

Reflection - Building on Rock

There is nothing sure or lasting in this world. Human opinions change from day to day but the words of Christ do not change or pass away. However, those who listen to his words but do not act on them, are building on sand. Time will erase his words from their minds; nothing will remain, nothing will come of them. On the other hand, those who listen to his words and who do act on them, are building on rock; they will have something to show for their efforts, something to be proud of, and something that will last, last eternally.

Ballyfoyle Agricultural Show

The annual Ballyfoyle Agricultural Show takes place today Sunday, 28th June 2026. Our show offers fantastic show jumping classes, equine showing and working hunter classes, sheep classes, a dog show, along with a wide variety of trade stands. We promise a great day out with a sensory bus, children's art and craft, Lego and baking competitions, Macra displays, a food village with music and dancing provided by Dancing with Declan. Most Appropriately Dressed lady and Gent competition on the day also. So come along and join in the fun this Sunday.

Templemartin Cemetery Mass

Templemartin Cemetery Mass will take place on this Wednesday, 1st July at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Points to Ponder

Jesus spoke often about rewards. In this Sunday's Gospel passage, he mentions the word three times. Is he appealing to our selfishness? After all, if we do what is right just to get a reward, isn't that being kind of self-centred? Sometimes we can think so. But Jesus doesn't seem to think so. If he did, he wouldn't have talked about rewards so often. The truth is that we were created to experience the fulfilment and joy that come from living in communion with God. We are built with a desire for happiness, for true, lasting happiness. This desire is an essential part of the engine of our lives. It keeps us going. It motivates us and gives us energy. Whenever Jesus speaks about rewards, he is appealing to a natural desire for fulfilment that he built into our human nature. It is not selfish to want to experience fulfilment. It is not selfish to do what is right because we know that it will lead us further along the path of a meaningful and fruitful life, and moving forward on that path will feel good. That is not selfishness; rather, it is hope. We are called by God to hope for all good things in him. Hope for fulfilment and joy in Christ is part of our Christian DNA – just as much a part of it as the Cross. Jesus wants us to nourish it. He delights when we enjoy the good gifts of God and make choices that create space for us and others to continue enjoying his gifts. Let us hope in Christ.

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

Email: stjohms@ossory.ie **Website:** www.stjohnskillkenny.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**

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 28th June 2026

St Kieran's Cemetery Mass 2026

Huge crowds flocked to St. Kieran's Cemetery on Friday evening for our annual Mass for deceased family members and friends. We thank especially the priests, sacristans, readers, choir, Eucharistic ministers, helpers, local authority staff, Gardai, public address operatives, parking assistants and collectors for making the occasion so meaningful and appropriate for those who assembled from far and near to pray for the dead.

The annual Mass in Dunmore and Johnswell Cemeteries
will be celebrated on next Friday, 4th July at 7.30pm

The Future of the Diocese of Ossory

As part of the consultation underway in the Diocese regarding the future of the Church in Ossory, Bishop Ger, accompanied by Gemma Mulligan, Diocesan Pastoral Worker, will meet parishioners from the four city parishes on Wednesday, 16th September 2026. This is an opportunity to discuss and offer opinions about the future of our diocese. Further details will be announced here as they come to hand. For now, please put the date in your diary.

Pope Meets with Cardinals of the World

Pope Leo XIV is meeting with members of the College of Cardinals this weekend for an Extraordinary Consistory focused on the current situation of the Church and the world, the pursuit of peace, and the implementation of the Synod.

As Pope Leo XIV meets with the Cardinals, they will discuss issues such as conflicts afflicting the world and how the Church should communicate through language and attitudes to build peace and reconciliation.

According to the programme the work will follow a "synodal" method, with prayer, silence, personal reflection, group discussion, and plenary sessions.

The Cardinals have been asked to maintain "confidentiality" regarding what takes place in the hall and not to make statements to the press during the Consistory, in order to preserve an atmosphere of fraternal exchange.

The Consistory began last Friday, 26th June, with Mass in St. Peter's Basilica, presided over by Pope Leo XIV. The Cardinals then met in the Paul VI Hall for the opening session, which began with the singing of the *Veni Creator Spiritus*, an address by Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re, Dean of the College of Cardinals, and an introductory intervention by the Pope. The Cardinals will meet in four sessions over the weekend. On Monday, 29th June Pope Leo XIV will preside at Mass in St. Peter's Basilica for the Solemnity of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul.

Updates are available on www.vatican.va

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Julia Larkin, Newpark
Patrick (Gerry) Purcell, Jenkintown
Peter O'Neill, Dungarvan and formerly of Ballyhale

Anniversaries: Mike Burke (11.00am); Mary Connick; Kitty & Michael McCarthy (11.30am); Maud Nolan (7.00pm); Michael Wall; Patrick Foley; Eleanor Cantwell; Julia Carroll; Brigid Marrinan; Philip Lenahan; Geraldine Heffernan; Tom McDonald; Joseph Neary; Tom McDonald.

