

The Holy Rosary

Outside of the Mass, there is no prayer more pleasing to Our Lady and more efficacious for her intercession than the Holy Rosary. We encourage families and individuals in our parish to pray the Rosary every day during the month of May. Try to pray the Rosary daily at a public grotto, at a church or in the privacy of your family home. Consider encouraging others to do the same throughout this month.

A group of parishioners join in praying the Rosary in St. John's Church at 10.10am (before 10.30am Mass) and at 3.00pm each weekday. All are welcome to come along.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues at St. John's Church every Wednesday between 11.00am and 1.00pm. All are invited to drop in and spend even a few minutes in prayer.

In the event that the church is required for another event (e.g. a funeral etc) the Adoration will be transferred to the following day.

A Celebration of Music by Liam Lawton

St. Mary's Church, Edenderry on Sunday, 24th May starting at 8.00pm. Tickets are priced at €30 via our parish website: edenderryparish.ie.

Golf Shoes

Two pairs of golf shoes have been found in the church grounds. Contact the office if they are yours or if you have information.

Ignite Ireland Conference

An Ignite Ireland day conference, with special guest speaker Scott Hahn, will take place in Dublin on Saturday, 23rd May. Scott Hahn is a well-known writer and broadcaster and is a much sought after speaker. It is an event not to be missed. For information and to book your ticket, go to: www.dominicans.ie

Pilgrimage to Lourdes

A group of Transition Year students from our parish will travel to Lourdes to support the elderly and people with mobility issues during the Diocesan Pilgrimage later this month. The boys travel at their own expense. To help with their cost they are holding a church gate collection this weekend. Please support our young teens who are so willing to help others.

Our Lady of Fatima - Feast 13th May

O Most Holy Virgin Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, you were pleased to appear to the children of Fatima and reveal a glorious message.

We implore you, inspire in our hearts a fervent love for the recitation of the Rosary.

By meditating on the mysteries of the redemption that are recalled therein may we obtain the graces and virtues that we ask, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

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:

Phil Curran; Marian Eardly; Brenda Whitely.

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**

Sixth Sunday of Easter - 10th May 2026

Our Parish's First Holy Communion Day – Next Weekend

Next Saturday, 16th May the pupils from St John's Junior School will receive their First Holy Communion in St John's Church. We will have one celebration at 11.00am. Please note that there will be no 10.30am Mass on that Saturday.

On Saturday, 23rd May the pupils from Johnswell National School will receive their First Holy Communion at 11.00am in the Church of St John the Baptist, Johnswell.

These young people have been preparing over the past number of months, and we thank their families, the teachers and volunteers who put so much dedicated work into preparing them for the Sacrament. We keep all the boys and girls, their families, and teachers in our prayers.

The Church Proclaims the Gospel, Preaches Peace

Before he returned to Rome from Castel Gandolfo on Tuesday evening, Pope Leo XIV spoke briefly to reporters and responded to the latest critical remarks made about him by US President Donald Trump.

"The mission of the Church is to proclaim the Gospel, to preach peace," he said. "If someone wants to criticize me for proclaiming the Gospel, let him do so truthfully."

Pope Leo recalled that the Church has consistently spoken against nuclear weapons. "For years, the Church has spoken out against all nuclear weapons, so there is no doubt on that point," the Pope said, responding to President Trump's claim that the Pope considers it acceptable for Iran to possess nuclear weapons, thereby placing all Catholics at risk.

"I simply hope to be listened to because of the value of the Word of God," Pope Leo XIV stressed, reiterating that he has spoken clearly "from the first moment I was elected, and now we are close to the anniversary. I said: 'Peace be with you'."

St Patrick's Missionary Society

Members of the St. Patrick's Missionary Society (The Kiltegan Fathers), together with volunteer priests and lay people from different Irish Dioceses, including Ossory, have worked first-ly in Nigeria, and later in Kenya, Brazil, Grenada, Malawi, Zambia, South Sudan, Cameroon, Zimbabwe and South Africa. Their mission appeal, which will be led by Fr Jibrin Joseph, will visit St John's Parish this weekend. Please welcome Fr. Jibrin and support the appeal.

Rosary at the Grotto

The Rosary will be recited each Sunday during May at the Grotto on the Callan Road at 3.00pm. All are welcome. The grotto is in the grounds of Seville Lodge and easily accessible from the Callan Road. Come and join us in prayer during the Month of Our Lady.

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased:

Thomas Wall, Glendine Road
Stella Brennan, late Maudlin Street
Sheila Brennan, The Sycamores
Nicholas Carrigan, Clara

Anne Reynolds Bowen, Sion Road
Michael Hester, Conahy
Michael Meany, Kingsland

Months Mind: John Brophy (6.00pm).

Anniversaries: Bea Orr (6.00pm); Margaret & Martin Hanlon (10.00am); Ellen, Martin, Martin Jnr. & Christy Brennan (11.00am); Willie, Nan & Noel Meany; Jim Kelly (11.30am); Mary Walsh; John 'Naxie' Noonan; Sheila Lane; Thomas McGuinness; Pat & Mai Shortis; Margaret Tyrrell; Margaret (Rita) Trehy.

