

### The Kilkenny Choir

A Coral Christmas Concert presented by The Kilkenny Choir will take place on Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> December at 4.30pm in St John's Church. Conductor – Patrick Rafter, Deirdre Higgins soprano, Sharon Carty mezzo, Gemma Ni Bhrian mezzo, Rory Lynch tenor, Gyula Nagy baritone, Simon Harden organist. Tickets €20 on Eventbrite or at [www.thekilkennychoir.com](http://www.thekilkennychoir.com).

### Home Rule Club

The Special General Meeting of the Members of Home Rule Club will be held on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 7.30pm in the Redmond Room of the Club premises, 3 John's Quay. All members are invited to attend.

### Fiat Women's Discernment Group

A discernment group for young women 18 – 40 to explore the beauty of the call to consecrated life will hold their next meeting on Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> December from 10.00am to 4.00pm, in the Convent of Mercy Retreat Centre, Main Street Charleville, Co. Cork.

The day will consist of Adoration, Mass, Presentation and Discussion. There will be an opportunity to discuss the Consecrated Life and an opportunity for a retreat during the year. Facilitated by Sister Caitriona Kavanagh, O.P. with Guest Speakers. Cost: Donation only.

### Kilkenny Speakers/Toastmasters

Our next club meetings is at 8.00pm on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December at the Club House Hotel. Develop your public speaking, presentation and leadership skills in a safe, supportive place. For more information please visit our website at [kilkennyspeakers.toastmastersclubs.org](http://kilkennyspeakers.toastmastersclubs.org), email: [kilkennyspeakers@gmail.com](mailto:kilkennyspeakers@gmail.com), or telephone Mark on 087 856 9740.

### Prayers for Advent

Are you aware of the different prayer and reflection initiatives taking place in our parish? People are always welcome to drop in and join in any of the following: -

A number of people join to recite Morning Prayer of the Church (The Divine Office) at 7.40am on weekday mornings.

Likewise some people gather to recite the Rosary at 10.10am each weekday morning.

Others come together for the Rosary at 3.00pm on weekday afternoons.

We have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesdays from 11.00am until 1.00pm.

A small number of interested parishioners gather at the Presbytery at 7.30pm on Thursday evenings to reflect on the Scripture readings for the following Sundays.

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

**Email:** [stjohns@ossory.ie](mailto:stjohns@ossory.ie) **Website:** [www.stjohnskilkenny.com](http://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.

Fr. Paul Kasu 087 390 5060. Monsignor Michael Ryan (Retired)

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

**Mary Brennan; Jo Browne; Alan Burke; Fr Dan Carroll; Claire Coogan; Fr. Paul Kasu; 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](mailto:dlp@ossory.ie)

### OUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES ARE:

Brenda Whitely; Marian Eardly.

**Counselling Services - Towards Healing Confidential Helpline**  
1800 313 316 - [www.towardshealing.ie](http://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**

**First Sunday in Advent - 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

### First Confession and First Holy Communion

It's a great pleasure to welcome to 6.00pm Mass on next Saturday the children who will celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion for the first-time next year. This Mass will be celebrated in St. John's Church at 6.00pm on Saturday evening, 6<sup>th</sup> December. Parents and the young candidates are expected to attend.

### Enjoying the Readings of Advent

For this Advent Season, Tarsus Scripture School has prepared a short course exploring the readings for the season. Over three pre-recorded inputs, Jessie, Seán, and Kieran will introduce three biblical texts and explore how they help us prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ:

Jessie Rogers – *Waiting Hopefully with Isaiah in Advent*

Seán Goan – *Emmanuel: God with Us in Matthew*

Kieran O'Mahony – *Reading Romans: Living the Gift in Harmony*

In addition to these presentations, Tarsus will also be hosting a live Meditation and Q&A webinar via Zoom (9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> December respectively). Registration is open now. Visit [www.tarsusscriptureschool.ie](http://www.tarsusscriptureschool.ie) for more information and registration.

### The Ministry of Catechist in the Diocese of Ossory

Registration for the Ministry of Catechist in the Diocese of Ossory is now closed. Thankfully, more than forty people have come forward. All who expressed interest via the designated email service should by now have received details of a forthcoming information event. On behalf of the diocese, Bishop Coll would like to take this opportunity to thank all who are involved in this process and to ask God's blessing on the work.

### Online Advent Retreat.

The Priory Institute is delighted to offer a free of charge Advent Retreat featuring a series of online reflections. Given by Fr. John Harris OP with reference to the four Advent Sundays with readings. Visit our website [prioryinstitute.com](http://prioryinstitute.com) to register/find out more.

### Christmas Concert

Come join us for a wonderful Christmas Concert at St. John's Church on next Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> December from 3.00pm to 5.00pm. Artists include Mount Juliet Chamber Choir, Kilkenny Youth Choir, High Hopes, Phoenix Choir, Martina Burke and Maura Duggan Rafter. €10 entrance at the door. Raffle on the day. Proceeds to The Rise & Shine Trust (formerly The Irish Pilgrimage Trust) and Kilkenny Helping the Homeless.



### Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

**Recently Deceased:** Gloria O'Shaughnessy, Upper Patrick Street. Requiem Mass at 11.00am on Monday in St. Patrick's Church.

