Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Catherine Dunne, Riverside Drive, Funeral Mass on Sunday at 12.00 noon in St. Joseph's Church, Foulkstown. Interment afterwards in the adjoining cemetery.

Mary Murphy (nee Scariff), Coolcullen
Clare Murphy, Michael Street
Catherine Quinn, Beech Park
John Kirwan, Conahy
Mary O'Leary, Bantry
Lila Porteus, Kilkenny
John Dewberry, Larchfield
Bernard Murphy, Sion Road
Donal Verling, Dungarvan
Molly Kavanagh, Castlecomer

Anniversaries: John Butler & Bridie & Dan Herlihy; Kevin Barry; Seán Nolan (6.00pm); Mollie Bergin; Gay & May Noonan; Ann Lacey (11.30am); Eileen & Liam Nolan; John Cunningham; Peter Mulhern; Bernie & Tom Little; Jenny Hodge; Kathleen McCarthy; Patrick (Patsy) Ryan.

Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 26th October 2026

Monday:	10.30am:	John Cunningham / Peter Mulhern
Saturday:	10.30am:	Bernie & Tom Little
	6.00pm:	Michael & Kathleen McGarry

Please note we may transfer an anniversary Mass on the occasion of a funeral.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection: €700.00

Mass	Attendance	Baskets
6.00pm St. John's	144	225.00
8.00am St. John's	77	222.00
10.00am Johnswell	75	107.00
11.00am Dunmore	33	121.00
11.30am St. John's	147	354.00
7.00pm St. John's	115	183.00
	591	€1,212.00

Thank you for your continued support.

Don't forget, Clocks go back this weekend!

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The Kilkenny Stroke Support Group

The Kilkenny Stroke Support Group meet on next Friday, 30th October from 2.30 – 4.00pm, at Tuiscint Meeting Rooms, St. Canice's Hospital Complex, Dublin Road. Meetings are open to stroke survivors and carers, are informative and social. For further information call 087 781 4697.

Ministries for Weekend, 31st October & 1st November

Mass	Readers	Ministers of the Eucharist
6.00pm	Mairin Bergin	TBA
8.00am	Niamh Carroll	Maire Geary & Sadhbh Ni Bhearga
10.00am	Stephen Pyke & Seán Colgan	Martina Manning
11.00am	Eddie Holohan & Liz Holohan	Marian Eardly
11.30am	Anne Maria Walsh & Kay Purcell	Mary Ann Joyce & Bobbie Lahert
7.00pm	Joan Galwey	Anna Morrison & Susan Bofin

We say a sincere thanks to all our Readers and Eucharistic Ministers.

World Mission Sunday Collection – Thank You

Thank you for your very generous donations to the Mission Sunday Collection last weekend. €2,001.00 was collected in our parish. Thank you!

Spiritual Reflection

"Today, we face no Penal Laws. No one is banning the Mass. No one is hunting priests. But faith faces a different kind of threat – not persecution, but forgetfulness; not violence, but indifference. The danger now is not that we cannot practice our faith, but that we do not bother. The challenge is distraction, busyness and the suggestion that God is optional.

And yet – just as in Penal times – faith is surviving. It survives in young people searching for meaning. It survives in families rediscovering prayer. It survives in those who go to Knock Shrine seeking peace and silence. It survives the quiet heart that still dares to hope."

(Most Rev. Niall Coll, Bishop of Raphoe)

The Irish National Assembly

The Synodal Assembly took place on Saturday, 17th October bringing together nominated lay, clerical and religious delegates from dioceses, parishes, religious congregations, ecclesial movements and other communities from across the Church in Ireland for a day of prayer, listening, conversation and discernment to reflect together on the question that has guided the Irish Synodal Pathway since its beginning in 2021: "What does God want from the Church in Ireland at this time?"

