

### St Mary's Cathedral Restoration Fund

The December draw will take place next Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> December. Draw Tickets are available from the Parish Office, or any of the priests. We encourage your support for St. Mary's, our Diocesan Cathedral. The annual prize fund is €60,000 and the subscription is €10 per month. Be in to win!

### Car Parking at St. John's

We appeal to drivers not to park in the grounds of St. John's Church unless you are a resident or present on Church business. Sadly, because of the selfishness and laziness of some drivers, parishioners including the elderly and those with limited mobility, have been denied free access to Masses, funerals, baptisms and weddings. We appeal for your understanding and cooperation.

We think it is outrageous that people would park or drive on the grass at any time but especially when the ground is under so much pressure because of the inclement weather.

### St. Mary's Cathedral Gift and Bookshop

The Cathedral Bookshop is delighted to announce that it will be open on Monday to Friday, 9.30am - 5.00pm in the leadup to Christmas. We have a great selection of bibles, religious books, rosary beads, and cards.

**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:

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**

### Shop at St. Fiacre's Church

St. Patrick's Parish hosts a well stocked card and gift shop in the Parish Centre adjacent to St. Fiacre's Church. We have an array of Christmas cards and seasonal gifts. Shop is open 9.30am to 5.00pm on Mon. to Friday.

### Parish Contribution Envelopes

Distributors please note that the Christmas and Yearly Boxes of Contribution Envelopes are now ready for collection at the Parish Office. We depend on our distributors and those who contribute to help raise essential income for the parish and the priests. Thanks!

### Christmas Crib in our Homes

Why not take part in our Diocesan Virtual Display of Crib this Christmas - send images of the crib in your home, parish, school or club to afd@ossory.ie and they will be featured on the Ossory Diocesan Website - www.ossory.ie.

### Children's Rosary

Every Thursday evening 7.00pm in St. Fiacre's Church, Loughboy. This venture is part of Blythe Kauffman's worldwide group <https://childrensrosary.org>. Bring your children along and encourage our young people to pray the rosary.

# 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**

## Fourth Sunday of Advent - 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### Christmas Masses in our Parish

Christmas Masses in St. John's Parish will be as follows:

#### Christmas Eve

6.00pm, 9.00pm: St. John's Church  
7.00pm: Dunmore Church  
8.00pm: Johnswell Church

#### Christmas Day

8.00am, 11.30am: St. John's Church  
10.00am: Johnswell Church  
11.00am: Dunmore Church  
1.00pm (Polish) St. John's Church

#### Christmas Week

In the week following Christmas Mass will be in St. John's Church at 10.30am each morning.

#### Sacrament of Confession

Priests will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for a while after all Masses between 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> December. Priests will also be available by appointment and if available on request at the Presbytery.

#### Annual School Carol Service

As Christmas gets very near, we remind you that St. John's Senior School Carol Service takes place on this Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in St John's Parish Church. This is always a very popular festival of carols and nativity drama. So, why not come along - you will be most welcome!

#### Parish Calendars

Our St. John's Parish Calendar is available (free) after all Masses this weekend. Once again, we thank *Johnston's Funeral Directors, Kilkenny* for their sponsorship.

#### Care for the Vulnerable and Elderly

During this inclement weather we ask that you keep an eye on vulnerable and elderly neighbours. Keep your eyes open: an unintrusive visit or a telephone call could be a life saver for a vulnerable or elderly neighbour in need.

#### St. Vincent DePaul Society

Sincere thanks to all who contributed to last weekend's annual appeal for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Thanks also to many parishioners who left donations at the Parish Office. We are living in challenging times: if you or your family or friends are struggling financially the parish Saint Vincent DePaul Society is here to help. Helpline 086 895 1239.



**Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died**

**Recently Deceased:** Raymond Pembroke, Fr. Hayden Road, Kilkenny. Requiem Mass at St. Patrick's Church at 12.00 noon on Monday.

Fr. Benignus (Philip) Buckley OFM Cap., Capuchin Friary, Kilkenny and late of Kilmanagh, Co. Kilkenny.

James (Jim) McCormack, Herbertstown, Limerick.

Edmond (Ned) Lonergan, Cashel, Co. Tipperary.

**Months Mind:** Tony Melia (Mon. 19th).

**Anniversaries:** Thomas, Seanie & Toddie O'Connor (6.00pm); John, Mary & Catherine Butler (11.00am); Maura & P.J. Mealy (11.30am); Dylan Whearty (7.00pm); Richard Gaule; Tommy O'Neill; Joe Fogarty; Richard O'Carroll; Paddy Moynihan; Ted Carroll; Mary Loughman; George and Mary Byrne; Mary Maher; Seán, Eileen & Paul Comerford; Kevin McDaid; Edward Moran; Annie Donovan; Chrissie Comerford; Billy Phelan.

