

Welcome to Our City

All in St. John's Parish join in welcoming visitors to our City and Parish, especially our Kilkenny Arts Week visitors.

South Kilkenny Historical Society

Heritage Week 2023 event. A Mystery Tour of Mooncoin will take place on this Sunday, 20th August. Starting point: Main gate of Mooncoin Church at 2.30pm. Free event.

Best of Luck to our Exam Students

Our thoughts and prayers are with our students as they await exam results which are due out on Friday. Remember:

Everybody can be great... because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.

(Martin Luther King)

Prayer for Those Awaiting Exam Results

Lord, I have done my best!

I now lay these exams and their results at the foot of your Cross.

Thank you that this is a place of grace, where I can find rest.

Thank you that I am safe beside you Jesus
- that you are with me -
no matter what lies ahead. Amen.

Bishop Birch Place Mass

The residents of Bishop Birch Place have organised a Neighbourhood Mass for residents, former residents and visitors on Wednesday, 23rd August at 6.30pm. Weather permitting the Mass will be on the Pitch, if not it will be in the Community Centre. The Mass will be followed by refreshments and finger food in the Centre. We are looking forward to past and present residents attending. All are welcome.

Johnswell Road Hurling

Come and join us for an exciting and entertaining evening at Johnswell on Saturday, 2nd September.

BBQ to follow the events.

Registration at 5.00pm.

Adults: €10. Children U14: €5.

A Monastic Experience

The Poor Clares, Galway are hosting a Monastic Experience Day on Saturday, 26th August from 10.00am to 5.00pm.

The day is designed to help young women who are exploring the possibility of a religious vocation to find out more about the Poor Clare way of life. If you would like to attend the day you can book a place at: vocations@poorclares.ie

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.

Monsignor Michael Ryan (Retired)

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:

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: 6.00pm (Vigil); Sun: 8.00am, 11.30am & 7.00pm.

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

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 20th August 2023

St John's Parish Pilgrimage to Knock

A coach full of pilgrims from St John's Parish will travel to Our Lady's Shrine at Knock on Monday morning. Thanks to all who booked tickets and apologies to those who did not get a seat. We hope and pray that we will have good weather, a fruitful day and a safe trip.

On 21st August 1879 witnesses clearly saw the Blessed Virgin Mary dressed in white robes, her hands and eyes turned towards heaven in prayer. On her head was a gold crown and where the crown fitted the brow, a single golden rose. On her right, bowed respectfully towards her, was St. Joseph. He appeared older, his beard and hair were grey and, like Our Lady, he was barefoot.

To Our Lady's left stood John the Evangelist vested as a bishop, wearing a small mitre. He held an open book in his left hand and in its pages the lines and letters could clearly be seen. He appeared to be preaching but no voice was heard. He stood so that his back was neither turned to the Virgin or to the Lamb that stood upon a simple plain altar. Behind the Lamb was a Cross. The witnesses watched and prayed for over two hours and though they were wet, they noticed that no rain fell on upon the Apparition or on the gable.

When you cross the threshold and enter Knock Shrine, you leave behind the worry and cares of a troubled world and join with your fellow visitors on a journey. Each person who comes to Knock has their own reason for making the journey, however long or short, to experience a unique and tranquil atmosphere.

Knock is a reminder of the faith that has been passed down through generations. Some come searching for answers and consolation, others to reflect and find peace. One thing that is guaranteed is that you will leave Knock Shrine feeling refreshed and renewed. There are no strangers here... we are all fellow pilgrims.

Bishop Séamus Freeman RIP

Bishop Niall Coll will celebrate the first anniversary Mass for Bishop Séamus Freeman, on this Sunday, 20th August 2023, in St Mary's Cathedral at 5.30pm. May Bishop Seamus's soul rest in peace.

Society of St Vincent De Paul Collection

The Monthly Collection for the Society of St Vincent de Paul will take place in all churches in our parish over this weekend. Thank you for all your generous support. The local conference can be contacted on 086 895 1239.

Prayer at the Heart of our City

We hope to establish a group for adoration in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel in St Mary's Cathedral. It would be beautiful to have a constant presence of prayer for our Diocese and world. The hours of this adoration will be determined by the people involved. If you would like to be part of this group please call - 056 772 1253 or email adoration@ossory.ie to leave your contact details. Shortly we will hold a meeting of all involved in the hopes of establishing a gathering of prayer.

