

Fasting for Lent by Pope Francis

Do you want to fast this Lent?

Fast from hurting words and say kind words,
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude,
Fast from anger and be filled with patience,
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope,
Fast from worries and trust in God,
Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity,
Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy,
Fast from pressures and be prayerful,
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others,
Fast from grudges and be reconciled
Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

Stations of the Cross

We invite you to join with us at St. John's Church at 7.30pm on the Fridays of Lent to contemplate the Stations of the Cross. This forty minute devotion commemorates Christ's last day on earth as a man. The 14 devotions, or stations, focus on specific events of his last day, beginning with his condemnation. At each station, the individual recalls and meditates on a specific event from Christ's last day.

Rosary for Lent

The Rosary is recited at 10.10am every morning in St. John's Church.
Members of the local Medjugorje Youth Group recite the Rosary before the Friday Stations of the Cross. Meet at 7.00pm. All are welcome.

Mother's Day Prayer

Loving God, You wrap your arms around your people and show your everlasting love in the same way a mother loves her children.

We are grateful for the love you have taught us through the mothers in our lives: our own mother who brought us into this world, the mothers of friends who have welcomed us into their home and families, our grandmothers who took time for us, and the mothers who have helped us even though we were not their children. Bless all the mothers of this world today. May they know the fullness of love they have shared and be blessed every day of their lives. Amen!

We wish all mothers a happy and enjoyable Mothers' Day.

St Canice's Parish Homes, Troys Court Church Gate Collection

Our Church Gate Collection takes place across the City outside all churches on 12th & 13th April and your generous donations will provide assistance for the day-to-day operations, maintenance, and repairs and supporting our residents, day centre and meals on wheels services at Troy's Court. If you're available to volunteer during the collection, your help would be greatly appreciated. To volunteer or for more information please contact Frances 086 792 7408.

Come back to me with all your heart!

Address: St John's Presbytery, Dublin Road, Kilkenny. R95 ND2W

Email: stjohns@ossory.ie **Website:** www.stjohnskillkenny.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

Monsignor 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

**St. John's Parish, St. Mary's Parish, St. Patrick's Parish, St. Canice's Parish
together form the Kilkenny City Pastoral Area**

Fourth Sunday of Lent - 30th March 2025

Laetare Sunday

This, the 4th Sunday of Lent, is known as 'Laetare Sunday' and marks the halfway point in our preparation for Easter. It takes its name from the first word of today's Entrance Antiphon, *Laetare* (rejoice); it is a Sunday of joy, our foretaste of Easter joy. Today the Church rejoices in joyful anticipation of the Easter mystery. The Scripture readings give us great reason to rejoice. In the first reading the Hebrews celebrate their first Passover in the Promised Land (Josh 5:9-12). Paul tells us that Christ has reconciled us to the Father (2 Cor 5:18-19), and the Prodigal Son is welcomed back by his father (Luke 15:11-32). To indicate our joy the celebrant has the option to wear rose-coloured vestments.

Johnswell Development Committee

A meeting of the Johnswell Development Committee will take place this Monday 31st March at 8.30pm in Johnswell Hall.

Repairs to St. John's Church

Towards the end of last year some cracks and water ingress were noticed in parts of St. John's Church. These have been visually inspected by representatives of the Diocesan Buildings and Properties Committee and an architect. At their suggestion we have now engaged a company to provide a more detailed inspection and a professional report. This work is due to be carried out during the first week of April. The inspection should not interfere with the use of the church but during this time you may notice a large cherry picker and other machinery and workmen in the vicinity of the church. While the cherry picker is on site the builders will take the opportunity to clean the gutters, secure the windows and the slates. Please be careful while using the grounds of the church.

The Eucharist - An Online Course

The Eucharist is at the heart of Catholic Life. This online course will explore the meaning of the Eucharist, and explore themes of real presence, the Eucharist as sacrifice, and the connection between Eucharist and justice.

This course provides guided discussion around articles by a variety of authors, excerpts from key church documents, and poems. Attention is given to parents handing on the faith, praying the liturgy of the Eucharist, and a brief look at the translation of the Roman Missal in use today. The course, given by Boston College begins on April 16th. Registration and more information on the Church Notice Board and from <https://bostoncollege-stm.catalog.instructure.com/courses/eucharist-at-the-heart-of-catholic-life-spring2025>.

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Mark Whelan, Johnswell Road. Reposing at Johnston's Funeral Home on Tuesday from 5.00pm to 8.00pm with prayers at 6.30pm. Requiem Mass on Wednesday morning at 10.30am in St. John's Church, Kilkenny followed by private cremation on Thursday.

Teresa Dwyer, Paulstown, late of St Francis Terrace Marie Coyne, Freshford Road
Seamus Freyne, Glenmore Katherine Norris

Months Mind: Maura Lanigan (6.00pm) Thomas Harty (Mon. 10.30am)
Cyril Jacob

Anniversaries: Seamus "Scun" Donnelly; Helen Cruise (6.00pm); Ken McDermott (11.00am); James Hennessy (11.30am); Christina Barcoe (7.00pm); Rita McKiernan; Liz & Joe Whyte; Noel "Lou" Walsh; Sammy Geoghegan; Mary Brophy; James & Margaret Burke; Lil Morris; Fintan Ryan; John, Michael & Ellen Parkinson; Noreen Whelan; Alice Byrne; Richard Fanning; Michael & Kevin Foley; Michael O'Hara.

Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day.

Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm Bridget Ahearn
8.00am Billy Phelan
10.00am Seán Colgan
11.00am Stephanie Butler & Roger Curran
11.30am Kathleen Ferguson & Susan Boffin
7.00pm Anne Marie Grace



Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection:	€1,100.00		
	<u>Mass</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Baskets</u>
6.00pm St. John's	197		504.00
8.00am St. John's	82		369.00
10.00am Johnswell	55		175.00
11.00am Dunmore	89		224.00
11.30am St. John's	194		529.00
7.00pm St. John's	<u>96</u>		<u>352.00</u>
	658		€2,153.00

First Friday of April

If you or anyone you know would like a First Friday visit from one of the priests, please contact the Parish Office on 056 772 1072. The priests hope to make the usual rounds on Friday.

St. Mary's Cathedral Restoration Fund

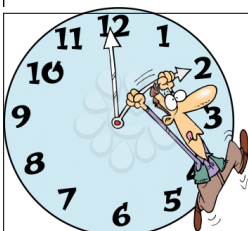
A Concert will take place in St. Mary's Cathedral in aid of the restoration fund on Friday, 11th April at 7.30pm featuring the following- Montgomery High School USA - Unity Singers - Liam Carrigan - Uileann Pipes - Roberto Hiero - Violin. Admission €10.00. Children Free.

Trócaire Family Fast Boxes

Trócaire Boxes are available in our churches for Lenten charitable donations from you and your family during Lent to help alleviate poverty in the Third World.

Cian Buckley Memorial Run/Walk

The Annual Cian Buckley 5K Memorial Run will take place in Kilkenny Castle Park on this Sunday, 30th March at 11.00am. Please wear purple. Registration on the morning from 10.30am at Switzer's Gate. Proceeds in aid of taking young people with special needs to Lourdes with Group 174 Irish Pilgrimage Trust. All support welcome.



Don't forget: this weekend the clocks spring forward one hour.
So an hour less in bed on Sunday morning!

St John's Community Games Church Gate Collection

St John's Community Games Church Gate Collection will take place this weekend, 29th & 30th March., outside all three Churches.
A sincere thank you for all your generous support

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning - 31st March

Monday:	8.00am	Liz Whyte
	10.30am	MM Thomas Harty
Wednesday:	8.00am	Rita McKiernan
	10.30am	Requiem Mass: Mark Whelan
		Special Intention
Saturday:	10.30am	Remembrance Mass: Kay Bannon
Saturday:	6.00pm	Fintan Ryan
		Michael Long
		Tony Feighery
Sunday:	8.00am	Bob & Patricia Quigley
	10.00am	Josie & Martin Manning
	11.30am	Martin Ryan
		Dick & Brigid O'Connell
		Special Intention

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

Confessions for Easter

To prepare for the great feast of Easter the Sacrament of Confession will be available after 10.30am Mass every day between now and Easter. The Sacrament of Reconciliation, is one of our seven life-giving sacraments: take every opportunity to draw on the grace it offers.

Dunmore Area Public Meeting

An information meeting will be held in Dunmore Community Hall on Monday, 31st March at 7.30pm to discuss the proposed GAA development in Dunmore. All are welcome.

Retreat and Ministry of Healing

Retreat and Ministry of Healing at St. Mary's Church Irishtown, Clonmel, Co Tipperary Eircode E91 FD28 on Saturday, 12th April and Sunday, 13th April. Led by international priest Fr. Roza Palić. Bring the sick and family and friends. For further information please contact Patricia 089 946 6193 or Imelda 089 955 8283.

The National Conference on Stroke

The National Conference on Stroke, organised by the South Tipperary Stroke Communication Group, will take place on Monday, 28th April at the Cashel Palace Hotel, Cashel, Co. Tipperary. The Conference will run on the day from 9.30am to 1.30pm, and will provide information on a range of topics. These include aphasia (difficulties with language post stroke), brain injury, rehabilitation, therapy and recovery, support for family and carers, risks and prevention, and medical advances in the treatment of stroke. All are welcome to attend but must register on Eventbrite. Please search online for National Stroke Conference 2025 - Cashel, Co. Tipperary or the following link; <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/national-stroke-conference-2025-cashel-co-tipperary-tickets-1266983464649>.

Family Carers Ireland

Are you caring for a loved one at home with additional needs? A spouse, partner, child, close relative or neighbour? Then you are a family carer! Become a member of Family Carers Ireland, the national charity supporting Ireland's 500,000+ family carers nationwide. Contact 057 93 70221 and hear how we can support you or for more info visit www.familycarers.ie.

Anam Cara Camino De Santiago to October 5th to 12th 2025

This journey is more than just a walk—it is a time for reflection, connection, and healing, surrounded by people who truly understand. With only 10 spots available, we wanted to give you the first opportunity to join us. If this experience calls to you, please reach out and email fundraising@anamcara.ie to secure your place by 31st March.