

The Do This in Memory

The programme for those preparing for First Holy Communion continues at 6.00pm Mass in St. John's and 10.00am Mass at Johnswell next weekend. We look forward to welcoming the children and their families. Keep the children and their families in your prayers. Recently the children celebrated their First Confession - another important milestone on their faith journey.

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 faithful to this important prayer ministry.

The Most Holy Rosary

A number of parishioners gather each morning at St. John's Church to recite the Rosary at 10.10am. All are welcome to come and join in this beautiful Marian prayer.

St Mary's Cathedral Restoration Fund

This month's draw will take place next Wednesday, 28th February. Tickets available from the Parish Office, or from any of the priests. We encourage your support for St. Mary's, our Diocesan Cathedral. Subscription is €120 for the year or €10 per month.

Thought for the Week

Jesus was 'able to invite others to be attentive to the beauty that there is in the world because he himself was in constant touch with nature, lending it an attraction full of fondness and wonder. As he made his way throughout the land, he often stopped to contemplate the beauty sown by his Father and invited his disciples to perceive a divine message in things. The very flowers of the field and the birds which his human eyes contemplated and admired are now imbued with his radiant presence.' If 'the universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely... there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face.' The world sings of an infinite Love: how can we fail to care for it?

Laudate Deum 64-65, Pope Francis

Society of St Vincent De Paul

A sincere 'thank you' for all your generous support at last weekend's collection. The local conference can be contacted in writing through the Parish Office or on their dedicated help line number: 086 895 1239.

Catholic Preparation for Marriage

Preparing for Marriage? Weekend residential courses available. 26th - 28th April and 20th - 22th September. Details: www.grasta.org

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 Of Saint John The Evangelist

incorporating | St John's | Dunmore | Johnswell | church areas

MASS TIMES

St John's - Saturday: 6.00pm (Vigil); **Sunday:** 8.00am, 11.30am & 7.00pm.

Holy Days: 6.00pm (Vigil); 8.00am, 10.30am & 7.00pm.

Adoration: Wednesdays at 11.00am. **Weekdays:** 8.00am, 10.30am. (Sat. 10.30am only).

Johnswell - Sunday 10.00am

Dunmore - Sunday 11.00am

Second Sunday of Lent - 25th February 2024

Altar Servers

The Parish Pastoral Council is actively working to reestablish the Ministry of Altar Server in our parish. A number of young people have volunteered, and we hope to begin training next week. If interested, please give your name to one of the priests or contact the Parish Office on 056 772 1072. Please do so as soon as possible as training is about to start.

Lenten Stations

The Lenten Stations are due around this time. Thank you to those who contribute to this collection every year to support our Priests and Bishop. Special envelopes can be found in the parish envelope contribution packs which were distributed earlier. For those who did not receive envelopes and would like to contribute please contact the Parish Office on 056 772 1072 or email stjohns@ossory.ie. Your generosity is appreciated, thanks.

Stations of the Cross

About fifty people turned up at St. John's Church on Friday evening last to pray the Stations of the Cross. We were amazed at the number and age profile of those who attended - from an infant in arms to people in their 90s. Some members of the Medjugorje Youth Group attended which meant we had many in their late teens and early twenties participating in this traditional devotion. We will continue to pray the Stations of the Cross in St. John's Church at 7.00pm each Friday during Lent. We invite you to make the effort to come along and walk the Way of the Cross in preparation for the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday.

Vocations Webinar

Tuesday, 5th March from 8.00pm to 9.00pm. The webinar is hosted by 'The Hook of Faith' platform (www.thehookoffaith.com) and is organised in collaboration with the National Vocations Office. The webinar is entitled 'The Last Priest in Ireland? It Depends on You'. It is a follow up to a RTE documentary broadcast in January entitled 'The Last Priest in Ireland'. The keynote speaker will be Breda O'Brien. There will be a panel of responders. The webinar is a Church response to the programme and an opportunity for dialogue about the future of vocations to the priesthood in Ireland. The provocative title hopefully promotes a desire to create a culture of vocations for which we are all responsible. The initiative is part of the year of prayer and promotion to the diocesan priesthood 'Take the Risk for Christ'.

Parish Scripture Study Group

The Scripture Group continues to meet on Thursdays at 7.30pm in St John's Presbytery. We always have a relaxed and enjoyable chat while opening our hearts and minds to what is being said to us by the Scriptures from the following Sunday. All are welcome to drop in at any time. Some, who cannot attend, receive the notes that are prepared each week by email. If you would like to receive these please email paulmckiernan@live.ie.

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Sr Colombiere Costello, Presentation Convent, Kilkenny.
Mary McCormack, St. Thomas' Square. Requiem Mass at St. Canice's Church at 11.00am on Monday.