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Dr Aileen Beirne, Meadow Way and late of Roscommon. Requiem Mass at St. John's Church at 11.30am on Sunday followed by cremation in Co Cavan.
 Mairead Halton, formerly Archersrath Nursing Home who died in Belfast on Saturday.
 Eddie Delehunty, Castleinch, who died in New Zealand.
 Raymond Ryan, who died in Canada Mike Roberts, Maple Drive, Ardmore
 Teresa Moran, Chapel Avenue, Patrick Street Mary Hazel, Waterford Road
 Angela Hooper, Cardiff Lidya Ukraintseva, Ukraine

Months Mind: Nicholas McCullagh (10.30am Monday)

Anniversaries: Jim & Betty Cauty (6.00pm); Ollie Doran; Mary O'Dwyer (7.00pm); Paddy Deegan; Walter Hayes; Margaret Shanahan; Michael Murphy; Natalie Hunt; Catherine, Michael, Mary and Edward (Ned) Delaney; Dick Maher; Patrick Ruth; Patricia (Babby) Brennan; Joe Maher; Sr de Lourdes Walsh; Mary McCarthy; Brigid and Martin Kane; Danny Cassidy; Kitty Saunders.

*Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day.
 Unseen, unheard, but always near!*

Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm Mary Lynch
 8.00am Padraig O'Neill
 10.00am Seán Colgan
 11.00am Bernard O'Gorman & John McGourty
 11.30am Kay Purcell
 7.00pm Eileen Kinane



Weekly Attendance and Collections

| Envelope Collection: | | €991.00 |
|----------------------|------------|------------------|
| Mass | Attendance | Baskets |
| 6.00pm Vigil | 136 | 430.00 |
| 8.00am | 90 | 407.00 |
| Johnswell | 47 | 227.00 |
| Dunmore | 57 | 165.00 |
| 11.30am | 156 | 489.00 |
| 7.00pm | 112 | 324.00 |
| | 598 | €2,042.00 |

Your support is greatly appreciated.

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 important prayer ministry. Others are invited to come and join in quiet prayer for any length of time.

Ossory AFD Holy Land Pilgrimage 19th to 26th February 2024

Led by Fr Dermot Ryan and Fr Kieran O'Shea. Cost - €1,615p.p. sharing. Return flights from Dublin via London with BA - 23kg check-in luggage - In-flight catering - Three nights in Bethlehem - Three nights in Nazareth - Buffet breakfast and dinner daily - Extra breakfast included on day of arrival - all coaching and tours - Full religious programme organized. For Booking contact Kieran and Laura Troy, Newtown, Rahan, Tullamore, Co. Offaly on 057 935 5050 or info@myriam.ie. Fill out your booking form and return with a deposit of €300pp. Please note: this itinerary is not suitable for anyone with mobility issues.

Thought for the Day

The brain prefers nature sounds to man-made or mechanical sounds. So when you go out into nature for some green therapy, it's best to go to places that are free from traffic, aviation or agricultural noise. The sounds of nature that we most like are water, wind and birdsong so pick the times when birdsong is at its loudest in your environment. When we go into nature and try to listen to its sounds it can be more difficult than appreciating its sights. As a general rule, try to avoid human sounds when renewing yourself in nature. Most of the demands in our lives come from other humans.

Tom Gunning; *Nature's Way – A Guide to Green Therapy*

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 21st August

Monday: 10.30am MM Nicholas McCullagh
 Thursday: 8.00am Paddy Deegan
 10.30am Walter Hayes
 Saturday: 6.00pm Fr William Meany
 Sunday: 11.00am Tom Ryan
 11.30am Joe Doheny
 7.00pm MM Peter O'Connor Phelan

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

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

Parish Webcam

Masses and Services in St. John's Church are broadcast on stjohnskilkenny.com and on 106.8FM. Inform those who are unable to attend.

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

Seeing Your Life Through the Lens of the Gospel

Having met with rejection from the Pharisees Jesus goes to Gentile territory and encounters unexpected faith in the Canaanite woman. His mission had previously been to his own people. This adds a new dimension to his mission. Have you had occasions when a chance encounter set your life off in a new direction?

The initial reaction of Jesus to the woman was one of rejection but her persistence won a response from him. When have you found that persistence was needed to gain what you sought? What did that experience teach you?

In our days of widespread migration welcoming the stranger can be a challenge. We are more comfortable with our own. What difference has it made, to you and to others, when you were able to offer a friendly welcoming face to a stranger?

Who are the 'Canaanite women' who call out for attention today – people in Church or State whose needs are not being attended to?



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CANCER SUPPORT CENTRES

In-house and remote phone volunteers needed

Volunteers are the backbone of ARC Cancer Support Centres. As an ARC volunteer, you will make an important difference in the lives of those affected by cancer.

We are looking for individuals who are empathic with excellent communication skills to be an invaluable source of comfort, care and kindness.

Full Training is provided and roles are based remotely or from one of our centres in either South Circular Road or Eccles Street.

Email us today for an application form: info@arccancersupport.ie

CALL US NOW!
01-215 0250