

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

The public adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues in St. John's Church between 11.00am and 1.00pm on Wednesdays. Thanks to all who are so faithful to this prayer-ministry. Others are invited to come and join in prayer for any length of time. We suggest this might be a worthwhile exercise for the Wednesdays of Lent.

### Prayer for Syria and Turkey

All our hearts are going out to the people of Syria and Turkey.  
May the people of these lands have the courage and strength to keep living each day.  
May they have all the supports, aid, love and compassion needed.  
Syria is suffering so much pain and turmoil from war and conflict.  
May leaders open all borders so that all resources can get through.  
May generosity and God's blessings bring strength and hope to everyone who has been affected.  
May minds and hearts be moved to remember loved ones who have died, those who are injured and missing.  
We hold them all in our hearts this day.  
Amen.

### First Anniversary of Ukraine War

Lord God,  
We ask you to hold the people of Ukraine deep in your heart.  
Protect them, we pray; from violence, from political gamesmanship, from being used and abused.  
Give, we pray, the nations of the world the courage and the wisdom to stand up for justice and the courage too, to dare to care - generously.  
Lord, in your mercy, take from us all the tendencies in us that seek to lord it over others: take from us those traits that see us pursuing our own needs and wants before those of others.  
Teach us how to live in love and dignity and respect—following your example.  
In your name and for your sake. Amen.

### Online Lenten Retreat

The Priory Institute is delighted to offer a free of charge online retreat 'Reflecting on the Sunday Gospels of Lent as Stepping Stones on our Journey to Easter'. Visit our website [prioryinstitute.com](http://prioryinstitute.com) to register or to find out more.

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

**Email:** [stjohns@ossory.ie](mailto:stjohns@ossory.ie) **Website:** [www.stjohnskilkenny.com](http://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](mailto: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](http://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:** 6.00pm (Vigil); Sun: 8.00am, 11.30am & 7.00pm.

**Holy Days:** 6.00pm (Vigil); 8.00am, 10.30am & 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**

### First Sunday of Lent - 26<sup>th</sup> February 2023

### First Sunday in Lent - Pointers for Prayer

1. In today's gospel Jesus is enticed to gratify his own needs, or to perform some spectacular act in public. He rejects the temptation because he chooses commitment to his mission and dependence on his Father over any immediate gratification. We can all be tempted to go for some immediate satisfaction... but is that where true happiness lies? Have you found that sometimes it can be more life-giving to say "no" to your immediate desires for the sake of some long-term goal? What are the goals, aims, values, which inspire you in this way?



2. One way of looking at this gospel is to say that Jesus went into the desert to face his demons. We all have demons we need to face - compulsions, fears, prejudices, anger, and urges that lurk within. It is in facing our demons that we find a way to live a fuller life. Can you recall a time when you grew through facing a "demon" in this way?

### Prayer for the Season of Lent

Lord our God, in every age you call a people to hear your word and to do your will. Renew us in these Lenten days: washed clean of sin, sealed with the Spirit and sustained by your living bread, may we remain true to our calling and, with the elect, serve you alone. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

### First Confessions

During this week the children in our Parish Schools - St John's Junior School and Johnswell NS will celebrate the sacrament of First Confession. We keep the children, their parents, and teachers in our prayer as they celebrate this important moment on their faith journey.

### Turkey/Syria Appeal

The special collection held after all Masses last weekend for the victims of the recent earthquakes in Turkey and Syria raised €5,586. A big thank you to all. The money collected will go to Trócaire, to those in need at the sites of these earthquakes.

### St John's Homes for the Elderly

A vacancy has arisen at the Homes for the Elderly, St John's Court, located on the grounds of St John's Church. Application forms are available from the Parish Office during office hours 9.30am to 2.00pm Monday to Friday. Closing date for applications is Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February.

### St Mary's Cathedral Bookshop

St Mary's Cathedral Bookshop is now open Monday to Friday 9.30am to 5.00pm. We have a large selection of Confirmation and Holy Communion Gifts, Prayer Books, Rosaries, Crosses.

## Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

### Recently Deceased:

Pat Marnell, Huddersfield, England, late of Newpark. Funeral arrangements later.  
 Billy Walsh, Newpark Drive. Anne Shasby of 12 McDonagh Street.  
 Tom Dullard, Thomas Square. Terry McDonald, Dublin.  
 Michael Burke, Bianconi Court and formerly Woodsgift.

**Months Mind:** Statia Byrne (7.00pm)

**Anniversaries:** Christina O'Connor & Dolores Dowling (6.00pm); John Dinneen (8.00am); Catherine & Louie Brennan (10.00am); Josephine Burke (11.00am); Philomena Drohan (11.30am); Annie Dowling; Martin Coogan; Hannah Heaney; Dick Marnell; Nora Webster; Angela & Albert Kilusungu; Maura Butler; Martin Dermody; Tony Comerford; Joe & Nell Delaney; Paddy Barry; Margaret Rowe.

