

Ms Geraldine Patterson Retirement

At the end of August Ms Geraldine Patterson will conclude her time as Principal of Johnswell NS. To mark her retirement after 32 years teaching in Johnswell (8 years as Principal) a Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated in St John the Baptist Church, Johnswell on Friday, 5th September at 7.30pm followed by light refreshments. All are welcome to attend and show their appreciation to Ms Patterson's dedicated service to education in our parish.

Kilkenny Adult Learning Service

Open Day from 12.00 noon to 3.00pm on Thursday, 21st August at 43 Upper Patrick Street, R95 PXN2. Unlock your potential with our ESOL, literacy, numeracy and digital literacy courses, designed to provide you with skills and knowledge. Classes are free, QQI Certification and Support, register on the day. Expert led tuition in small groups. Contact us on 056 776 3149; kilkennyadultlearning@kkadulthood.ie.

The Pope's Prayer Intentions

Pope Leo's prayer intention for August - In his message, Pope Leo asks us to pray that societies might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation and that we Christians be builders of peace with the ability to see others through the eyes of the heart.

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

Monsignor Dan Carroll: 087 907 7769. Fr Raymond Dempsey: 089 497 1924.
Monsignor Michael Ryan (Retired)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

**Mary Brennan; Jo Browne; Alan Burke; Fr Dan Carroll; Claire Coogan;
Fr Raymond Dempsey; Luke Leydon; Paddy Manning; Iris O'Flynn; Karen 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

Leaving Cert Results

We remember in our prayers those who will receive their Leaving Cert '25 results on next Friday. We wish you well as you consider your future. God bless you.

Prayer for Those Awaiting Exam Results

God our Father,
may your presence be felt as young
people receive exam results at this time.
May they know that their worth and value
is based on your great love for them.
Help them to trust in your goodness,
fix their eyes firmly on you
and guide their steps
along the path before them.
Thank you for the doors open to them
give them wisdom digging and hope
in the challenges and opportunities
that lie in the future.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

I will love the light for it shows me the way,
Yet I will endure the darkness for it
Shows me the stars.

Those we love can never be more than a
thought apart.

For as long as there is a memory, they'll live
on in our heart.

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**

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 17th August 2025

Saying Farewell to Fr Raymond!

After the 11.30am Mass next Sunday the 24th August there will be Refreshments served in the Hall, and it will give the Parishioners an opportunity to meet and wish Fr Raymond well on his new appointment. All are very welcome to join us in the Day Centre after Mass.

Annual Parish Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine - 21st August

Both coaches travelling from St. John's Parish on the day are now fully booked. Thank you to all who intend to travel with our parish. We have established a short waiting to be used if spaces become available. The coaches will depart from outside the front gates of St. John's Church at **7.00am sharp on next Thursday, 21st August** and return at 10.00pm approximately. Parking will be available in the grounds of the church. Pilgrims will stop for an optional breakfast in Athlone and for optional dinner in Moate on the return journey. Tickets cost €25 each (food not included). We appeal to those who have reservations to confirm by paying immediately to allow us offer any available seats to those on the waiting list.

There are no strangers, only fellow pilgrims

Book Fair in Aid of Rise & Shine Trust

A sincere thank you to all who donated books, CDs, money and their time to last weekend's Book Fair. It was a great success. Your donations will go a long way to help provide a holiday/pilgrimage to Lourdes for young people with additional needs. As of yet we do not have a total for the amount raised as donations are still being handed in. Full account soon.

Society of St Vincent De Paul Collection

The Monthly Collection for the local conference of the Society will take place next weekend, 23rd and 24th August. A sincere thank you for all your generous support. Please remember the local conference can be contacted in writing through the Parish Office or on 086 895 1239.

Dunmore Mass Path - 24th August, 12.00 noon - 1.30pm

National Heritage Week in Dunmore. Join us for a bi-lingual ramble along Dunmore Mass Path exploring history, biodiversity agus an Ghaeilge. Join Heritage Specialist Pat Reid and Artist Róisín Sheehy on a ramble along Dunmore Mass Path. Along the way, Pat will talk about the heritage of Mass paths in Ireland while Róisín will read excerpts from *Cín Lae Amhlaoibh*, a diary written by Amhlaoibh Ó Súilleabháin in Kilkenny between the years 1827 and 1835 which gives insight into life in rural Ireland in the early 19th century. Meeting Point: Car Park of Church of the Most Holy Trinity, Dunmore. This is an outdoor event, so please dress for the weather.

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Maura Dowling, Dunningstown Road.

Nina Kryvoshei, late of Ukraine.

Liam Óg Maddock, Dunmore (11.00am)

Anniversaries: Jim, Betty & Seamus Canty; Mary McCarthy; Tony & Barbara Teehan (6.00pm); Derek Butler (10.00am); Ollie Doran; Mary O'Dwyer; Lukas Funtal (11.30am); Séan Maher; Eily & John P. Francis; Jim Carroll; Mico Gibbons; Dom Tynan; John & Mary Brennan; Johnny Sody & Sody Family; Philip & Mary O'Keeffe; Vincensia Mabuzi (nee Namaalwa); Philip & Mary O'Keeffe.

