

Children's Rosary

A Prayer Group Movement for Children meets every Thursday evening at 6.00pm in St Fiacre's Church, Loughboy. St Louis De Montfort on the Rosary for little children: "This Beautiful Rosebud is for you, it is one of the beads of your Rosary, and it may seem to you to be such a tiny thing. But if you only knew how Precious this bead is. This wonderful bud will open out into a gorgeous rose if you say your Hail Mary really well... This Rosary will be your little wreath of roses, your Crown for Jesus and Mary."

Family Carers Ireland and KCETB.

A 12 week course "Caring with Confidence: Introduction to HealthCare QQI Level 4" provides a safe learning environment for family carers to re-engage with education and achieve a recognised QQI accreditation. It is a gentle course that will support family carers in dipping their toes back into education without stress, as being a carer is stressful enough. It will also teach new caregivers the practical skills needed in caregiving, Venue: BTEI, Unit 7, Danville Business Park, Kilkenny R95 K728

Dates: 23rd September. Time: 10.00am - 2.00pm. Contact: Deirdre - call 086 774 9838 email training@familycarers.ie

'Aislinn's Step Forward for Thrombosis'

The family of Aislinn Nelson Comerford would like to offer their heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined them last Saturday for 'Aislinn's Step Forward for Thrombosis' memorial awareness walk at Dunmore Countryside Park. A special thank you also goes to all who made contributions, whether online or on the day itself. The turnout was truly wonderful, it meant so much to our family and demonstrates that Aislinn is still very much in people's thoughts. We are immensely grateful that together we have raised approximately €12,000 for the Irish Heart Foundation, this will go towards increasing awareness of thrombosis in the hope that it may help prevent another family from experiencing the heartbreak we endured last year. We would also like to acknowledge those who could not be there on the day but kindly sent their apologies and still made contributions or offered words of encouragement. Your support has been greatly appreciated. It is our hope that this time next year we can once again gather for another walk in Aislinn's memory and perhaps make it an annual tradition.

The Comerford and Nelson Families

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: 051 350 725

Monsignor Dan Carroll: 087 907 7769. Fr Tom O'Toole: 087 224 0787.

Monsignor Michael Ryan (Retired)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

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

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross - 14th September 2025

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

'The cross is the school of love.' - St Maximilian Kolbe teaches that suffering, when united with Christ, transforms us, deepening our capacity for love and self-giving.

'Do not seek a cross—the right one will find you. But when it comes, take it up bravely, without counting the cost.' - St Padre Pio encourages trust in God's providence, accepting the trials He permits for our sanctification.

'The weight of the cross may press heavily on your shoulders, but it is the very thing that will keep you close to the heart of Christ.' - An anonymous reflection highlighting that struggles, rather than driving us away from God, draw us nearer to Him.

'The cross is the ladder to heaven.' - St Rose of Viterbo's words reveal that trials, rather than obstacles, are stepping stones to holiness. When we embrace our crosses instead of resenting them, we participate in Christ's redemptive work and ascend toward eternal joy.

Each of these quotes emphasizes that carrying our cross is not meaningless suffering but a path to spiritual growth, love, and union with Christ. Whether through Scripture or the wisdom of saints, we learn that our trials, borne with faith, become means of grace and transformation.

(Deepseek.com)

Relic of St Carlo Acutis

The relic of St Carlo Acutis which has been in the Parish Church in Castlecomer over the past few weeks will now be transferred to the Oratory in Castlecomer Community School; it will be joyfully welcomed back to the Parish Church during school holidays.

It was interesting to note that Pope Leo referred to Family Parish and School as the place where St Carlo's faith was nourished and fostered. "*Carlo, for his part, encountered Jesus in his family... and then at school, and above all in the sacraments celebrated in the parish community. He grew up naturally integrating prayer, sport, study and charity into his days as a child and young man*".

He quoted St Carlo: "*In front of the sun, you get a tan. In front of the Eucharist, you become a saint!*" And again: "*Sadness is looking at yourself; happiness is looking at God. Conversion is nothing more than shifting your gaze from below to above; a simple movement of the eyes is enough.*"

Referring also to Pier Giorgio Frassati, who was declared a saint with Carlo, Pope Leo XIV said that both young saints are an invitation to all of us, especially young people, not to squander our lives, but to direct them upwards and make them masterpieces.

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Max Larkin, Parkside, Johnswell Road. Funeral Mass on Sunday morning at 11.30am in St. John's Church. Funeral afterwards to St. Kieran's Cemetery.

Maria Sanchez, New York

Months Mind: David Kelly (6.00pm)

Anniversaries: Mary Marnell; Eoin Donovan; Aine & Tom Dooley (6.00pm); Dan & Mary O'Hanlon; Michael Roche (11.00am); Kevin Cremin; Billy Cassidy; John Foley; Michael & Bridget Maher; Tom Cassin; Anthony Murphy; Bridget Cahill.

