

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Public Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place at St. John's Church from 11.00am until 1.00pm on Wednesdays. We are delighted with the number of people who faithfully keep watch each Wednesday.

Scripture Group

This informal group meets on Thursdays at 7.30 pm in St John's Presbytery. We read over, and chat about the readings for the following Sunday. This week, it will be the 2nd Sunday of Advent.

The Irish Catholic

The Irish Catholic newspaper is available for sale in the porch of St. John's Church at a cost of €3. Please put your contribution in the wall safe.

Advent Sunday Gospels

A guidebook for each Sunday of Advent to guide us through the gospels for each of the Sundays of Advent. Available for download now at www.ossory.ie

Tweet for Each Day of Advent

Thoughts, reflections, prayer and ideas - why not take a few moments each day during Advent to pause in prayer. Follow us on Twitter @ ossorydiocese. A simple booklet of reflections is available for download at www.ossory.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. Ailish Higgins, 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

The Kilkenny Choir

Kilkenny Choir will hold a concert on Sunday, 10th December at 4.30pm in St. Canice's Catholic Church. Tickets €20 on Eventbrite or at the door. U18s free.

Medjugorje - Evening of Prayer

Rosary, Mass, Adoration, Prayer for Healing will take place in St Fiacre's Church, Loughboy on Monday, 11th December at 7.30pm.

Chapter House Bookshop

St. Mary's Cathedral, Chapter House Bookshop is now open 5 days a week (Monday to Friday) from 9.30am until 5.00pm. The shop has a great selection of Nativity Sets, Christmas Cards, Christmas Mass Bouquets, Nativity stories, spiritual books and other religious gifts. A selection of Calendars, Catholic Diaries and Bibles.

Your Community Needs You

You can be a positive influence in your community. You can leave a positive impact on your community. *Foroige* wants to start a youth club in your area and we need adult volunteer leaders and young members for that club. A youth club has positive benefits to young people in the community, and volunteering offers great rewards to the adults involved. Aidan Gleeson 086 067 4485 or Aidan.gleeson@foroige.ie

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

The Second Sunday of Advent - 10th December 2023

Advent Penitential Service - Sacrament of Reconciliation

A Penitential Service for the City Pastoral Area (St. John's, St. Mary's, St. Patrick's and St. Canice's Parishes) will be held in St John's Church on Tuesday, 19th December at 7.30pm. Come along and join us as we heed the call of John the Baptist to "prepare a way for the Lord" this Advent and prepare to celebrate the Feast of Christmas.

Advent 2023 - The Season of Hope and Preparation

"We have now begun our Advent journey, a time of patient waiting and joyful hope. As we look forward to the celebration of Christmas 2023, we pray to the Lord for an end to wars across the globe and for justice and peace to reign in our uncertain world. We remember most of all the innocent, as they suffer most in terms of death, injury, hunger and displacement. The coming of Christ brought light into a darkened world, 'a light that darkness could not overpower' - and we earnestly pray for light at this time."

"In Ireland, this time of year also brings great difficulty to many in terms of surviving and staying warm. We urge those who are able to respond generously to the Christmas appeals of Trócaire, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul and other charities that bring hope to the lives of those families bearing the brunt of the cost of living and energy crises. Through the coming days of Advent may our hearts be open to the grace and power of the Lord and filled with joy when we celebrate His birth."

(Irish Catholic Bishops)

Digital Advent Calendar

This year marks the tenth year of the digital Advent calendar which is a resource for families, schools and parishes on the homepage of catholicbishops.ie. During the 22 days of Advent, new content will be available behind the calendar's digital doors. Every day online viewers can enjoy brief personal video, reflections and prayers on this holy season. Go on - open those doors and get ready to welcome Christ at Christmas!

The Parish of Tomorrow

"The Parish of Tomorrow Will be Vastly Different From Today." Join with Fr. Albert McDonnell, Chancellor of the Diocese of Killaloe and Vicar Forane of the Radharc na nOileán Pastoral Area on Tuesday, 12th December at 7.30pm at St. Kieran's College. All welcome to come and reflect on the future of our parishes. While this evening will be of value to all it should be of special interest to all involved in ministry and to PPC members.

Bambinelli Sunday

We invite you to bring your figure of Baby Jesus to Mass next weekend for a blessing of the Baby Jesus figure. This tradition known as Bambinelli Sunday is celebrated on the third Sunday of Advent known as Gaudete Sunday.



Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: **Daniel (Dan) Kennedy**, Maudlin Street (Retired teacher at St. John's Senior School). Reposing in Johnston's Funeral Home from 5.00pm on Monday with Funeral Prayers at 6.30pm followed by removal to St. John's Church. Requiem Mass at 10.30am on Tuesday followed by interment in St. Kieran's Cemetery.

Mary Kelly, Danesfort. Requiem in St. Michael's Church, Danesfort at 11.00am on Monday.

