

Anniversary Masses

It has become increasingly difficult to accommodate in the parish Mass schedule the number of anniversary Masses requested by parishioners. This has led to disappointment when people cannot book an anniversary or months mind Mass near the desired date. From 1st January - as is the practice in other parishes - more than one anniversary remembrance may be assigned to all Masses. Please note, we also reserve the right to transfer a previously booked anniversary Mass on the occasion of a funeral.

Ossory Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The annual Ossory Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024 is now available to book! The departure will take place on 22nd May 2024 from Cork flying direct to Lourdes with accommodation available in the hotels La Solitude, Padoue or Agena. The pilgrimage will be led by Bishop Niall Coll.

With capacity being limited this year, it is strongly advised that pilgrims wishing to travel to Lourdes book as soon as possible. Should you require any additional information on the pilgrimage, please do not hesitate to contact us: info@joewalshtours.ie or 01 241 0800. Assisted Pilgrims should contact Fr. Anthony O'Connor on 087 251 7766 or by email on maoc50@me.com.

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

Parish Calendars

St. John's Parish Calendars are available this weekend. Once again we thank Johnston's Funeral Directors for their sponsorship.

South Kilkenny Historical Society Lecture

Lecture on Water Diviner Experiments in Ireland, 1891 and 1899 will take place on Friday, 19th January at 8.00pm in Mullinavat Parish Hall. This talk will include the input of Mr Jones, Mullinabro, Kilmacow/Ferrybank in the experiments.

Scripture Reflection Group

Following our Christmas break the St. John's Parish Scripture Group will meet again on Thursday, 18th January at 7.30pm.

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 are welcome to come along to the Presbytery at 7.30pm.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

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

*Could you not watch
just one hour with me?*

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

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - 14th January 2024

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th - 25th January 2024

You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbour as yourself (Luke 10.27)

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has a history of over 100 years, in which Christians around the world have taken part in an octave of prayer for visible Christian unity. By annually observing the Week of Prayer, Christians move toward the fulfilment of Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper "that they all may be one." (cf. John 17:21).

The theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2024 was selected by the Pontifical Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity, the World Council of Churches, and the Christian Churches in Burkina Faso, coordinated by the community of *Chemin Neuf*, a French Catholic ecumenical community of vowed and lay people and its local community in Burkina Faso.

The theme, taken from the first chapter of the Gospel of Luke, reflects the connection between love of God and love of neighbour with a particular concern for challenging the boundaries of who is considered "neighbour". In this verse, Jesus is questioned as to the path to eternal life. His answer is not to only observe the commandments, but to also imitate the love of God in the giving of self for another. It is a call for charity, mercy, justice, and unity. Let us keep this intention in our prayers and actions during the Week of Prayer which runs from 18th to the 25th January 2024.

Do This In Memory

We welcome the children from St. John's Junior School and Johnswell National School who are preparing for the Sacraments of First Penance and First Eucharist to our Masses next weekend. As they continue the *Do This in Memory* Parish Programme of preparation, we keep them in our prayers and hope that with God's help their parents and families may truly pass the light of faith on to them.

MCN Webcam Providers

Those parishioners and others who log into our webcam directly on MCN Media should note that our providers have changed to a new web address. In future, to access MCN Media, please go to www.mcn.live on your web browser and log in the usual way. There will be no change for those who join in our Masses from our parish website: go to www.stjohnskilkenny.com and follow the link for the webcam.

Hon the Loughs!

Things are hotting up in the Parish this week with green and white flags popping up everywhere. All in St. John's Parish wish the management and team all the best in their final preparations during this coming week ahead of next weekend's All-Ireland Final in Croke Park.

We encourage people to put up flags, bunting, etc to show support for our team.



Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: James (Jimmy) Butler, Mountnugent, Johnswell.

Phyllis Lawler, New Road.

Michael Deegan, Nenagh late Johnswell Road

Sr Annunciata O'Grady, Wexford

Margaret Fitzgerald (nee Flynn), late Michael St

Sr Norah Merrick, Thurles

Maureen Keenan, Dublin, late John Street

Harry Parker, Middleton, late of Kilkenny

Jimmy Coogan, Tullaroan

Months Mind: Jim Foley (10.00am).

Anniversaries: Michael Kinchella (6.00pm); Micheal Dowling (8.00am); Michael Mahony (11.00am); Ann Gibbons (11.30am); Patrick Joseph O'Shea (7.00pm); Michael Delaney; Michael & Kevin Dowling; Margaret, William & James McGrath; Ann Fennelly; Teresa Barcoe; Theresa Hillman; Jimmy & Chrissie Bergin; Anne Moynihan; Paddy Nolan; Helen Ryan; Maurice O'Sullivan; Margaret & Patrick Doran; Edward Walsh; Ann & Nancy Culleton; Adrian Freezey; Paddy Morris; Jack, Peg & Aaron Molloy; Eamon Goulding; John Lanigan; Catherine & Thomas Lyons; Joe Slattery; Margaret & Thomas Wall; Peter & Eileen Browne; Johnny Kirwan and Kirwan Family; Bridget Slattery; Bridie Murphy; William; Ellen & Liam Bergin.