*It is a holy and a wholesome thought to pray for the dead." (2 Macc 12: 46).*

**Readers for Next Weekend**

6.00pm To be Arranged  
 8.00am Paula Rogers  
 10.00am Theresa Dowling  
 11.00am Stephanie Butler & Roger Curran  
 11.30am Kathleen Ferguson  
 7.00pm \*\*\*\*\*



**Weekly Attendance and Collections**

Envelope Collection:	€1,125.00	
Mass	Attendance	Baskets
6.00pm Vigil	161	133.00
8.00am	66	176.00
Johnswell	35	104.00
Dunmore	66	116.00
11.30am	175	290.00
7.00pm	92	100.00

Thanks to all who attend and contribute.  
 Your support is greatly appreciated.

**Prayer for Peace in Ukraine**

At their December meeting the Irish Catholic Bishops asked for prayers for the people of Ukraine at this difficult time. They suggested the following prayer...

As we await the birth of the Prince of Peace we pray for peace for the people of Ukraine. Lord, comfort those driven from their homes, shelter the refugee, strengthen the fearful and have mercy on the dead. May those intent on violence and destruction listen to the voice of God who says to all, 'Blessed are the peacemakers they shall be called children of God'.

**Prayer at the Crib**

God our Father, You sent your only Son, Jesus, as a little child to love us and to be our Saviour. Your Holy Spirit came down on Mary and gave wisdom to Joseph so that they could prepare for his birth. As we pray here around our Christmas Crib, open our hearts to his love and to his gentle care. Take away our fears and fill our hearts with joy. Guide and care for our families and help us to care for one another, so that we can live as the people of God. May we know his presence with us and find deep peace in our lives during these days of Christmas, and in the year ahead. Amen



**Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 19<sup>th</sup> December**

Monday: (10.30am) **MM** Tony Melia  
 Tuesday: (8.00am) Special Intention  
 Wednesday (10.30am) Richard Gaule  
 Thursday: (8.00am) Special Intention  
 Friday: (10.30am) Tommy O'Neill  
 Saturday: (10.30am) Michael O'Neill

Please note we may transfer an anniversary Mass on the occasion of a funeral.

*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.*

*May they rest in peace!*

**Parish Webcam**

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

**Weekdays**

8.00am and 10.30am.

**Saturdays**

10.30am and 6.00pm.

**Sundays**

8.00am, 11.30am 7.00pm.

**Holy Days**

6.00pm (Eve)  
 8.00am, 10.30am 7.00pm

**Diocesan Carol Service**

Join us for our Ossory Diocesan Carol Service which will take place in St. Mary's Cathedral on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm - an evening of reflection, music, song and prayer focused on the Christmas story.

**Scripture Reflection Group**

The St John's Parish Scripture Group has concluded their meetings which focused on the readings for the Sundays of Advent. Those who attended found the sessions worthwhile, informative and prayerful. Thanks to the attendees.

The group will meet again after Christmas to continue its work in preparing the Sunday readings. This group is suitable for all interested in deepening their knowledge of the Bible and should prove very interesting for those who read at Masses. All welcome. Watch this space.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

Thanks to those who spend some time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament on the Wednesdays. You are invited to join us at St. John's Church every Wednesday between 11.00am and 1.00pm for some quiet time before the Blessed Sacrament.

**It's That Time of Year Again, Christmas!**

Gift time again and we all need gift tags... well look no further! Our local 'tag elf' Amelia has been working hard behind the scenes since last Christmas to have beautiful hand made tags ready for you all. Help Amelia raise funds to Support Kilkenny Homeless this year. Contact her on 087 380 9442 to book your tags... Tags can be bought in JB's Bar John Street; The White Feather Ladies Wear and Holistic Shop, John Street or meet at Eurospar Bottle Bank, Kilkenny every Thursday at 1.00pm (only if tags booked). Prices €1 for 5 in a bag. Large tags 50c.

**Johnswell Readers' New Rota**

We invite all readers to pick up a copy of the readers' rota in the Sacristy. Thanks to all who volunteer to proclaim God's Word at the liturgies in our parish.

**Friends of Calcutta – Clothes Collection**

The Friends of Calcutta wish to thank you very much for your tremendous response to their recent clothing collection at our three churches. Your support is very much appreciated.