Seán Magner, Dukesmeadows. Rachel Keating, Cashel, Co. Tipperary.
Emily Brannigan, St. Patrick's Close. Billy O'Shaughnessy, Stephen Street.
Deirdre Kenny, (nee Lambe), Tralee (10.00am)

Months Mind: Bernie Maher (11.00am);

Anniversaries: Billy Walsh; Joe Maher (6.00pm); Molly Cunningham (8.00am); Kate & Louis Brennan (10.00am); Josephine Burke, Paddy Brennan (11.00am); Ken Lynam, Dolores Dowling, Christina O'Connor (11.30am); Philomena Drohan (7.00pm); John Dinneen; Raymond Ryan; Margaret Rowe & Rowe Family; Paddy Barry; Catherine Neary; Maura Delaney; Joe & Nell Delaney; Edmond O'Dwyer.

*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 Ann Daly
8.00am Mary Elliott
10.00am Betsy Rice
11.00am Martina Brennan & Tom Keating
11.30am Mary Hanafin & Mary Lynch
7.00pm Anne Marie Grace



Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection:		€1,210.00
Mass	Attendance	Baskets
6.00pm St. John's	169	252.00
8.00am St. John's	91	221.00
10.00am Johnswell	45	136.00
11.00am Dunmore	143	77.00
11.30am St. John's	216	501.00
7.00pm St. John's	122	228.00
	706	1,481.00

Polish Mass – Blessed Sacrament Chapel at St. Mary's Cathedral

Fr George OFM Cap, a priest from Poland who lives in the Capuchin Friary will celebrate Mass in Polish each Sunday in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel in St Mary's Cathedral at 10.00am.

World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer will be celebrated on Friday, 1st March at St. John's Church of Ireland, John Street, Kilkenny at 7.30pm Theme: "I beg you... bear with one another in love." The service is prepared by the Palestinian WDP Committee.

Trócaire Lenten Fast Boxes

Trócaire boxes are available in all our churches. Please take a box and use it to support the work of Trócaire this Lent. (www.trocaire.org)

Faith, Hope and Love: A City Lenten Retreat

Join with Rev. Dr. Billy Swan, the Administrator of Wexford Parish, as he leads the four parishes of our Pastoral Area and neighbours and all others who would like to join in a Lenten Retreat over three consecutive nights. On the fourth night Bishop Niall Coll will lead a Lenten Penitential Service. Please add the dates to your diary.

Monday, 18th March St Mary's Cathedral @ 7.30pm
Tuesday, 19th March St Patrick's Parish @ 7.30pm
Wednesday, 20th March St John's Parish @ 7.30pm
Thursday, 21st March St Canice's Parish @ 7.30pm – City Penitential Service

Security in Church Grounds

Following a number of recent minor incidents around St. John's Church we feel it pertinent to advise extra caution while in the church and on the grounds. Do not leave visible belongings in your vehicle, make sure doors are locked and keep a close eye on your property while in the church. Be vigilant and report any suspicious activity in the grounds or in the church.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 26th February

Monday: 8.00am John Dinneen
Wednesday 10.30am Raymond Ryan
Saturday: 6.00pm Paddy O'Brien
Jim Kealy
MM Richard (Dick) O'Shea
Sunday: 11.00am Neddy Comerford
11.30am Seán Connick
Dick & Pat Marnell
7.00pm Michael Brennan

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

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 on 056 772 1072 or one of the priests if you have a relative or neighbour who would like this service.

The Poor Clares in Galway

The Poor Clares in Galway are holding a Monastic Experience Day for young women who might be interested in their way of life. The event will take place from 10.00am to 5.00pm on Saturday, 2nd March. The day is designed to help those who may be exploring the possibility of a religious vocation to find out more about the Poor Clare way of life. Anyone wishing to book a place should email vocations@poorclares.ie

Ossory Adult Faith Development – Lenten Programme

Ministers of God's Word – In our parish and in our liturgies local men and women are living out the ministry of proclaiming God's Word for us. This is a special and sacred ministry. We are entrusted with the task of sharing God's Word in a way that is fitting so that people may come to know him. We are inviting new and existing Ministers of the Word to join with Fr. Chris Hayden, Spiritual Director at St. Patrick's National Seminary, Maynooth, for two evenings to explore this sacred ministry.

Venue: St Kieran's College; Wednesday 13th March and Wednesday 20th March at 8.00pm.

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist – We are about to train new Ministers of the Eucharist for service in St. John's Parish. Thanks to those who have already agreed to participate. We now make a final call for anyone who would like to serve in this ministry. Please contact the Parish Office or one of the priests during the earlier part of this week. Training will be provided over a series of three sessions on the ASPAL platform.

Online Resources – For Lent online resources are available on the Ossory website. Download them at www.ossory.ie for use in your parish or home.

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

Foundations in Youth Ministry – The most powerful ministry to young people is from young people themselves. This digital course on the ASPAL platform provides a chance for those who are in youth ministry, or would hope to be, to deepen your calling and to reflect on key principals that will help guide your important work.