

### 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).

### 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. 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.

Rev. Dr Liam Bergin – *A Sacrament Filled with Rich Symbolism*. Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> Dec. 7.30pm, St Kieran's College.

Rev. Dr Dermot Ryan – *How to Make These Celebrations Fruitful*. Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> Dec. 7.30pm St Kieran's College.

### 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.

**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**

### An Advent Prayer

Lord Jesus, Send your Holy Spirit

Upon all of us this Christmas.

We who have so much to do

seek quiet places to hear your voice each day.

We who are anxious over many things

look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways

long to share our blessings with others.

We who are blessed with peace

Pray for peace throughout the world.

We whose hearts are heavy

Seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people,

Walking in darkness,

Yet seeking the light.

To you we say, 'Come Lord Jesus!'

### 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.

### 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. Go to [prioryinstitute.com](http://prioryinstitute.com) to register

# 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**

### Second Sunday in Advent - 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025

### The Feast of the Immaculate Conception

On Monday we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady's Immaculate Conception. It is a holy day of obligation. Masses in St. John's Church will be at 8.00am, 10.30am and 7.00pm on Monday evening. Some parishioners may like to avail of our 7.00pm Mass on Sunday evening.

### Advent Penitential Service

City Advent Penitential Service will take place on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December, in St John's Church at 7.30pm. This will be the chief opportunity for the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance in the city as we prepare for Christmas. All are welcome.

### St. Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Collection

The Society of St Vincent de Paul Christmas Collection will take place next weekend, 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> December. Your donation will help families in our parish with basics such as food and fuel. Please give what you can; you could save someone from impossible choices this winter. We can be contacted on 051 350 725 if anyone is in need.

### Webcam – Offline

Our webcam is not working at the moment. The camera needs to be replaced and we are awaiting our service providers to complete the necessary works. We hope to have the service resumed during next week. We apologise for any inconvenience.

### Rosary Procession

A Rosary procession will take place in Kilkenny City on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm, beginning at the Parade and processing to the Black Abbey for Benediction. All are welcome.

### The Pope's Monthly Intention for December

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

### Johnswell Organ Fundraiser Recital

On Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm a pipe organ recital is taking place in Johnswell Church to raise funds for their recent organ upgrade. The organist on the night will be Simon Harden. Simon lectures in organ performance in DIT and is organist and Director of Music at Christ Church Cathedral, Waterford. Our soloist will be local soprano, Aoife McKiernan.

Tickets at €20 available from Brennan's Bar, Johnswell or from James - 087 296 2039. All tickets will be automatically entered into a raffle on the night!



### Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

**Recently Deceased:** Johnny Lawlor, Beechlawns, Johnswell Road. Reposing in Johnston's Funeral Home on Monday evening with Vigil Prayers at 6.30pm. Requiem Mass at St. John's Church at 10.30am on Tuesday followed by burial at St. Kieran's Cemetery.

**Mary Reynolds**, St. Francis Terrace. Requiem Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral at 11.00am on Monday. **Nonie Johnston**, Cedarwood Park. Requiem Mass at Piltown Church at 11.00am on Monday.

**Anne McGee**, Ballymurphy

**Seamus Byrne**, Clifden and late of Larchfield

**Mary Bissett**, Loughboy

**Joan O'Riordan**, Mayfield, Cork

**Fr Rory O'Brien**, Tullamore

**Ann Carey**, Cedarwood Drive

**Months Mind:** Ann Little (10.30am Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup>)

**Anniversaries:** Francie & Ann Murphy; Ann Stapleton & Deceased members of the Stapleton Family (6.00pm); John Joe & Deceased members of the Bennett Family (10.00am); Tom & Bridie Sloyan; Jerry O'Neill (11.00am); Thomas Dowling; Eileen Tynan; Mary Shelly; Dan Kennedy (11.30am); Marie & Seamus Parsons (7.00pm); Joseph Roche; Jim Foley; Jack Byrne; Michael Reynolds; Monagle, Cleary & McCartney Families; Peggy, Sheila & Tom Bourke; John, Ann & Philip Fogarty; Patsy Roche; Jim Foley; Tommy Dowling.

### Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm Bridget Ahearne  
8.00am Billy Phelan  
10.00am Elaine Bennett  
11.00am Bernard O'Gorman & John McGourty  
11.30am Frank & Emily Bradley  
7.00pm Anne Marie Grace



### Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection:	€1,140.00		
	<u>Mass</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Baskets</u>
6.00pm St. John's	130		262.00
8.00am St. John's	77		256.00
10.00am Johnswell	??		113.00
11.00am Dunmore	96		118.00
11.30am St. John's	206		297.00
7.00pm St. John's	<u>100</u>		<u>204.00</u>
	609		€1,250.00

### Dunmore Cake Sale

Join us in Dunmore Hall for our Annual Christmas Bake Sale this Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> December after the 11.00am Mass. 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.

### 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.

### Emmanuel God with Us - Diocesan Carol Service

Join us for our City and Diocesan Carol Service in St Mary's Cathedral, Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> December at 7.30pm. An evening of prayer, reflection, music and song. All welcome.

### Medjugorje Evening of Prayer

Rosary – Mass – Adoration. Prayer for Healing. St Fiacre's Church, Loughboy. Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm. Please note the date change. All are welcome.

### Parish Contribution Envelopes

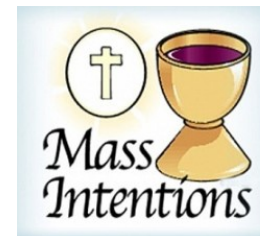
Distributors, please note that the Yearly Boxes of Contribution Envelopes for 2026 are now ready at the Parish Office. We depend on you, our loyal distributors, and those who contribute to help raise essential income for the parish and the priests.

### Mayfair Library

Writing Seminar with author Brendan Mac Evilly takes place on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December from 10.00am to 1.00pm. Learn how to get your writings from page to publication. All are welcome.

### Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 8th December 2025

Monday:	8.00am	Tommy Dowling
Tuesday:	10.30am	Johnny Lawlor, (Requiem Mass)
Friday:	10.30am	Monagle, Cleary & McCartney Families
Saturday:	10.30am	MM Ann Little
		Peggy, Sheila & Tom Bourke
		Petra & Tommy McGuinness
	6.00pm	Aaron Molloy
		MM John Butler
		John Holmes
		Thomas, Seanie & Toddy O'Connor
Sunday:	10.00am	Jim Foley
	11.00am	John & Mary Butler;
		Catherine & Matt Walsh
		Mark Brennan
	11.30am	Joe & Alice Bambrick
		Mary Malone
		Dick & Larry O'Shea



### Do This in Memory

This weekend, as part of our *Do This in Memory Programme*, it's a great pleasure to welcome the children who are preparing for First Holy Communion and their families to our 6.00pm Mass. We would ask you to keep the children and their families in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Eucharist for the first time.

### Catholic Primary Schools Have Your Say

The Department of Education is currently conducting a Primary School Survey that will determine the future provision of Primary Schools and crucially could lead to lasting changes in your school. You are being asked if you want your school to stay a Catholic school or if you want that to change. Don't leave it to others, have your say before 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025. See - <https://www.gov.ie/en/departments-of-education/campaigns/primary-school-survey/>

### Christmas Concert

Come join us for a wonderful Christmas Concert at St. John's Church on this Sunday afternoon, 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.

### Kilkenny Age Friendly - Creative Christmas

Come along to Kilkenny Age Friendly events filled with festive cheer, music, and creativity this December in Kilkenny City!

### Tea, Tunes and Tidings

Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2.00 – 4.00pm | St John's Parish Centre, Dublin Road

Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2.00 – 4.00pm | St Canice's Neighbourhood Hall, Butts Green

Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December, 10.30am – 12.30pm | St Patrick's Centre, Loughboy

### Flower Arranging

Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2.00 – 4.00pm | St Canice's Neighbourhood Hall, Butts Green

Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> December, 10.00 – 12.00pm & 2.00 – 4.00pm | St John's Parish Centre.

Free Events – Booking essential: [agefriendlykilkenny@kilkennycoco.ie](mailto:agefriendlykilkenny@kilkennycoco.ie) Phone: 056 779 4920.

### Songs for Christmas

Cantabile LK presents Songs for Christmas in aid of Gaza and Cois Nore featuring Cantabile LK Conductor Jacinta Cantwell, Loreto Secondary School 6<sup>th</sup> Year Choir, Soloists, Accompanists Martin O'Reilly and Mary Butler at the Capuchin Friary at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December. No admission fee, collection during the concert.