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.

Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm Mary Lynch
8.00am Jo Browne
10.00am Elaine Bennett
11.00am Nora Guilfoyle & Fiona McGeary
11.30am Paula Rogers & James Connolly
7.00pm Joan Scott



Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection:		€2,637.00
<u>Mass</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Baskets</u>
6.00pm St. John's	131	398.00
8.00am St. John's	74	324.00
10.00am Johnswell	39	89.00
11.00am Dunmore	72	188.00
11.30am St. John's	190	492.00
7.00pm	<u>100</u>	<u>252.00</u>
	606	1,743.00

A Simple Prayer for Peace

Gracious God, in a world filled with conflicts and unrest, I lift my voice in prayer for peace. May your divine presence bring an end to violence, conflicts, and injustice in our world. Amen.

Eastern Environs Group

The Eastern Environs Community Group will reconvene at 2.00pm on Wednesday, 17th January in the Parish Centre. New members welcome - just drop in on the afternoon.

St. John's Junior School

St. John's Junior School is currently accepting applications for enrolment for September 2024. Application forms are available from the office (056 776 2888) or on the school website www.stjohnsthelake.ie. Closing date for applications is Tuesday, 30th January. A parents' information meeting will be held in the school on Tuesday, 23rd January at 7.30pm.

New Year Afternoon Tea Dance

St Canice's Neighbourhood Hall invites you to our New Year Afternoon Tea Dance on Wednesday, 17th January 2.30pm to 4.30pm. Catch up with some old friends and make some new ones. Music by Seán Shortis. RSVP please to Jenny on 087 954 6368 or jenny.cooke@frmcgrathcentre.ie. A raffle will be held.



Side by Side Club

The Side by Side Club has resumed after the Christmas break. The Club meets every Thursday from 2.00pm to 5.00pm in the St. John's Parish Centre. Should you require any further information please contact Helen on 083 406 8148.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 15th January

Monday:	10.30am	Michael Delaney
Tuesday:	8.00am	Michael & Kevin Dowling
	10.30am	Margaret, William & James McGrath
Wednesday	10.30am	Ann Fennelly
Thursday	8.00am	Margaret & Thomas Wall
	10.30am	Teresa Barcoe
Friday:	10.30am	Theresa Hillman
Saturday:	10.30am	Jimmy & Chrissie Bergin, Anne Moynihan, Paddy Nolan, Helen Ryan, Maurice O'Sullivan
	6.00pm	Kitty Guidera, Lou Leydon, Betty Bourke
Sunday:	8.00am	Billy Malone
	11.00am	MM Pat Costigan
	11.30am	Lil Redmond; MM Dan Kennedy.
	7.00pm	Patrick & Hugh Meany

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

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

St. Ignatian Spiritual Exercises for Men

Led by Fr Stephen Kennedy, IVE, Friday, 2nd February to Monday, 5th February (bank holiday) in De La Salle Retreat Centre, Castletown, Co. Laois, R32 N6D8. Cost €200 which includes all meals and ensuite single rooms. For information or booking please call Sr. Constaney on 089 215 2307 or c.puertadelaauroral@gmail.com.

Thought for the Day

If you put too much pressure on any one part of your life, there is a risk of collapse. If you put too much pressure on any one part of your being there may be a collapse too. The body, soul, mind and emotions are given to you to spread the load.

The same is true of your family and friends and of support services and those things that help you to discover your beliefs and values. When you are in good form, you are aware of all these 'arches' in your life. The load is spread quite evenly.

When you are in bad form, you put too much pressure on one 'arch,' that single arch just can't carry the load!

Alan Hilliard, Dipping Into Life (Messenger Publications)

St Ita – Feast Day 15th January

Saint Ita, "the Foster Mother of the Irish Saints," was born in the fifth century. She, like many of the Irish saints, was born in Co. Waterford of noble and Christian parents. Early on she set her mind on serving Christ in religious life. She founded a monastery, school, and convent at Killeedy which still bears her name near Newcastle West in County Limerick. A holy well still marks the site of her church.

St. Ita once told St. Brendan that the three things most displeasing to God were a face that hates mankind, a will that clings to the love of evil, and placing one's entire trust in riches. The three things most pleasing to God were the firm belief of a pure heart in God, the simple religious life, and liberality with charity. St. Ita fell asleep in the Lord in 570AD.

St Ita, pray for us that we will live our faith through our daily words and actions.

