

Season of Creation

“Let Justice and Peace Flow” is the theme chosen for the Season of Creation, the ecumenical celebration we hold each year from 1st September, World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, to 4th October, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

Prophet Isaiah proclaims: “Listen carefully, I am about to do a new thing, now it will spring forth; will you not be aware of it? I will even put a road in the wilderness, rivers in the desert.” (Isaiah 43: 19).

Biodiversity is being lost at a rate not seen since the last mass extinction. The futures of young people are threatened by the cascading impacts of the loss of biodiversity and a changing climate.

The urgency grows and we must make visible peace with Earth and on Earth, at the same time that justice calls us to repentance and a change of attitude and actions. As we join the river of justice and peace with others then hope is created instead of despair.

For information: www.seasonofcreation.org

Medjugorje - Evening of Prayer

Rosary, Mass, Adoration, Prayer for Healing will take place in St Fiacre’s Church, Loughboy on Monday, 11th September at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

Historic Beatification on this Sunday

This Sunday, in the Polish village of Markowa, something momentous is happening. This will be the remarkable occasion of an entire family being beatified at once, including their unborn child!

Józef Ulma and his wife Wiktoria, heavily pregnant at the time of her death, sheltered families of Jews from the Nazis. They knew what it would cost them and their family if they were ever discovered, but they couldn’t turn their backs on their neighbours.

When the Nazis came for the Ulmas, it was the dead of night and everyone was sleeping. But the Nazis knew exactly what they would find: they had been tipped off. They didn’t spare a single person inside the home - not the Jewish families, not Józef and Wiktoria and their unborn child, not even the Ulma children: Stanisława, age 8; Barbara, 7; Władysław, 6; Franciszek, 4; Antoni, 3; and Maria, 2. After their deaths, a Bible inside their home was discovered to have the parable of the Good Samaritan underlined in red ink. They had truly lived Jesus’ call to love their neighbour as themselves.

No Greater Love: The Martyrdom of The Ulma Family by Jean Olwen Maynard is available from ctsbooks.org and good bookshops.

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

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - 10th September 2023

St Mary’s Cathedral Tour

This weekend sees the launch of an interactive tour of St Mary’s Cathedral. By means of QR codes visitors can interact with and learn about the fascinating history of this wonderful building. Built by the people of Kilkenny in the 1840s it has a rich legacy of sacred art, design and prayer. The tour will be available year-round for a daily pass at a cost of €5. The tour, however, will be free of charge this Sunday, 10th September and the following Sunday, 17th September. A second phase of the tour will also launch in the weeks ahead.

Synod Gathering

In advance of the first assembly of the Universal Synod, which begins on 4th October 2023, an ecumenical prayer vigil is taking place in Rome to unite us all in praise and worship. In extending this invitation Pope Francis reminded us that ‘the path to Christian unity and the path of synodal conversion of the Church are linked’. In a special way, young people from across the world, are asked to take part.

On Friday, 22nd September, we will join with Pope Francis and the young people invited to Rome by holding an ecumenical Taizé prayer in The Blessed Sacrament Chapel in St. Mary’s Cathedral at 7.00pm with a special invitation to young people. Then on Sunday, 24th September we will gather at the 5.30pm Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral to pray for the Universal Synod. People from all across the diocese are invited to attend.

St. Mary’s Cathedral Draw 2023/2024

A new cycle of draws will begin in September and tickets are available from St. John’s Parish Office or any of the priests. Draws take place on the last Wednesday of each month. Tickets cost €10 per month. To date the draw has raised almost €700,000 for refurbishing the cathedral. Please continue to support this ongoing diocesan work.

Sisters from St Elisabeth Convent, Belarus

St. Elisabeth Convent was founded in 1999 in Minsk in Belarus. Since its establishment the convent has been caring for 200 orphanage children with psychophysical deficiencies. There is a charity shelter founded on the farmstead of the convent for the homeless, drug or alcohol addicts, ex-prisoners and the less able. Over 200 residents live here today. A rehabilitation facility was established two years ago for female ex-prisoners, the homeless and intellectually challenged women.

To support and develop the above ministries, the sisters operate more than twenty workshops and art studios. These include sewing and embroidery shops, candle workshop, woodcarving, stone and blacksmith workshops and many more. Together with the sisters the residents produce beautiful articles with love and prayer in the convent’s workshops. Some sisters will join us at Masses next weekend and sell some of their produce at a craft stall. Visit obitel-minsk.org/or further information on the sisters. Please support them if you can.