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 Pdraig O'Neill
10.00am Elaine Bennett
11.00am Stephanie Butler & Roger Curran
11.30am Anne Maria Walsh & Kay Purcell
7.00pm Eileen Kinane



Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection:		€1,135.00
Mass	Attendance	Baskets
6.00pm St. John's	142	140.00
8.00am St. John's	93	256.00
10.00am Johnswell	158	203.00
11.00am Dunmore	87	168.00
11.30am St. John's	162	278.00
7.00pm St. John's	84	109.00
	726	€1,154.00

Eucharistic Ministers for St John's Church - Next Weekend

6.00pm Fiona Lavelle & Jane Feehan
8.00am Marie Geary & Sadhbh Ni Bhearga
11.30am Mary Ann Joyce & Bobbie Lahert
7.00pm Helen Brennan & Grace Clune



Pope Leo – First Anniversary

"I am a son of Saint Augustine, an Augustinian" This is how Pope Leo introduced himself on his election a year ago on 8th May 2025. One year on, what are others saying?

"After a fat Pope, a thin Pope" so the Italians say.

Journalist Christopher Lamb: "Leo is a lion who knows when to roar."

New York Times journalist David Gibson writes: "Leo is not looking for a fight with Mr. Trump; he is looking past him... He realizes that President Trump has no interest in listening to him (indeed, the two have never spoken)... Above all, Leo knows his moral authority will be exercised after Mr. Trump is no longer president, that his message is heard beyond the United States and that it is appreciated by ordinary people around the world".

Anna Rowlands of Durham University: "This first year has been one of watching and waiting; most of the big decisions that face Leo remain ahead".

Irish Journalist Gerard O'Collins who refers to Pope Leo as "The Last Surprise of Pope Francis" writes: "People see Pope Leo as a spiritual leader who will lead them to God, will offer a word of consolation in a world that is divided, who will work to overcome these divisions. Pope Leo is clear that we are all people of God and that the Church is open to all".

Paola Ugaz, an investigative journalist from Peru: "At 70, Leo is younger than his immediate predecessors and, as such, can afford to play the long game. His first year has been one of adjustment, centred on establishing himself in the role and turning his American roots into assets, along with his time in Latin America."

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 11th May 2026

Wednesday: 10.30am Thomas McGuinness
Pat & Mai Shortis
Friday: 10.30am Sheila Lane
Saturday: 11.00am First Holy Communions - St John's NS
6.00pm Kathleen Price
Sunday: 11.00am Bridget & Carmel McEvoy
Tom & Bridget Comerford
11.30am Damien Mahon
Michael Malone
William Brophy



All Ireland Rosary Rally | Saturday, 6th June | Knock Shrine

Join 10,000+ pilgrims from around Ireland and beyond to pray for a renewal of faith in Ireland, and for peace in the world. The day itself will include exceptional talks, Mass, Anointing of the Sick, a Healing Service, over 20 Catholic exhibitor stands, and much more. See allirelandrosaryrally.com for more details, the schedule, and for a list of 50+ buses going from around Ireland.

Our Lady of Fatima Novena

Our Lady of Fatima Novena will continue until Wednesday, 13th May in the Black Abbey. Preacher: Fr David Barrins OP. Masses each weekday at 10.30am and 7.30pm. (Rosary at 10.00am and 7.00pm). Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick on Sunday, 10th May at 3.00pm.

Young Irish Show Interest in Religion

A recent report on religious trends in Ireland has found that there is a generational gap between millennials and Gen Z in relation to religiosity – with 18-24-year-olds more likely to identify as religious or 'not sure' than 25-34-year-olds

According to the study, this younger Gen Z cohort are more likely to engage with faith through reading, attending classes or courses or on the internet through YouTube or influencers than millennials.

The research also reveals that 18-24-year-olds are more positive about the Church than those aged 25 to 34, and fewer have a negative attitude towards priests and nuns.

The report, *The Turning Tide?*, notes that 18-24-year-olds are less likely to check horoscopes and those aged 25 to 34...

The research findings regarding Gen Z and millennials echo those of the Bible Society's report *The Quiet Revival in England and Wales*. According to the authors, the Irish findings raised the question of whether there may also be a 'quiet revival' or a 'turning tide' in Ireland.

Among the reasons suggested for this uptick among this youngest cohort is the fact that some among the Gen Z group have found religiosity beneficial for their mental well-being, while 70% of this generation follow at least one influencer online, and religious influencers may be having an impact. In terms of Mass attendance, the report notes that Ireland's Catholics are among Europe's more practising, with 31% saying they attend at least once a week. Ireland is fourth overall in Europe, alongside Italy (32%), but well behind Poland (49%) and Slovakia (46%). (ACN)

Medjugorje Evening of Prayer

The monthly Medjugorje Mass, with Rosary, Adoration and Prayer for Healing, will take place on next Monday, 11th May at 7.30pm in the Oratory of St. Patrick's Parish Centre. All welcome.

Short Prayer Before an Exam

Lord, as I take this exam,

I ask for your peace and clarity of mind. Calm my nerves, help me to focus, and guide my memory to recall what I have studied. Give me the wisdom to understand the questions and the ability to express my answers clearly. I trust in you. Amen.