

Coffee Morning

Coffee morning, cake sale and raffle in St. John's Parish Centre on Saturday, 4th October after 10.30am Mass and 6.00pm Mass in aid of Medjugorje Youth Group.

All freshly baked. All welcome. Bring a friend.

Freshford Bridge Club

Freshford Bridge Club has resumed 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

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."

Why not introduce your children to the Rosary during October?

First-Class Relic of Saint Carlo Acutis

St. Canice's Catholic Church is honoured to announce that a first-class relic of Saint Carlo Acutis will be present at the 10.00am Mass on this Sunday, 28th September.

All are warmly invited to attend this special Mass at St. Canice's Church and venerate the relic of Saint Carlo Acutis.

Johnswell National School

Johnswell National School is inviting applications for a school secretary for 9 hours per week. Duties will include school admin, accounting and welcoming visitors to the school. Cover Letter and CV with referees to be sent by post to the school or by email to principal@johnswellns.ie by Monday, 6th October 2025.

Gaza Vigil – Lighting the Darkness

Candle-light vigil for Gaza will take place in Ballyvaloo Retreat Centre, Blackwater, Co. Wexford on the evening of Saturday, 4th October at 7.00pm. The vigil will commence inside the building and progress outdoors depending on the weather. The event is free on the night. All donations received will go towards Trocaire's relief work with Medical Aid for Gaza. If you wish to donate, please follow the details GazaVigil.Eventbrite.ie

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**

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 28th September 2025

The Rosary: A Prayer of Peace and Presence

October, the Month of the Most Holy Rosary, invites us to rediscover one of the Church's most beloved devotions. The Rosary is more than a string of beads – it is a spiritual lifeline, a rhythm of prayer that draws us into the life of Christ through the eyes of His Blessed Mother. Each decade leads us through the mysteries of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, allowing us to meditate on the Gospel with Mary as our guide. In its simplicity, the Rosary offers profound depth: it is a prayer of contemplation, intercession, and hope. Whether prayed alone or in community, it brings peace to hearts and homes and has been called a "spiritual weapon" against the turmoil of the world. This October, let us renew our devotion to the Rosary. Consider setting aside time each day to pray the Rosary – perhaps for peace in our families, healing in our parish, or unity in the Church. As Pope St. John Paul II reminded us, "To recite the Rosary is nothing other than to contemplate with Mary the face of Christ

Studying for the Priesthood

Thirteen new seminarians have begun their 2025-2026 academic programme and priestly formation for Irish dioceses. Welcoming the new student intake, Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan said, "It is really heartening that thirteen men have started as seminarians in various locations to study on propaedeutic courses. This brings the number of men training for the priesthood for Irish dioceses to 77 in total. We thank God for each of them. In recent years, there has been a small but steady number of men beginning their studies for priesthood for Irish dioceses. While this is encouraging, in no way should this trend make us complacent. We need more priests, and we must continue to do what we can to promote priestly vocations in families and in our parishes. Firstly, we must believe in the utter need for priests to continue the sanctifying work of Jesus Christ. Without the priest there is no Eucharist, and without the Eucharist there is no Church. We need to pray, but not only to offer a few quick prayers of the faithful, rather to beg the Lord of the Harvest to send us more priests."

Information Evening on Drug Intimidation, Violence and Suicide Prevention

Teach Tom, in partnership with the South East Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force and the DRIVE initiative, is hosting a free community event on Drug Intimidation, Violence and Suicide Prevention on Thursday, 2nd October at 5.30pm in The Set, Langton House Hotel, Kilkenny. This important evening will provide information on the supports available to families and communities affected by drug intimidation, where to turn for confidential advice and how local services can help protect loved ones. All are welcome. To confirm attendance, please email events.teactom@gmail.com

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Rosie Rowe, Fr. Albert Square. Reposing at Johnston's Funeral Home on Monday with Funeral Prayers at 6.30pm followed by removal to St. Mary's Cathedral. Requiem Mass at 11.00am on Tuesday followed by interment at Foulkstown Cemetery.

Ger McEvoy, Tipperary, late of Dunmore
Patrick Wall, Bennettsbridge

Mary O'Neill, DeLoughrey Place
John Donovan, Callan

Months Mind: Eleanor Connelly (6.00pm); David Dillon (10.00am); Julia Walsh (11.30)

Anniversaries: Seamus Brennan; Eamon Morrissey; Statia, Stephen and Bosco Buckley; (6.00pm); Elizabeth Brett; Marie Holohan (11.30am); Jean Murphy; Alan Bergin (7.00pm); Michael and Thomas O'Connor; Bridget O'Keefe; Frank Coyne; Elizabeth Connick; Seamus Connick; Maureen Delaney; Seamus Dooley; Michael "Mick" Delaney and Kathleen Doran; Michael (Mick) Crotty; Christine Mak nee Brophy.

