on 1st September at 2.00pm. New members welcome.

Thought for the Week

Show kindness to unkind people.
Forgive people who don't deserve it.
Love unconditionally.
Your actions always reflect who you are.



Kilkenny Bereavement Support

This group is running a Training Course for Volunteers commencing Friday, 16th September and running for 30 hours over 5 weeks. We have 3 places available on this course. The course will take place in Villa Maria, Talbot's Inch, Kilkenny. If interested, please phone 056 775 6538 or visit www.kilkennybereavementsupport.com for an application form. The closing date for applications is 5th September 2022.

Address: St John's Presbytery, Dublin Road, Kilkenny. R95 ND2W

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 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; 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).

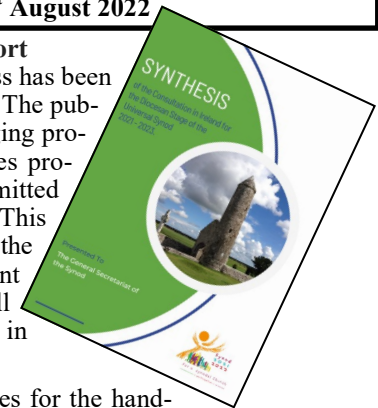
Johnswell - Sunday 10.00am

Dunmore - Sunday 11.00am

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - 21st August 2022

Publication of the Synthesis of the Synodal Report

Following the invitation of Pope Francis the Synodal Process has been conducted across the Church in Ireland from Autumn 2021. The publication of the National Synthesis is the fruit of a wide-ranging process of listening and consultation drawing on the syntheses produced by the 26 dioceses in Ireland, as well as those submitted by religious congregations and other interested groups. This National Synthesis will be forwarded to Rome as part of the worldwide synodal process of listening and discernment launched by Pope Francis in October 2021 and which will culminate in the General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in Rome in 2023.



The National Synthesis document points to many challenges for the handing on of the faith in this country, including a need for inner healing and hope, especially among those who have suffered abuse by Church personnel and in Church institutions. It acknowledges and reflects on the impact in recent decades of a major decline in the practice of the faith, and in vocations to priesthood and religious life. There are calls for greater transparency, participation in decision-making and accountability within our parish and diocesan church structures. The importance of a renewed connection with the energy and gifts of young people is emphasised. So too is the need for fresh models of responsibility and leadership which will especially recognise and facilitate the role of women, as well as men. Our listening process has identified the need to be more inclusive in outreach, reaching out to those who have left the Church behind and in some cases feel excluded, forgotten or ignored. In an era of transformation, like Peter we have heard a call to "put out into deep water".

Hundreds of people from our diocese, including many from our parish, participated in the Synod and their opinions along with the views of thousands from across the land are included in this publication. You are encouraged to read the document in its entirety on www.synod.ie.

St. Mary's Cathedral Restoration Draw

The August draw concludes the 2021/2022 season of fundraising. Thank you to all who have supported the draw, to further the renewal of our diocesan cathedral. Congratulations to those from our parish who won prizes during the past 12 months.

A new 12-month draw will begin on the last Wednesday of September and of each subsequent month. The total subscription is €120 - €10 per month. We ask you to consider supporting the draw for the coming year. Tickets available at the Parish Office, the Sacristies or from the priests. Be in to win.

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Bishop Emeritus Seamus Freeman, SAC. Funeral arrangements later. Moyra McCarthy, Drakelands. Requiem Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral at 11.00am on Monday. Interment afterwards in St. Kieran's Cemetery. Sean Brett, Warrington. Requiem Mass at St. Joseph's Church, Foulkstown at 11.30am on Monday. Interment afterwards in Foulkstown Cemetery. Mary McCarthy, St. Patrick's Close. Nancy Deevy, Newpark Lower.

Anniversaries: Jim & Betty Cauty (6.00pm); Lena O'Keeffe (10.00am); Denis Guilfoyle (11.00am); Ollie Doran (11.30am); Sheelagh Lynch (7.00pm); Nance O'Neill; Patrick Ruth; Natalie Hunt;

Month's Mind Mass for Fr. Lorcan

The Month's Mind Mass for Fr. Lorcan will be celebrated at St. John's Church at 7.30pm on Friday, 9th September 2022. All are welcome.

Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm Mary Lynch
8.00am Padraig O'Neill
10.00am Elaine Bennett
11.00am Stephanie Butler & Roger Curran
11.30am Deirdre Dowling
7.00pm Josh McHugh

Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €845. Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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, 20th and 21st August. 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.

Mass on the Green

To celebrate the 70th anniversary of the opening of the houses in St. Fiacre's Place a Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated on Sunday, 21st August at 4.00pm on the Green in St. Fiacre's Place. All former residents of St. Fiacre's Place are invited to come along as the community remembers former neighbours, new neighbours and those who have died from the area. All are invited to attend the Mass.