*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 Claire Coogan
8.00am Jo Browne
10.00am Séan Colgan
11.00am Esther Comerford & Tom Comerford
11.30am Rosemary McPhilips
7.00pm Joan Scott



Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection:		€1,260.00
<u>Mass</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Baskets</u>
6.00pm St. John's	134	228.00
8.00am St. John's	81	194.00
10.00am Johnswell	62	112.00
11.00am Dunmore	74	159.00
11.30am St. John's	201	324.00
7.00pm St. John's	92	194.00
	644	€1,214.00

Well Done Boys!

Congratulations to O'Loughlin Gaels Senior Hurlers on their fine win over local rivals Dicksboro in the St. Canice's Credit Union Senior Hurling League on Saturday afternoon. The best senior team in the City!

The Train Of Life

Some folks ride the train of life looking out the rear, watching miles of life roll by and marking every year.

They sit in sad remembrance of wasted days gone by, and curse their life for what it was and hang their head and cry.

But I don't concern myself with that, I took a different vent, I look forward to what life holds and not what has been spent.

So strap me to the engine, as securely as I can be, I want to be out on the front, to see what I can see.

I want to feel the winds of change, blowing in my face, I want to see what life unfolds, as I move from place to place.

I want to see what's coming up, not looking at the past, life's too short for yesterdays, it moves along too fast.

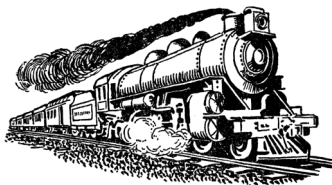
So if the ride gets bumpy, while you are looking back, go up front, and you may find, your life has jumped the track.

It's all right to remember, that's part of history, but up front's where it's happening, there's so much mystery.

The enjoyment of living is not where we have been,
it's looking ever forward to another year and ten.

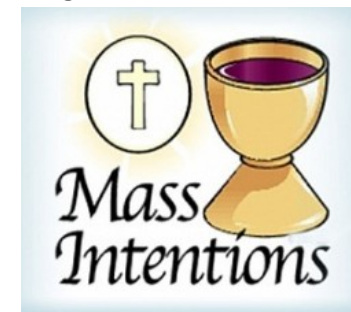
It's searching all the byways, never should you refrain,
for if you want to live your life, you gotta drive the train!

(Ashish Gutgutia)



Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 18th August

Monday: 10.30am Séan Maher
Wednesday: 8.00am Eily & John P. Francis
10.30am Special Intention
Saturday: 6.00pm Jacqueline Kiely
Sunday: 10.00am Tom Tobin
11.00am MM Mary Pierce
11.30am MM Michael Comerford



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. Amen.**

Points to Ponder

The Gospel does, at times, cause trouble. It can set a soul on fire with love for God and fellow man, and that soul then understands through wise spiritual counselling, the mission it has been given by the Lord to continue His work here on earth.

The saints all experienced this fire, this blaze of mystical love and desire for God that not only consumed them, but – by their witness – those around them, too.

Jesus tells us in St Luke's Gospel that He wants to inspire a mystical fire – a blaze of faith, love, and action, and yet, He knows this will cause division; Jesus is exclaiming that His peace is not the peace of the world.

The peace and love that Jesus offers to us is often at odds with the frauds, shams, and counterfeits of this world: the politics, economics, and religious expressions that do not lift people up in love, unity of purpose, and individual liberty, but tear them apart, in anger, stress, and confusion.

Today's Gospel challenges us to know that like Jesus, Jeremiah, and the saints we must expect misunderstanding, ill treatment, and possibly even death when we glorify God by living a Gospel centred life.

Our faith provides us with the grace and love of God. Yet, the Cross refines our perspective to see that God's love is a purifying fire of salvation and covenant that demands that His people not compromise with the world or declare a bogus truce with evil. So, when you stand before society proclaiming your faith – do not be afraid.

(Deacon Paul O Iacono, fraangelicoinstitute.com)

South Kilkenny Historical Society Heritage Week 2025

Mystery Tour of Thomastown with Tour Guide Joe Doyle on Sunday, 17th August. Starting point and time: Sweetman's Castle/Mullin's Castle (left after crossing bridge into Thomastown), at 2.00pm. It is suggested that those attending park in the Car Park opposite The Salmon Pool. Free - all welcome.

National Heritage Week - Free Events at Mayfair Library

19th August at 6.00pm - Tholsel Archive & Corporation Records.

23rd August at 11.00am - Lady Louisa Lennox, Woodstock Estate.

26th August at 6.00pm - James Stephens, 1825-1901 Life and Legacy.

Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals wish to thank the people of County Kilkenny for their recent kindness. €1,736 was received and this will pay for more than 15,000 meals for school children. Thank you!

Step by Step to feed the next child. www.marysmeals.ie for more information.