*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 Billy Phelan
10.00am Elaine Bennett
11.00am Stephanie Butler & Roger Curran
11.30am Rosemary McPhilips
7.00pm Anne Marie Grace



Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

| Envelope Collection: | | €1,087.00 |
|----------------------|------------|-----------|
| Mass | Attendance | Baskets |
| 6.00pm St. John's | 118 | 226.00 |
| 8.00am St. John's | 84 | 240.00 |
| 10.00am Johnswell | 62 | 101.00 |
| 11.00am Dunmore | 76 | 99.00 |
| 11.30am St. John's | 157 | 375.00 |
| 7.00pm St. John's | 97 | 208.00 |
| | 594 | €1,249.00 |

First Friday of October

Next Friday is the First Friday of October. 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.

Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples

The Church celebrates the Month of the Missions during October – Sunday, 19th of October is World Mission Sunday. This month is a special time dedicated to deepening our understanding of mission work, celebrating the efforts of missionaries both near and far, and reflecting on how each of us can play a part in sharing the message of hope and love with people who are finding out about the Good News of Jesus. Throughout the month, we will have opportunities for prayer and support for missionaries around the world. We invite everyone to join in learning, praying, and exploring how we can make a difference together. Missio Ireland is the Holy Father's official charity for overseas mission and part of a global network serving the Church in over 120 countries. More information and resources on missio.ie

Kilkenny Speakers Toastmasters

Our next twice monthly club meetings are at 8.00pm on the 7th and 21st October at the Club House Hotel on Patrick Street. Develop your public speaking, presentation and leadership skills in a safe, supportive place. First three meetings free. No obligation. All welcome. See Facebook.

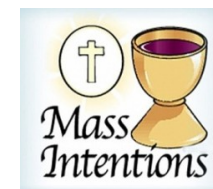
The Value of Regular Confession

"It is very helpful to confess with a certain regularity. It is true: our sins are always the same, but we clean our homes, our rooms, at least once a week, even if the dirt is always the same, in order to live in cleanliness, in order to start again. Otherwise, the dirt might not be seen, but it builds up. Something similar can be said about the soul."

Pope Benedict XVI

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 29th September

Saturday: 6.00pm Philip Walsh & Margaret Dowling
Joe Cleere
Tom & Carmel Ryan
Sunday: 11.30am Liam O'Gorman
Catherine Theresa Kennedy (MM)
Myra O'Leary (MM)
7.00pm Anthony Mahony



**May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed
rest in peace. Amen.**

From Africa to Ossory

Early this week we will say a sad farewell to Fr. Joseph Lubula who has ministered in our parish for the past ten weeks. On Tuesday Fr. Joseph returns to Uganda to continue his work as Managing Director of *Radio Sapientia*, the Catholic Radio of Uganda which, among other things, advocates for peace, justice, political maturity, human rights and duties, with special consideration for children, youth, women and the family. We gained much from Fr. Joseph's presence among us this Summer and we hope he picked up a few lessons from us. The parish community sincerely thanks him for his time with us and wishes him well as he returns to his ministry with the Ugandan Bishops' Conference in his native country. *Slán go fóill.*

As we say goodbye to Fr. Joseph this week, we welcome to our diocese two priests from the Diocese of Damongo in Ghana. Frs. Felix Bonkaanaie and Paul Kasu are coming to minister on long term contracts with the Diocese of Ossory. Bishop Niall has asked us to welcome Fr. Felix to the St. John's Parish Team. Fr. Paul will work in St. Patrick's Parish. While we have learned much from Fr. Joseph temporary presence among us the reality with Fr. Felix will be new and very different. From the beginning Fr. Felix will take on a full role as a priest team member in our parish and in the City Pastoral Area. He will be involved in all aspects of parish life, and we can expect to find him officiating at Masses, baptisms, weddings, sick calls, anointings and funerals. Our two new colleagues will have much to learn about the Church in Ossory, and over the next two weeks they will get some formal assistance in orientating themselves before taking up full ministry in our diocese. We welcome Fr. Felix among us in St. John's Parish and look forward to his ministry in the Diocese of Ossory.

Taizé Youth Programme 2026

A youth trip to Taizé in France organised by Ossory Youth will take place from 28th June to 5th July 2026. A week in Taizé is an opportunity for reflection and contemplation and a little step back from daily life. It is a week of meeting people from different countries and cultures where new friendships are made. Tens of thousands of youth from around the world, including 25 from Kilkenny, will made the trip to Taizé next year. The programme, which runs from November 2025 to July 2026 is open to TY and 5th Year students. Closing date for applications is Friday, 24th October. For additional information, including cost and application forms, contact Patrick Bookle, Ossory Youth at 056 776 1200, 087 212 9006 or pbookle@ossoryyouth.com

Society of St Vincent De Paul

Thanks to all who supported last weekend's collection for the local conference. Your generous donations will be put to good use. We can be contacted on 051 350 725 if anyone is in need. Please note the new telephone number. The conference members ask those who need assistance to contact them on this number and to refrain from leaving letters at the Parish Office.

Sisters of Mary Morning Star Craft Sale

The Sisters of Mary Morning Star thank you for your kindness shown to them at their craft sale at St. John's Church last weekend.