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

### Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm Claire Coogan  
 8.00am Jo Browne  
 10.00am Teresa Dowling  
 11.00am Bernard O'Gorman & John McGourty  
 11.30am Bobbie Lahart  
 7.00pm Joan Galwey



### Weekly Attendance and Collections

Envelope Collection:	€1,155.00		
Mass	Attendance	Baskets	Turkey/Syria
6.00pm Vigil	109	146.00	730.00
8.00am	94	228.00	1469.00
Johnswell	31	93.00	341.00
Dunmore	61	143.00	547.00
11.30am	312	254.00	1652.00
7.00pm	113	192.00	847.00

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

### First Friday of March

Next Friday is the First Friday of March. The sick and housebound will be visited at the usual times. Please inform the Parish Office or one of the priests if you have a relative or neighbour who would like this service.

### Society of St Vincent De Paul Collection

The Society of St Vincent de Paul Monthly collection to take place this weekend, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> February. Please remember the local conference can be contacted in writing through the Parish Office or by telephone on 086 895 1239.

### Scripture Reflection Group

The St John's Parish Scripture Group will meet on Thursday evenings during Lent. We meet in the Presbytery at 7.30pm to read and discuss the Scripture passages for the following Sunday. All are welcome. This group is suitable for all interested in deepening their knowledge of the Bible and should prove very interesting for those who read at Mass in our churches.

### Online Resources for Lent

Many online resources for Lent are available on the Ossory Diocesan website. Download them at [www.ossory.ie](http://www.ossory.ie) for use in your home.

### Cake Sale – Kilimanjaro Direct

A cake sale in aid of Kilimanjaro Direct will take place in the St John's Day Centre this Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February from 11.00am to 1.00pm. Kilimanjaro Direct helps to provide food, education and housing for impoverished children. Your support would be greatly appreciated.



## Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 27<sup>th</sup> February

Monday: (10.30am) Annie Dowling  
 Tuesday: (10.30am) Martin Coogan  
 Thursday: (8.00am) Breda Byrne  
 (10.30am) Hannah Heaney  
 Friday: (10.30am) Dick Marnell  
 Saturday: (10.30am) Nora Webster  
 (6.00pm) Paddy O'Brien  
 Sunday: (8.00am) John McEnery  
 (11.00am) Margaret Ryan  
 (11.30am) Seán Connick  
 (7.00pm) Jim Kealy

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](http://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

## World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer Service will take place in The Methodist Church, William Street, (R95 DH29) on next Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.00pm. All are welcome.

Theme: 'I have heard about your faith'.

## Trocaire's Lenten Campaign (Speaker)

As the season of Lent begins, Trócaire needs your support to bring life-saving support to one of the most fragile countries in the world. Somalia is in the midst of a critical food crisis which has left almost half of the population experiencing acute food shortages and unbearable hunger. You can support this vital work by taking home a Trócaire box which can be found at the back of the Church or by going online at [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org)

Next weekend we will welcome at all Masses two speakers from Trócaire Headquarters who will inform us about the organisation's vital work in various parts of the world.

## Farmer Wellbeing Programme

Kilkenny Leader Partnership has devised a 10-week programme that aims to support farmers in a holistic way, by providing practical advice on CAP reform, Health and Safety, Agri business opportunities as well as skills to deal with stress, personal development and resilience building. The next course is starting 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023. Call Conor Cleere to learn more on 056 775 2111 or email [conor.cleere@cklp.ie](mailto:conor.cleere@cklp.ie)

## Ossory Adult Faith Development Lenten Programme

**Lent Tweets:** Follow @OssoryDiocese for a simple thought each day during this Lenten journey. Have your timeline prompt you to pause each day to be reminded of our Lenten journey.

**The Ethics of War in this Time of Conflicts:** The ongoing war in Ukraine has impacted us all. Join us for a discussion of the Ethics of War at this time of many conflicts in our world. An open discussion led by Prof Tobias Winright, Professor of Moral Theology and Rev Dr Michael Shortall, Moral Theologian. St Kieran's College, Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30pm.

**St Patrick - How would he speak to a modern Ireland?** Join with Dr Billy Swan for a reflection on what the Patron Saint of our country might say to us today. St Kieran's College, Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.

**Women in the Church: Biblical Perspectives:** Many voices in Synodal conversations are asking us to examine the involvement of women in our Church today. Professor Jessie Rogers, leads us in a reflection on the role of women in our Church today. St Kieran's College, Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30pm.