Elizabeth Delaney, London and late of Kilkenny. Requiem Mass in St. John's Church at 10.30am on Thursday.

Fr. Gerry Condon, Waterford

Month's Mind: Breda Murphy (Friday, 15th December).

Anniversaries: Thomas Dowling (6.00pm); Jerry O'Neill (11.00am); Alice and Joseph Bambrick (11.30am); Aaron Molloy (7.00pm); Willie Maher (MM); Frances Guidera; Bridget Comerford; Phylis Monagle and Monagle Families; Charlie McCartney; Phylis Cleary; Tommy and Petra McGuinness; Seamus Mahoney; Patrick and Rose Wixed; Mary Dowling (nee Wixed); Debbie Newcastle; Billy Loughman; Patrick and Mary Malone; Ann Doran; John Murphy. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm	Claire Coogan
8.00am	Jo Browne
10.00am	Betsy Rice
11.00am	Jim Kavanagh & Claire Hanrick
11.30am	Anne Maria Walsh & Kay Purcell
7.00pm	Joan Galwey



Weekly Attendance and Collections

Envelope Collection:		€1,340.00
Mass	Attendance	Baskets
6.00pm Vigil	103	299.00
8.00am	64	291.00
Johnswell	32	147.00
Dunmore	75	231.00
11.30am	205	605.00
7.00pm	110	220.00
	589	€1,793.00

Your support is greatly appreciated.

St. Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Collection

The Society of St Vincent de Paul Christmas Collection will take place this weekend, 9th and 10th December. Your donation will help families in our parish with basics such as food and fuel. Please give what you can; you could save someone from impossible choices this winter.

Christmas Crib

This year marks the 800th anniversary of Saint Francis of Assisi constructing the first Christmas crib in a cave in Greccio, Italy. To mark this special anniversary in our faith history, the Irish bishops invite everyone to share a picture, or video, of their crib whether it is at home or in the workplace, along with a message.

As every crib has its own story, sharing Christmas memories of the crib would provide inspiration to many people during this season of goodwill and celebration for Christian families. To help spread the spirit of Christmas, why don't you tag us in your crib post on: Facebook at Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference; Instagram on @catholicbishops; and X/Twitter on @CatholicNewsIRL.



Honouring Sunday

The Eucharist is the source and summit of our spiritual and pastoral life. At the end of their Winter General Meeting last week the Irish Bishops stated, "The Sunday Mass is at the very heartbeat of the Church and of our personal faith. While some may have drifted away from regular attendance of Mass, and others may have developed the habit of continuing to watch online instead of joining the community in person, we encourage families and individuals who are able to do so, to return to Mass for Christmas and the New Year, knowing the importance of the Sunday gathering in the life of our parishes.

We look forward to welcoming all parishioners to our Masses this Christmas.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 11th December

Monday:	10.30am	Bridget Comerford
Tuesday:	10.30am	Dan Kennedy, Requiem Mass
Wednesday	10.30am	Tommy & Petra McGuinness
Thursday:	10.30am	Elizabeth Delaney, London
Friday:	10.30am	MM Breda Murphy
Saturday:	10.30am	Seamus Mahoney
	6.00pm	Thomas, Seán, Toddie O'Connor
Sunday:	11.00am	Jim Shields
	11.30am	Nan Brennan
	7.00pm	Dylan Whearty

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

May their souls through the mercy of God rest in peace.

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

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!

The Synodal Pathway

The first phase of the Synodal Pathway of the Catholic Church in Ireland is now complete. This two-year phase, interwoven with the universal synodal process, concluded with two significant and complementary reports from the National Steering Committee. These two reports have now been published and are available online at www.synod.ie. Both reports include executive summaries for immediate digestion but do please take the time to read them in their entirety as they inform the immediate and longer-term steps for the Synodal Pathway.



Care for Our World

"From Peace on Earth to Peace with Earth: Theology and Ecology" is the title of a lecture at St. Kieran's College on this Monday, 11th December at 7.30pm. Tobias Winright, Professor of Moral Theology at St. Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth will present the lecture. We are not merely called to care for the world around us we have a moral obligation to care for it. How is it that we can and should live out that care for the world in which we live? God asks it of us, how do we respond?

Christmas Mass Times in St. John's Parish 2023

The Parish Pastoral Council has agreed that Masses over the Christmas will be as follows:

Saturday, 23rd December	St John's:	10.30am and 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
Sunday Morning, 24th December	St John's:	8.00am and 11.30am
Christmas Eve	St John's:	6.00pm and 9.00pm
	Dunmore:	7.00pm
	Johnswell:	8.00pm
Christmas Day, 25th December	St John's:	8.00am and 11.30am
	Johnswell:	10.00am
	Dunmore:	11.00am
	St John's:	12.30pm (Polish Mass)
Christmas Week	St. John's:	10.30am each morning

Please inform your relatives and friends of the above times and invite them to come along.