St. Mary's Cathedral Gift and Bookshop

The Chapter House Bookshop is open on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 9.30am - 5.00pm. Situated beside the Cathedral the shop has a wide range of books and bibles, cards and prayer books. The shop has books for teenagers and children, including comics and Lego Bibles, traditional picture Bibles, books about Irish and Celtic Saints and Heroes in bilingual versions. Activity and sticker books are also available for the younger age group.

Kilkenny Medjugorje Pilgrimage 2022

An 8 night group pilgrimage with the Kilkenny Medjugorje Group. 28th September - 6th October 2022. Return flights from Dublin. Full religious programme operated by Marian Pilgrimages Medjugorje Team. For more information on joining the group please contact Anne Fitzpatrick on 086 199 1620 or 086 882 5622. Marian Pilgrimages, 01 878 8159, www.marian.ie.

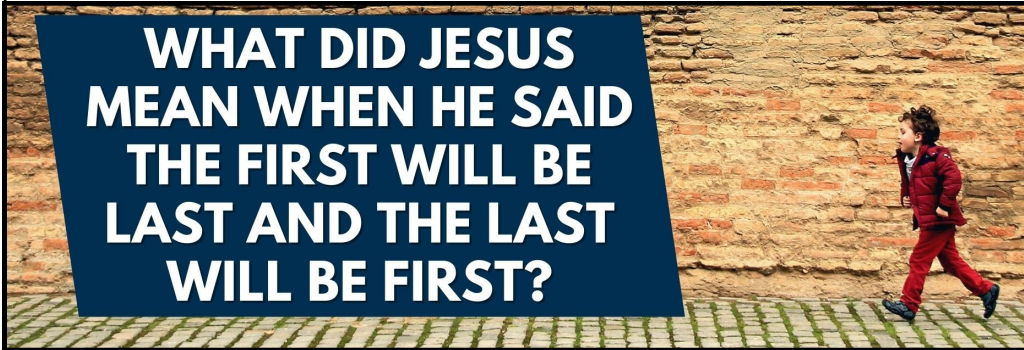
SOCIAL DANCE NIGHT
Johnswell Hall
Johnswell, Kilkenny R95 RP89
MUSIC BY THE VERY TALENTED
Declan Aungier
Saturday
3rd September 2022
9:30pm Until Late
ADMISSION €10
ALL WELCOME

Bishop Seamus Freeman

It is with sadness we announce the death of Most Rev. Seamus Freeman, Bishop Emeritus of Ossory. Bishop Freeman died at lunchtime on Saturday. Bishop Freeman was born on 23rd February 1944 and served as Bishop of Ossory from 14th September 2007 until his resignation on health grounds on 29th July 2016. He was ordained Bishop of Ossory at St. Mary's Cathedral on 2nd December 2007. Funeral arrangements later. May he rest in peace.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 22nd August

Monday: (10.30am) Jim Doherty, Brigid & Terence Doherty
Wednesday: (10.30am) Eily & John P Francis
Saturday: (10.30am) Patricia Doran (MM)
(6.00pm) Jimmy O'Neill
Sunday: (11.00am) Tom Ryan Snr
(11.30am) Fr. William Meaney
(7.00pm) Joe Doherty



**WHAT DID JESUS
MEAN WHEN HE SAID
THE FIRST WILL BE
LAST AND THE LAST
WILL BE FIRST?**

The First will be Last and the Last will be First

Throughout all of history, in many world religions, there have been people who have been obsessed with the question of who will be saved and/or how many people will be saved. The anonymous person who asked Jesus "Lord, will only a few people be saved?" seems to be in this category. The question may come from a place of genuine concern - as in "I want to be with my loved ones for all eternity." Or it may come from a place of self-concern, much like a child who wants assurance that he will be rewarded from his parents for his good behaviour while his brother is punished for his bad behaviour.

Jesus refuses to make any promises to those who are trying to earn a place in heaven. His response ("Strive to enter through the narrow gate...") points the questioner back to himself, as if to say "The others are none of your business; worry about yourself." He goes on to warn that being close to him physically, being related to him as a Jew, or being in a highly regarded social position won't guarantee entry into the Kingdom of God.

Like many of his parables, Jesus turns the conventional thinking of the day upside-down, suggesting that there are many whom society considers unworthy or outcasts who are welcomed and cherished by God. "Some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

Time for School

Our best wishes go to all the young people from our parish who start or return to school over the next while. For many of you it has been a long Summer holidays and you long to meet up with your friends again. Have as good time and enjoy the opportunities. God bless!