

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.

Pro Life March in Dublin

Regional Pro Life movement will hold a march in Dublin on Saturday, 17th September at 2.30pm marching from Newman University Church side of St Stephen's Green to Leinster House. All are welcome.

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.

Memorial Mass

A Memorial Mass for deceased members of Kilkenny Theatre Community will be held at St. Mary's Cathedral on Sunday, 4th September at 5.30pm. All welcome.

Day of Praise and Thanksgiving

A day of praise, thanksgiving and healing led by Fr Pat Collins will be held on next Sunday, 11th September from 10.00am to 6.00pm at the Rhu Glenn Hotel. Mass at 12.00 noon. For further information, telephone Sile at 086 859 0394 or Tom at 087 270 1311. €10.

Legion of Mary Centenary Celebration

A Centenary Celebration will take place in Edmund Rice Chapel, Barrack Street, Waterford. Rosary 6.45pm and Mass 7.00pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 5th to 9th September. Procession on Thursday, 8th September from Ballybricken Green at 7.00pm to the Cathedral for a short prayers service. All are welcome. More details 086 310 0581.

Pope's Intention for September

For the abolition of the death penalty: We pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.

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

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - 4th September 2022

The Story of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Church celebrates the Birthday of the Blessed Virgin on Thursday of this week. The Church has celebrated Mary's birth since at least the sixth century. A September birth was chosen because the Eastern Church begins its Church year with September. The 8th September date helped determine the date for the feast of the Immaculate Conception of our Lady on 8th December.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary's birth. However, the apocryphal *Protoevangelium of James* fills in the gap. This work has no historical value, but it does reflect the development of Christian piety. According to this account, Anna and Joachim are infertile but pray for a child. They receive the promise of a child who will advance God's plan of salvation for the world. Such a story, like many biblical counterparts, stresses the special presence of God in Mary's life from the beginning.

Saint Augustine connects Mary's birth with Jesus' saving work. He tells the earth to rejoice and shine forth in the light of her birth. "She is the flower of the field from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley. Through her birth the nature inherited from our first parents is changed." The opening prayer at Mass speaks of the birth of Mary's Son as the dawn of our salvation and asks for an increase of peace.

Reflection

We can see every human birth as a call for new hope in the world. The love of two human beings has joined with God in his creative work. The loving parents have shown hope in a world filled with travail. The new child has the potential to be a channel of God's love and peace to the world.

This is all true in a magnificent way in Mary. If Jesus is the perfect expression of God's love, Mary is the foreshadowing of that love. If Jesus has brought the fullness of salvation, Mary is its dawning.

Birthday celebrations bring happiness to the celebrant as well as to family and friends. Next to the birth of Jesus, Mary's birth offers the greatest possible happiness to the world. Each time we celebrate her birth, we can confidently hope for an increase of peace in our hearts and in the world at large.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

With Covid-19 now fading into the background we would like to re-establish the practice of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in our parish. In the past periods of adoration were observed in St. John's Church and in Dunmore Church. We invite those who were involved in the past and any who would like to be involved going forward to give their names to Fr. Dan during the coming week. A suitable roster will be compiled over the next while.

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Nancy Higgins, Castlepollard, Co. Westmeath.

Niamh Costigan, Mogeely, Co. Cork late of Waterford.

Brian Wall, Kilkenny. Rosie Brennan, Kylefarney, Ballyfoyle. Sr. Agnes O'Dwyer, St. John of God Community, Kilkenny. Sr. de Lourdes Walshe, Convent of Mercy, Callan.

Anniversaries: Theresa Byrne (6.00pm); Eva Morova (8.00am); Maurice, Anna and Jack Nolan (11.00am); Eileen O'Connor (11.30am); Seamus Murphy (7.00pm); Fran Phelan; Catherine Carroll; Bernadette Hayes; Jimmy Dowd; Pat Wood; The Cassin Family; Ann McDermott; Catherine Carroll; Bernard Doyle; Geraldine Maher; Fr Kieran Rice; William (Billy) Burke; Rose Mansfield; John and Mary Brennan; Dom, Tony and Ger Malone.

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.

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

Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm Ann Daly
8.00am Martin Blake
10.00am Fiona & Sarah Manning
11.00am Martina Brennan & Tom Keating
11.30am Paula Rogers
7.00pm Joan Galwey

Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection: €870. Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order. Your support is greatly appreciated.