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased:

Maureen McKiernan, Dublin
 Angela Byrne, Dublin
 Sr. Mona Saunders, Convent of Mercy, Callan

Mary O'Keeffe, Esker, Jenkinstown
 Laura Treacy, Dublin
 Tom Cantwell, Wexford

Months Mind: Ann Rush (Sat. 16th)

Anniversaries: Mary Marnell (6.00pm); William Lynch (8.00am); Carmel Hickey (11.00am); Michelle & Michael Reynolds (11.30am); Edward Ryan (7.00pm); Bernard Doyle; Joey Downey; Patrick Turney; John Jack Cooney; Anthony Murphy; Tommy Dillon; The Cassin Family; Michael & Ann Coffey; Syd & Elizabeth Bluett;

*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!*

Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm Bridget Ahearn
 8.00am Jo Browne
 10.00am Fiona & Sarah Manning
 11.00am Nora Guilfoyle & Fiona McGeary
 11.30am Anne Maria Walsh
 7.00pm Josh McHugh



Weekly Attendance and Collections

Envelope Collection:	€1,485.00
Mass	Attendance
6.00pm Vigil	106
8.00am	91
Johnswell	39
Dunmore	74
11.30am	210
7.00pm	90
	610
	€1,764.00

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 next weekend, 16th and 17th September. A sincere thank you for all your generous support. The local conference can be contacted through the Parish Office or on 086 895 1239.

Ossory Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024

The 2024 Ossory Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes led by Bishop Niall Coll will take place from Tuesday, 21st to Sunday 26th May inclusive. The organising committee is confident in offering places to pilgrims in need of assistance, youth helpers, support staff and able-bodied pilgrims. The youth section is organised through the head of RE in secondary schools and places are limited. A follow up announcement and posters on church notice boards will carry further details. (Prices have yet to be established but the 2023 cost was €899 PPS).

Social Dance Classes

Jive, waltz, quickstep and many more with Yvonne. €10 pay as you go. Every Tuesday night continuing from Tuesday, 5th September at Johnswell Hall from 8.00pm to 9.30pm. For more information contact Yvonne at 087 244 8535.

Praying the Rosary

A small group of parishioners join in reciting the Rosary before 10.30am Mass at St. John's Church each weekday morning. We invite others to come along at 10.15am and join in prayer.

Anam Cara Southeast

Anam Cara Southeast will host its Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Tuesday, 12th September at 7.15pm in the Brandon House Hotel, New Ross. info@anamcara.ie or 085 288 8888.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 11th Sept

Saturday: 10.30am **MM** Ann Rush
 6.00pm Martin Shelly
 Sunday: 8.00am John & Nuala Byrne
 10.00am Margaret & James Butler
 11.00am Michael, Sharon,
 Jim & Mary Brennan
 11.30am Una Mahoney
 7.00pm Margaret & Patrick Shortt

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

Ploughing a Prayerful Path

Visitors to stand 326 at the National Ploughing Championships in Ratheniska will be asked to name their favourite saint. The question is being asked by Bishop Denis Nulty of Kildare and Leighlin in whose diocese the 3-day event will be held from 19th – 21st September. 'I expect that people will name saints from all over the world, saints they pray to daily or in times of trouble, the saint whose name they chose at Confirmation or perhaps, the saint associated with their locality,' he said. Bishop Denis went on to say that that he thought it would be 'fascinating to discover Ireland's most loved saint. Ireland was once known as the isle of saints and scholars. Kildare & Leighlin has links to many saints but every county and indeed every country has its own saints. I look forward to seeing how many different saints will be nominated and which one will be the favourite.'

During previous Ploughing Championships, the diocese held competitions to find Ireland's favourite poem, prayer, and hymn. This year, visitors to the Kildare and Leighlin stand will be asked to nominate their favourite saint and the favourite will be decided by a vote on the final day of the championships. The Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin will be at the Ploughing Championships in Block 2, Row 20, Stand 326.

The Pope's Monthly Intention for September

For people living on the margins: We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

Loreto Secondary School Kilkenny

1st Year Enrolment Autumn 2024 – The closing date for applications for a First-Year place is 23rd October. Applications can be made via the school website www.loretokk.ie.

Open Day for 6th Class Girls – An open day will take place on Thursday 28th September 2023. Further information will be on our website also.

The Chosen - Watch | Discuss | Reflect | Rejoice |

Experience Season One of 'The Chosen' on the big screen!

Free Admission. Rating: PG12+

This is the re-telling of the stories of Jesus and the disciples as you've never seen them before! It's powerful, thought-provoking, and moving in so many ways and it touches on issues that are still relevant today.

Sundays: 3.30pm - 5.00pm, 24th September; 8th and 15th October and 5th November. Thomastown Community Centre.