

Lenten Stations

The Lenten Stations are due around this time. Thank you to those who contribute to this collection every year to support our priests. Special envelopes can be found in the parish envelope contribution packs which were distributed earlier. For those who did not receive envelopes and would like to contribute please contact the Parish Office on 056 772 1072 or email stjohns@ossory.ie. Your generosity to the priests is much appreciated, thanks.

The Pope's Prayer Intention for March For Disarmament and Peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

Ossory Adult Faith Development "Guns and Policing - Enforcement or Fear"
Tobias Winright, Professor of Moral Theology at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth - a former police officer in America - leads us in reflecting on this matter. **Location:** St Kieran's College, Monday, 16th March at 7.00pm

Anam Cara

Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on Wednesday, 18th March at 7.30pm in the Horse and Jockey Hotel, Thurles. All welcome.

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

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, Mr Fintan Fanning, 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

Praying for Peace

Speaking in Rome this week Pope Leo invited his listeners to pray that "the roar of bombs might cease, that weapons might fall silent, and that a space for dialogue might open, in which the voice of the peoples may be heard." He said that he was entrusting his prayer to Mary, Queen of Peace, who he also asked to "intercede for those who suffer because of war" and "guide hearts along paths of reconciliation and hope".



Prayer for Peace

Lord Jesus Christ,
you are our peace and our reconciliation.

Look with mercy on our world,
heal what is wounded,
calm what is troubled,
and unite what is divided.

Strengthen all who work for justice and
harmony, and make our hearts
instruments of your peace.

You live and reign
forever and ever.

Amen.



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**

Fourth Sunday of Lent - 15th March 2026

Hail Glorious St Patrick

When we invoke St. Patrick on his feast day to "bestow a sweet smile on us" his "poor children" we are singing a hymn written by a Cork woman.

The well-known hymn was written by a Cork nun, Sr Agnes McSweeney. Born in Cobh in November 1823 Elizabeth McSweeney entered the Mercy Convent in Charleville, Co Cork in 1842 and in July 1866 she, with six other nuns, set sail for Bathurst in Australia.

The records from Bathurst tell us that she was small and fair in complexion, cultured and ladylike, proficient in French and English, knowledgeable in ancient and ecclesiastical history and a writer of poetry. At the age of 79 she died in June 1902 and is buried in the Convent Cemetery in Bathurst.

The first reference to the hymn, Hail Glorious St Patrick, comes from about 1853 when it was published as No 14 in "Easy Hymns and Songs", a collection of simple religious songs compiled by Fr Henry Fromby and published by Burns and Lambert. The hymn to Patrick is marked as by Sr Agnes of the Convent in Charleville. A letter of 1854 from the Rev Leslie Bunn who was Honorary President of the Hymn Society of Great Britain and Ireland to the nuns requested biographical data on Sr. Agnes, author of the hymn "Hail Glorious St. Patrick". He wanted to include it in an updated edition of a dictionary of hymns. The hymn was also included in a collection of Catholic Hymns published by Tozer in 1898 and in a Dictionary of Hymnology edited by John Julian in 1892.

Remembering and Praying For Our Emigrants

You are invited to write the names, city and country of your family members, relatives and friends who are living or working abroad as emigrants in the Emigrants' Book on the table in the church porch during this week. This Emigrants' Book will be placed in the sanctuary during all Masses over St. Patrick's Day when all our emigrants will be prayerfully remembered.

Emigrants' Collection

The Annual Emigrants' Collection will take place at all Masses over St. Patrick's Day. This is a collection for the Irish Bishops' Emigrant Chaplaincy Outreach and will be used to support our emigrants who, for a variety of reasons, have fallen on poor times.

Mass Times - Lá Fhéile Pádraig

St John's: (Monday Evening Vigil) 6.00pm; 8.00am & 10.30am and 7.00pm

Johnswell: 10.00am

Dunmore: 11.00am

Please note: Mid-morning Mass on St. Patrick's Day is at 10.30am.

Happy St. Patrick's Day to All!

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Seamus Dunne, Castlecomer Road. Reposing in Johnston's Funeral Home on Sunday from 4.00pm to 7.00pm pausing for prayers at 6.00pm. Requiem Mass on Monday at 10.30am in St. John's Church.

John McCormack, Ring Road. Requiem Mass on Tuesday at 10.30am in St. Fiacre's Church.

Matthew Dermody, UK and late of Kilkenny Catherine Cullen, Waterford Road

Dermot McDermott, Ballyraggett Martin Hayes, Butts Green

Darina Horvathova, Hebron Park, late of Slovakia Frank Doheny, Circular Road

Fr. Bernard Allon, Tipperary and Callan Veronica Divine, Finchley, London

Months Mind: Peter Dwyer (11.30am) Richard Cogan

Anniversaries: Margaret Power; Dinny Brennan; Paul & Michael 'Icy' Lanigan (6.00pm); Eileen Kelly; Thomas, Bridget & Michael Long; Margaret Dwyer (11.30am); Patricia & Maura Gormley; Seamus Campion; Louis Feeley; Seán Byrne; Billy & Jimmy McEvoy; Michael Purcell; Dixie Comerford; Frank Donovan; Frank Kavanagh; Noel Hodge; Paddy & Nan Keyes; Michael Parkinson & Family; Kay O'Connor.

Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm Ann Daly
8.00am Jo Browne
10.00am Eve Brennan & Anna Ryan
11.00am Stephanie Butler & Roger Curran
11.30am Rosemary McPhillips
7.00pm Joan Scott



Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection:		€3,625.00	
Mass	Attendance	Baskets	
6.00pm St. John's	120	184.00	
8.00am St. John's	84	281.00	
10.00am Johnswell	xx	79.00	
11.00am Dunmore	94	147.00	
11.30am St. John's	244	448.00	
7.00pm St. John's	<u>118</u>	<u>372.00</u>	
	660	€1,511.00	

Society of St Vincent De Paul Collection

The Monthly Collection for the local conference of the Society will take place next weekend, 21st and 22nd March. A sincere thank you for all your generous donations. We can be contacted on 051 350 725 if anyone is in need.

First Holy Communion

Next Saturday evening, 21st March, continuing with our Do *This in Memory* Programme, we will be welcoming the children who are preparing for First Holy Communion and their families to our 6.00pm Mass. The young people celebrated their first Penance on last Wednesday and we look forward to meeting them again on Saturday evening.

“St. Therese and the Holy Face”

Human Life International Ireland invites you to the above talk - a love story for our times. Saturday, 21st March 2.30 - 4.00pm at the Dominican Black Abbey, Kilkenny. Holy Face and St. Therese relics and blessed oil available. Join us for tea/coffee afterwards at Cathedral Café. Why not join our new Holy Face Prayer Group in St. Patrick's Parish?

Mother's Day Prayer

Loving God, You wrap your arms around your people and show your everlasting love in the same way a mother loves her children.

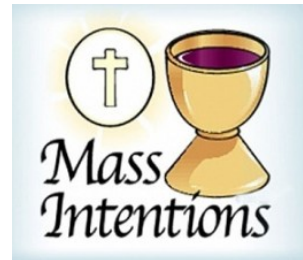
We are grateful for the love you have taught us through the mothers in our lives: our own mother who brought us into this world, the mothers of friends who have welcomed us into their homes and families, our grandmothers who took time for us, and the mothers who have helped us even though we were not their children.

Bless all the mothers of this world today. May they know the fullness of love they have shared and be blessed every day of their lives. Amen!

We wish all mothers a happy and enjoyable Mothers' Day.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 16th March 2026

Monday:	10.30am	Requiem Mass Seamus Dunne
Tuesday:	8.00am	Seán Byrne
	11.00am	Billy & Jimmy McEvoy
Wednesday:	8.00am	Benny Grogan
Saturday:	10.30am	Michael Purcell
	6.00pm	Michael Monagle
		Eamon Hennessy
		Mary Cremin
Sunday:	11.00am	John, Agnes & Michael Stapleton
	11.30am	MM John Lanigan



Diocesan Ministry Discernment Programme Begins

Last October, Bishop Niall Coll launched the Ministry of Catechist in the Diocese of Ossory. The initiative has received a very encouraging response, with more than thirty people from across the diocese applying to take part in a programme of discernment. Each of these applicants is exploring the possibility that God may be calling them to a particular form of Pastoral Ministry within the Church, building upon the Baptismal vocation they are already living out in their families, parishes, and local communities.

The first gathering of applicants took place last December and on Saturday, 28th February participants formally began their journey of discernment at St Patrick's Pastoral Centre, Loughboy.

The day was facilitated by Ms Gemma Mulligan, Diocesan Pastoral Coordinator and Fr Kieran O' Shea. Bishop Ger Nash, Apostolic Administrator of the diocese, was the main speaker and all present were delighted to witness Bishop Ger's enthusiasm for the programme, his encouragement, and assurance of continued support.

The discernment programme will continue until the summer with monthly gatherings, individual accompaniment, input from guest speakers on topics such as Prayer, Spirituality, Scripture, Teamwork and the Theology of Ministry, as well as a Retreat. At the end of the discernment period, participants will consider whether to apply for the programme of formation offered in collaboration with St Patrick's College Maynooth.

All are encouraged to keep the participants in their prayers as they discern their call to pastoral ministry and seek to serve the Church in the Diocese of Ossory. We hope that their response and commitment will encourage many others to follow the same path in the future.

History & Families of Dunmore

A presentation on the History and Families of Dunmore from the 18th – 20th Century will take place in Dunmore Community Hall on Saturday, 28th March at 7.30pm. Presented by: Dr Jane Irwin, UCD. All are Welcome.

TheWay.ie

This is a new digital platform set up by the Irish Bishops' Conference dedicated to sharing the 'Good News' and the witness of the Catholic Church in Ireland. It is intended to help people discover the faith, live the faith and pass on the faith. It is for both seekers and followers. Use QR code to access the site.



Relics of St. Bernadette of Lourdes and St. Peregrine for Veneration

The first-class relics of St. Bernadette of Lourdes and St. Peregrine will be available for veneration during the St. Canice's Catholic Parish Lenten Novena on Wednesday, 18th March at 7.30 pm. All are warmly welcome. Music by the Kilkenny Gospel Choir.

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

We are currently recruiting people for this Ministry. Training begins shortly and new Ministers will be commissioned on Holy Thursday. Please contact Fr. Dan if interested in this Ministry.