St John's Day Care Centre

The Day Care Centre will be reopening this Monday, 5th September. The Centre is open on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9.30am to 2.30pm, it give elderly people an opportunity to meet, socialise and have lunch. Should you like to attend or if you require any further information about the Day Care Centre services please contact 087 958 2127.

Congratulations to the Leaving Certificate Students

Heartiest congratulations to those who received Leaving Certificate results on Friday. We hope you are pleased with your achievements and find yourself in a position to acquire the college place or work placement for wish you wished and worked.

St Mary's Cathedral Restoration Fund August Draw Winners

1st Prize:	Rathdowney Parish	Rathdowney Parish
2nd Prize:	Lily & Paddy Fox	Borris-in-Ossory
3rd Prize:	Fr Larry Wallace	Muckalee
4th Prize:	Eugene & Siobhan O'Donovan	Dunamaggan
5th Prize:	Carol Giles	Borris-in-Ossory
6th Prize:	Julie Dalton	Callan
7th Prize:	Kathleen Lawlor	St Mary's
8th Prize:	Matthew, Cate & Adam Ellis	Borris-in-Ossory
9th Prize:	Molloy Family	Ballyragget
10th Prize:	Willie Phelan	Mooncoin

St. Mary's Cathedral Draw 2022/2023

A new cycle of draws will begin in September and tickets are available from the Parish Office or any of the priests. Draws takes place on the last Wednesday of each month. Tickets cost €10 per month. To date the draw has raised almost €650,000 for refurbishing the cathedral. Please continue to support this ongoing diocesan work.



Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 5th September

Monday:	(10.30am)	Fran Phelan
Tuesday:	(10.30am)	Catherine Carroll
Friday:	(8.00am)	Jimmy Dowd
	(10.30am)	Special Intention
	(7.30pm)	MM Fr Lorcan Moran
Saturday:	(10.30am)	Bernadette Hayes
	(6.00pm)	Mary Marnell
Sunday:	(8.00am)	Ann McDermott & Mary Barry
	(11.00am)	MM Brian Gaynor & Gaynor Family
	(11.30am)	Martin Shelly
	(7.00pm)	Philomena Fahy

*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

All Masses and Services at St. John's Church are broadcast on at stjohnskilkenny.com and on Radio on 106.8FM. Please tell those who live away and those who are unable to attend Mass in our church.

Weekdays

8.00am and 10.30am.

Saturdays

10.30am and 6.00pm.

Sundays

8.00am, 11.30am 7.00pm.

Parish Webcam

We apologise for the intermittent webcam service at the moment. The problem is beyond our control and, although we have had technicians from Eir visit on a few occasions last week, the camera service is still not available. We continue to lodge complaints to Eir highlighting the urgency of the situation and we hope to have a proper service restored promptly.

Kilkenny Age Friendly

The Older Peoples Council invites you to a Gathering of Older People at The Orchard House, New Orchard Road, on Wednesday, 7th September 2022. Commencing with registration tea/coffee at 9.15am, concluding with lunch at 1.00pm. We will have information available and informative speakers. If you are interested in attending and wish to book a place or need further information, please contact the Age Friendly Office mobile no 087 621 8589 or by contacting Mary at 085 194 2174 or Betty at 086 371 5757.

The Season of Creation – Points to Ponder

From 1st September through to the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, 4th October, is designated the Season of Creation, an annual celebration of prayer and action for the planet, for our common home.

The Symbol of the 2022 Season of Creation is the Burning Bush whose fire called to Moses as he tended the flock on Mount Horeb. The bush, on fire but not consumed, revealed the presence of God.

Creation cries out as forests crackle, animals flee, and people are forced to migrate due to the fires of injustice that we have caused or contributed to. On the contrary, the fire that called to Moses on Mount Horeb did not consume or destroy.

The fire affirms that God hears the cries of all who suffer and promises to be with us as we follow in faith to be delivered from injustice or whatever else is threatening us.

The beauty and marvel of Creation never ceases to proclaim how wonderful God must be, but we must be listening.

During the Season of Creation our common prayer and action can help us listen for the voices of those who are silenced, support the work of groups who are working to prevent precious species and ecosystems, and those whose livelihoods are threatened by habitat loss and climate change.

Listening to the voice of creation may prompt us to pray and to act to echo the cry of the earth and answer the call of creation to leave our earth better than we find it.

Send forth your Spirit O Lord and renew the face of the earth.