*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.*

Ministries for Weekend, 4th & 5th July

Mass	Readers	Ministers of the Eucharist
6.00pm	Ann Daly	Mary O'Donovan & Peter Donnelly
8.00am	Jo Browne	Billy Phelan & Jacinta Cantwell
10.00am	Eve Brennan & Anna Ryan	Anna Moore
11.00am	Christy Murray & Maise Powell	Ann Hehir
11.30am	Anne Maria Walsh & Kay Purcell	Camilla Loader & Emily Bradley
7.00pm	Joan Scott	Isabel Hayden & Billy Carr



Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection:	Mass	Attendance	Baskets
€820.00	6.00pm St. John's	126	225.00
	8.00am St. John's	102	279.00
	10.00am Johnswell	xx	111.00
	11.00am Dunmore	128	234.00
	11.30am St. John's	140	246.00
	7.00pm St. John's	95	205.00
		591	€1,300.00

Parish Pilgrimage to Knock

Our annual St. John's Parish pilgrimage to Our Lady's Shrine at Knock, Co. Mayo will take place on Friday, 21st August (the anniversary of the apparitions).
Coach will leave and return to St. John's Church on the day. First coach is almost full.
Book early to enable us to hire a suitable coach.
Fare: €25.00.

First Friday of July

Next Friday is the First Friday of July. 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.

Dunmore Cemetery Cleanup

In preparation for the Annual Cemetery Mass on next Friday, a planned cleanup at Dunmore Cemetery will take place this Monday, 29th June at 7.00pm. Many hands make light work. After the Cemetery Mass on Friday, refreshments will be served in the Hall. All are very welcome to drop in to catch up on neighbours over a cup of tea and a chat.

Schools Out for Summer!

Our parish school wrapped up another school year on Friday. Congratulations to all who graduated. Best wishes to all pupils, families, teachers, and staff and we wish you a good, safe and enjoyable holiday.

Peter's Pence Collection - Thank You

The annual Peter's Pence Collection for the Pope's charities took place last weekend, The amount collected was €1,767. Thank you for your generosity.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 29th June 2026

Wednesday	10.30am:	Tom McDonald
Thursday:	8.00am	Special Intention
	10.30am	Julia Carroll
Friday:	7.30pm	Dunmore & Johnswell Cemetery Masses
Saturday:	6.00pm	MM Mick Delaney
Sunday:	10.00am	Aidan Kelly
		Joe Manning
	11.30am	Tom Ryan
		Mary Carey
	7.00pm	Patrick Parker



May they rest in peace

Cemetery Masses for 2026

Templemartin Cemetery Mass - Wednesday 1st July -7.30pm.
Dunmore and Johnswell Cemetery Masses - Friday, 3rd July - 7.30pm
Foulkstown Cemetery Mass - Thursday, 30th July - 7.30pm

Please invite relatives and friends who may not see this notice.

St Peter and St Paul:

Two great Apostles of the Gospel and two pillars of the Church. This week we celebrate the memory of Peter and Paul. Peter, a fisherman who spent his days amid boats and nets, and Paul, a learned Pharisee who taught in synagogues. At the heart of their story is not their own gifts and abilities; at the centre is the encounter with Christ that changed their lives. They experienced a love that healed them and set them free. They then became apostles and ministers of freedom for others, Peter preaching to the Jews, and Paul to pagans.

Peter, a skilled fisherman, many times in the heart of the night tasted the bitterness of frustration at having caught nothing (cf. Lk 5:5; Jn 21:5) and, seeing his empty nets, was tempted to pull up his oars. Though strong and impetuous, Peter often yielded to fear (cf. Mt 14:30). Jesus nonetheless loved Peter and was willing to take a risk on him.

Paul, a teacher in the synagogues, a zealous defender of his Jewish traditions and a cruel persecutor of Christians; his encounter with the Lord on the road to Damascus shook him to the core: more than just knocking him to the ground it shattered Paul's illusion of being respectably religious. As a result, the proud Saul turned into Paul, a name that means "small". Jesus did not judge them or humiliate them. He supported them by his prayer, and even at times reproached them to make them change.

To us Peter and Paul bestow an image of a Church entrusted to our hands yet guided by the Lord with fidelity and tender love, for it is He who guides the Church, a Church that is weak yet finds strength in the presence of God.

St. Peter was crucified upside down in 64 AD and St. Paul was beheaded in 67 AD. Emperor Nero did not have St. Paul crucified because the Romans did not crucify their own citizens and, as a result, St. Paul was beheaded. St. Peter reportedly was crucified upside down since he was not a Roman. Tradition holds that he requested to be crucified upside down because he felt unworthy to be crucified in the same position as the Lord Jesus.

Rally for Life, Liberty and Faith

Join us on Saturday, 4th July in Belfast and send a clear message for Life, Liberty and Faith. Please help to promote the rally or organise a bus. If you would like some of the promotional leaflets, we will post them to you!

Contact us on info@preciouslife.com / info@thelifeinstitute.net or phone us on 028 9027 8484 or 01 873 0465.