**Josephine Browne**, Lucan. Requiem Mass at St. Mary's Church, Lucan on Monday at 10.00am.

**Mary Dowling**, Knocknoo, Ballyfoyle

**Kim Egan**, Cashel

**Shervin Hirbod**, Pennyfeather Green

**Anniversaries:** Damien & Elizabeth Dowling; John & Kathleen Sheehan (6.00pm); Agnes Power; Helen Purcell; The Sullivan Family (11.00am); Kathleen & Tom Cody; Ollie Bergin (11.30am); Mark & Lil Lynch; Patrick Malone; May Cleary; Patricia Oregan; Jack Rowe; The Kavanagh Family; Thomas & John O'Neill; Ann Doran; Catherine Lacey; Ellen Delaney.

*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 Jo Browne  
10.00am Seán Colgan  
11.00am Stephanie Butler & Roger Curran  
11.30am Anne Maria Walsh & Kay Purcell  
7.00pm Joan Scott



#### Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection:		€1,455.00
Mass	Attendance	Baskets
6.00pm St. John's	117	184.00
8.00am St. John's	88	270.00
10.00am Johnswell	40	86.00
11.00am Dunmore	96	150.00
11.30am St. John's	367	629.00
7.00pm St. John's	91	305.00
	799	€1,624.00

#### First Friday of December

Next Friday is the First Friday of December. The sick and housebound will be visited at the usual times. Please inform the Parish Office on 056 772 1072 if you would like this service.

#### Dunmore Cake Sale

Join us in Dunmore Hall for our Annual Christmas Bake Sale on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> December. Please drop baked goods and raffle prizes into the Community Hall before Mass. Everyone is very welcome to come along for a cuppa and refreshments after the 11.00am Mass.



#### Prayer for Vocations

The Diocesan Vocations Team is hosting a Holy Hour for Vocations on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm in St Canice's Church Kilkenny, Mullinavat Parish Church and Castletown Parish Church. Please join us for a time of prayer for vocations in Ossory.

#### Parish Contribution Envelopes

Distributors, please note that the Yearly Boxes of Contribution Envelopes for 2026 are now ready at the Parish Office. We depend on you, our loyal distributors, and those who contribute to help raise essential income for the parish and the priests.

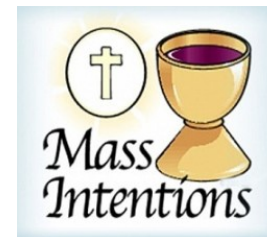
#### From Brokenness to Hope

Bishop Coll extends an invitation to all to come along to our Diocesan celebration for the Jubilee Year of Hope 2025. Theme: From Brokenness to Hope, "The time is coming you must wake up now", acknowledging the great work of both the Carer and the Health Care Professional.

Marian Curran, a mother of a young adult with special needs, a remarkable advocate for children with special needs and former lecturer in Religious Education, will share her journey "From Brokenness to Hope". Dr. John Cuddihy, retired G.P. will share his life as a medic – "Being There... Still There". Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> December from 10.00am to 2.00pm at St Patrick's Pastoral Centre, Loughboy. All welcome. For further information please contact the Diocesan Office at 056 776 2448 or email admin@ossory.ie. Concludes with Mass and light lunch.

### Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 1st December 2025

Monday:	10.30am	Mark & Lil Lynch
Tuesday:	8.00am	Patrick Malone
	10.30am	May Cleary & Patricia Oregan
Saturday:	6.00pm	Ann Stapleton & Stapleton Family
		Ann & Francie Murphy
Sunday:	10.00am	John Joe Bennett
		Deceased members of the Bennett Family
	11.00am	Tom & Bridie Sloyan
		Jerry O'Neill
	11.30am	Thomas Dowling
		Eileen Tynan
		Mary Shelly
		Dan Kennedy
	7.00pm	Marie & Seamus Parsons



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

### Baptismal Teams, Understanding the Sacrament of Baptism

In preparation for the setting up of a Baptismal Team in Kilkenny Ossory Adult Faith Development is offering a three week course during December. The course is specifically for those who will serve on Baptismal Teams but is open to all who may be interested in deepening their knowledge of the Sacrament of Baptism. Please turn up and register on the evening.

Rev. Dr Enda Murphy – *A Brief History of the Sacrament*

Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 7.30pm, St Kieran's College.

Rev. Dr Liam Bergin – *A Sacrament Filled with Rich Symbolism*

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm, St Kieran's College.

Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan – *How to Make These Celebrations Fruitful*

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm St Kieran's College.

All are welcome.

### Confirmation Retreat Evening

A short prayerful meditation for children preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> December, St Mary's Cathedral, 7.00pm. Ideal for those enrolling for Confirmation at the moment.

### Godly Play

The Story of Advent for Children Preparing for First Holy Communion. Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm in St Patrick's Parish Centre, Loughboy.

### Tweet for Each Day

Thoughts, reflections, prayer and ideas - why not take a few moments each day during Advent to pause in prayer. Follow us on Twitter @ossorydiocese.

### Online Parish Resources

Simple resources to download for use in parishes. These items are intended as resources for parishes/schools and parish groups and can be used in a variety of ways. Available now at [www.ossory.ie](http://www.ossory.ie).

"We must prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord,  
as he desires to come and make his dwelling within us."

(St Bernard of Clairvaux)