

Jubilee Prayer 2025

As we stand on the threshold of a Jubilee Year, we look back with gratitude and look forward with Hope.

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your Son, Jesus Christ,
our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the
Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both
humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen.

Programme at Integritas

From 8th January contemplative prayer will continue here at 8.00pm each Wednesday.

On Saturday, 11th January at 10.00am, there will be a one hour discussion held here with Rev. Prof. Eamonn Conway on the significance of the Synod on Synodality which Pope Francis convened at the Vatican in 2023 and 2024. Fr. Conway was an advisor to the General Assembly of the Synod and a member of the team which drafted the interim and final documents of it. He also holds the inaugural Chair of Integral Human Development, School of Philosophy and Theology, Notre Dame University Australia. There is no need to reserve a place for this session. Mass will be celebrated by Rev. Dr. Eugene Duffy. Tea and coffee provided.

Dana's – Cross & Cloak Concert

Dana's – Cross & Cloak Concert which is in aid of the all-Ireland Sacred Heart Crusade takes place on Sunday, 2nd February at 7.30pm in the Manor Hotel, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois. Tickets €25 (Book on Eventbrite.ie). For more information contact Antoinette: 086 080 3047.

Pope's Intention for January 2025

For the Right to an Education: Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

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.

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

Johnswell - Sunday 10.00am

Dunmore - Sunday 11.00am

Second Sunday of Christmas - 5th January 2025

Feast of the Epiphany

Monday, 6th January is the Feast of the Epiphany. It is a holy day of obligation, and our parish Masses will be at the following times: Feast Day Masses at 8.00am, 10.30am and 7.00pm.



The Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated on 6th January. This feast commemorates the visit of the Wise Men to worship the baby Jesus. Tradition tells us that their names were Caspar, Melchior and Balthassar. The men were astrologers who were looking for the star that would lead them to the promised Messiah. This was prophesied in the Book of Micah. According to the Gospel narratives, the Wise Men brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh with them.

These gifts were very meaningful. Gold was a precious and expensive gift and showed how important Jesus was. Frankincense is a sweet perfume which was often burned in the temple to worship God. It was a sign that Jesus should be worshipped. Myrrh was used to keep things fresh, and it was used by the women to anoint Jesus' body when he died. By bringing it as a gift to Jesus, the wise men foretold his suffering and death.

The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ is one of the oldest Christian feasts, though, throughout the centuries, it has celebrated a variety of things. *Epiphany* comes from a Greek verb meaning "to reveal," and all of the various events celebrated by the Feast of the Epiphany are revelations of Christ to man.

80s - 90s Disco

An 80s-90s Disco will take place on Friday, 17th January in Langton's Ballroom from 9.00pm till late. All proceeds in aid of local Group 174 Irish Pilgrimage Trust who bring young people with additional needs to Lourdes each April.

Tickets are €15 available from Fr. Dan or Jane in the Sacristy, through Eventbrite or phone 087 904 0208 or 087 2070609. Come and join in the fun while supporting a good cause. Fancy dress is optional!

Side by Side Club

The Side-by-Side Club will be resuming after the Christmas break on this Thursday, 9th January. The Club meets every Thursday from 2.00pm to 5.00pm. For further information please contact Helen on 083 406 8148.

We wish all parishioners and friends a very happy and holy New Year



Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: **Mick Walsh**, Butts Green. Reposing at his home on Sunday from 4.00pm to 7.00pm with Prayers at 6.00pm. Requiem on Monday at 12 noon in St. Canice's Church.

Mary Carroll, Upper New Street. Reposing in Johnston's Funeral Home on Monday from 5.00pm to 7.00pm with Prayers at 6.30pm. Requiem on Tuesday at 11.00am in St. Patrick's Church. Funeral afterwards to the Parish Cemetery, Castlecomer.

Maurice Ryan, Meadow Way
Annette Kennedy, Castlecomer
Yvonne Atkins, Kilmacow
Robert McEneaney, Tralee

Brian Tierney, Kilbricken, Callan
Mary Brennan, St. Fiacre's Place
Billy Dowling, Ballyfoyle

Months Mind: Tom Sloyan (11.00am).

Anniversaries: Eileen Owens; Liam & Mary Kelly; Noel O'Brien (6.00pm); Jimmy Butler (10.00am); Ann Larkin; John O'Gorman (11.30am); Ned & Eddie Jnr Byrne; Bernie Kelly; Maura Murphy; Bernie Comerford; Agnes Murphy; John Kirwan; Michael O'Grady; Peg Dowling; Ann Kavanagh.

Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm Claire Coogan
 8.00am Mary Elliott
 10.00am Betsy Rice
 11.00am Liam Burke & Liam Maddock
 11.30am Kathleen Ferguson
 7.00pm Linda O'Leary



Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection:		€1,765.00	
Mass	Attendance	Baskets	
6.00pm St. John's	104	303.00	
8.00am St. John's	71	383.00	
10.00am Johnswell	55	182.00	
11.00am Dunmore	82	209.00	
11.30am St. John's	182	502.00	
7.00pm St. John's	91	330.00	
	585	€1,909.00	

Ossory Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2025

The annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2025 will take place from Monday, 19th until Saturday, 24th May. 5 nights from €949 per person. For further information and bookings, please contact: Joe Walsh Tours 01-2410800 or email info@joewalshstours.ie. This is an annual diocesan event and we encourage parishioners to consider travelling to Lourdes in May.

Parish Calendars

This year we have teamed up with the three other city parishes in our City Pastoral Area to collaborate in producing a City Parish Calendar. Calendars contain lots of information about Mass times and contact details for the churches in our City Pastoral Area and are available (free) at the back of the Church.

Are You Registered in St. John's Parish?

Please contact the Parish Office on 056 7721 072 or stjohns@ossory.ie if you are new to the area or feel that you and your family may not be registered with St. John's Parish. We are anxious to welcome newcomers, update our database and build up our parish community.

SeniorLine

SeniorLine – Don't be alone and lift the phone - Freephone 1800 80 45 91. Would you like someone to talk to over the holiday period? SeniorLine is Ireland's national telephone service for older people open everyday from 10.00am -10.00pm, Freephone 1800 80 45 91.

Dates for your Diary

Confirmation St. John's Parish - 11.00am on Thursday, 13th February 2025

First Holy Communion at St. John's Church - Saturday, 10th May 2025

First Holy Communion at Johnswell Church - Sunday, 11th May 2025

St. Kieran's Cemetery Mass - Friday, 27th June 2025

Dunmore and Johnswell Cemetery Mass - Friday, 4th July 2025

We look forward to these and other celebrations during 2025.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning - 6th January

Monday:	10.30am	Ned & Eddie Jnr. Byrne
Saturday:	6.00pm	Michael Kinchella John & Ann Barry Elizabeth Burke
Sunday:	8.00am	Michael Dowling
	11.00am	MM Mark Brennan Gemma Clancy Michael Mahony
	11.30am	Ann Gibbons Patrick Joseph O'Shea Bernard O'Gorman
	7.00pm	Alex Dewberry

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, 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

Points to Ponder

A new year has begun. It is a time of new beginning. The gospel reading is itself a beginning, the opening verses of the gospel of John: 'In the beginning was the Word'. This Word was God's self-communication, a self-communication that was so complete and perfect that it was itself God, 'the Word was God'.

This self-communication of God became human in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. We celebrate the birth of Jesus because we recognize in this child the fullest possible self-communication of God. Jesus is the fullest Word that God could have spoken to us. We speak, we communicate, not just by our words but by the way we relate, by the way we live and, even, by the way we die. God spoke to us through the life of Jesus, and through his death and resurrection. God has said everything he wants to say to us through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, his Word. God and his Son, together, have sent us the Holy Spirit to help us plumb the depths of all God has said to us through Jesus. As Jesus will later declare in this fourth gospel, the Holy Spirit 'will guide you into all the truth... he will take from what is mine and declare it to you'.

The Holy Spirit enables us to keep hearing the Word that is Jesus in all its richness, to hear it as a Word for us here and now. At the beginning of this new year, we invite the Spirit to open us up more fully to the truth of this Word that became flesh in the person of Jesus.

(Fr Martin Hogan - Curate in the parishes of Finglas, Finglas West and Rivermount)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Beginning on this week the public Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament returns to St. John's Church between 11.00am and 1.00pm on Wednesdays. We invite you to join us and spend some time in prayer before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

St John's Parish Scripture Group.

The Parish Scripture group hopes to resume on next Thursday 9th January. This friendly and informal group meets in the Presbytery at 7.30pm. All are welcome to come along. We read the Scripture texts for the following Sunday's Mass, and then we have a relaxed chat about the meaning, message and relevance of each. It is an enjoyable way to spend an evening and helps us to better appreciate the Mass.

Kilkenny MABS

Kilkenny MABS (Money Advice & Budgeting Service) offers Free, Independent and Confidential Money Management and Advice. The Service assists people dealing with their existing debts, mortgage arrears and helping them manage their own resources. Tel: 0818 072610.

*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.*