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 Mary Elliott
10.00am Teresa Dowling
11.00am Christy Murray & Maise Powell
11.30am Frank & Emily Bradley
7.00pm Linda O'Leary



Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection: €1,335.00

	Mass	Attendance	Baskets
6.00pm St. John's	102	175.00	
8.00am St. John's	79	254.00	
10.00am Johnswell	40	91.00	
11.00am Dunmore	--	96.00	
11.30am St. John's	267	560.00	
7.00pm St. John's	129	217.00	
	615	€1,440.00	

Society of St Vincent De Paul Collection

The Monthly Collection for the local conference of the Society will take place next weekend, 20th and 21st September. A sincere thank you for all your generous donations to our August collection which amounted to €1,753. We can be contacted on 051 350 725 if anyone is in need.

Kilkenny Bereavement Support Event

Kilkenny Bereavement Support is hosting a public talk on Living Well with Loss on Thursday, 25th September at 7.30pm, Newpark Hotel, €10 admission. Speakers Christy Kenneally (Novelist, broadcaster, poet and author of 'Life after Loss' and Dr. Linda Finnegan clinical psychologist and psychotherapist. Further details or to seek bereavement support please contact 086 067 0566.

Kilkenny Stroke Support Group

Kilkenny Stroke Support Group resumes group meetings on 26th September. Social and informative, for further information text/phone Lynda 087 781 4697.

Freshford Bridge Notice

Freshford Bridge Club is resuming from Monday, 15th September at Tulla Hall, Threecastles at 7.30pm. New Members are welcome. Bridge Classes will commence in mid-October if there is enough interest. Please contact Anne Maria 087 227 1136 if interested.

Loreto Secondary School, Kilkenny

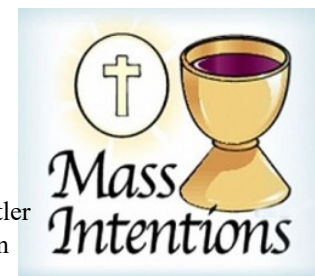
The closing date for applications for a First Year place in Autumn 2026 is 21st of October 2025. Applications can be made via the school website www.loreto.kk.ie. An Open Night for 6th Class Girls will take place on Thursday, 25th September 2025. Further information will be on www.loreto.kk.ie

St. Mary's Cathedral Draw 2025/2026

Our parish had one winner in the final draw in the present series. Maggie Sweeney won €200 on Ann Brennan's card. Congratulations and well done! A new cycle of draws will begin in September, and tickets are available from the Parish Office or any of the priests. Draw takes place on the last Wednesday of each month. Tickets cost €10 per month. Over the past ten years the draw has raised over €800,000, a figure which testifies to the generosity and commitment of so many people around the Diocese. Your renewed support and generosity is greatly appreciated.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 15th September

Monday: 10.30am Billy Cassidy
Thursday: 10.30am John Foley; Tom Cassin
Michael & Bridget Maher
Saturday: 6.00pm Kathleen Maher
Michael Denieffe
Laurence & Ann Morrissey
Sunday: 10.00am Margaret & James Butler
Kathleen, Mary Theresa & Jimmy Butler
11.00am Michael, Sharon, Jim & Mary Brennan
11.30am Paddy Larkin
Christina Grace
Sheila Bergin
7.00pm Clare, Richard & Catherine Shortall



May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Exaltation of the Cross

This Sunday is the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. This feast is celebrated every year on 14th September and celebrates the Triumph of the Cross. On Good Friday, we dwell on the sufferings of Christ on the cross. Today we reflect on the blessings that came from that fatal day.

Sisters of Mary Morning Star Craft Sale

The Sisters of Mary Morning Star will hold a craft sale next weekend, 20th & 21st September at St. John's Church after the weekend Masses. A perfect opportunity to browse the craft work the sisters hand make in the convent everything from candles, soaps, jams and rosaries.

Notice Concerning Foulkstown Cemetery

As you may be aware Foulkstown Cemetery owned and administered by St Patrick's Parish is almost at full capacity. Due to the limited amount of space remaining the future of the Cemetery is being considered and from 1st October 2025 requests to purchase a right of burial will be accepted only from the following categories:

- (1) Parishioners of St. Patrick's Parish
- (2) Those who have pre-purchased rights of burial in the Cemetery.

Families with existing graves are encouraged to use these graves for future burials if capacity allows. It is also possible for current owners of a right of burial to transfer ownership of the right associated with particular graves so that the next generation might have access to them. Any enquiries regarding Foulkstown Cemetery should be directed in writing to Fr. Kieran O'Shea, St. Patrick's Pastoral Centre, Loughboy, Kilkenny or by email to kieranoshea@ossory.ie

Retreat and Ministry of Healing

Retreat and Ministry of Healing St. Mary's Parish, Irishtown, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary E91FD28. Saturday, 20th September, 10.00am - 1.00pm afternoon 3.00pm - 5.30pm. Sunday, 21st 3.00pm - 7.30pm. Led by Fr. Rozo Palić also Croatian Music Ministry. Contact: Patricia 089 946 6193.

Art and Architecture - A Pilgrimage Exploring God's Gifts

Next year the Adult Faith Development Group are holding a pilgrimage to Northern Italy (Padua, Venice & Bologna) March (20th - 26th). This pilgrimage will explore faith by means of reflecting upon some of the many wonderful pieces of art scattered throughout these cities. Italy is blessed with a remarkable array of religious art - frescos, paintings, sculptures, mosaics and stuccos. This pilgrimage will explore the religious and catechetical meaning of some of these masterpieces. Details in parishes on posters or by email afd@ossory.ie or call 057 93 55050.