The Irish Synodal Pathway began in 2021 when the bishops invited the Church to embark on a process of renewal inviting people throughout the Church to engage in prayer, listening and reflection, and to reflect on important questions about the identity and mission of the Church in Ireland, including its pastoral life, structures, relationships, ministry and place in society. Through this process, Baptism emerged as a foundational lens for understanding the identity and mission of the Church, leading to seven priorities: belonging; co-responsibility and lay ministry; family; formation and catechesis; healing; women; and youth.

Speaking after the Assembly, Julieann Moran, General Secretary of the Irish Synodal Pathway, said, "Today was an extraordinary moment for the Church in Ireland, and our task now is to make what happened here at the National Synodal Assembly an ordinary everyday way of being Church at parish level. We came together as the People of God with diverse experiences, and we listened to the Holy Spirit. The path so far has proven that we can do this and can continue to become a Synodal Church – the Church that God calls us to be."

Archbishop Eamon Martin, Archbishop of Armagh and President of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference, addressed the delegates, saying, "With regard to the particular recommendations made today, it may be that some can be activated easily and quickly. Others will require greater planning, deployment of resources and personnel. I also hope that initiatives which are already happening around the country can be shared with greater clarity in the light of the momentum coming from today's Assembly."

First Holy Communion Programme

We are delighted to welcome next year's First Holy Communion candidates and their families to a special enrolment Mass at St. John's Church at 6.00pm on next Saturday evening.

Parish Ministries

We are always eager to expand our parish ministries. If you feel you are called to share your baptismal gifts by participating in one of our parish ministries – Reader, Ministry of Welcome, Music, Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist – contact the Parish Office on 056 772 1072.

Please Return Your 'CHY3 Cert'

We have issued 'CHY3 Certs' to parishioners. The parish receives 'tax relief' from the Revenue Commissioners from eligible donations over €250 within a tax year. Thank you to all who have returned the form so far. If you haven't done so yet, it would be much appreciated if you could return the form to the Parish Office for processing during the coming week. If you received a Cert and it does not apply to your circumstances, please let us know so that we will not issue you one again. We thank all of you who make great efforts to support your parish to the best of your ability on an ongoing basis.

Saint Martin de Porres Novena

Novena in honour of Saint Martin de Porres in the Black Abbey, 28th October to Thursday, 5th November. Mass each day 10.30am and 7.30pm. Mass and Anointing of the Sick on Sunday, 1st November at 3.00pm. All welcome.

Taizé Youth Programme 2027

A youth trip to Taizé in France organised by Ossory Youth will take place from Sunday, 27th June to Sunday, 4th July 2027. Tens of thousands of young people from around the world, including 25 from Kilkenny, will made the trip to Taizé next year.

The programme, which runs from November 2026 to July 2027 is open to Transition year and 5th year students. Closing date for applications is Friday, 6th November. For additional information, including cost and application forms, contact Patrick Bookle, Ossory Youth at 056 776 1200, 087 212 9006 or pbookle@ossoryyouth.com.

Preparation for Marriage & Married Couples Courses 2026/27

Grásta is a voluntary group of married couples based in Ireland, who for over 25 years have been facilitating Pre-Marriage Courses for couples getting married in the Catholic Church. Preparing for Marriage? Weekend residential courses available. 13th – 15th November 2026 and 26th – 28th February 2027. Details: www.grasta.org or at info@grasta.org

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 9.30am - 2.00pm

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

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

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 25th October 2026

This Sunday's Readings: The Heart of the Law

The readings for this Sunday call us back to the very core of the Christian life. In Exodus, God commands His people to care for the foreigner, the widow, the orphan, and the poor — not out of political obligation, but because God Himself hears the cry of the vulnerable. In his letter to the Thessalonians, St Paul marvels at a young Christian community whose faith was so alive and joyful that it became a light to all of Greece. And in the Gospel, Jesus cuts through the complexity of the Law with breathtaking simplicity: love God with everything you have and love your neighbour as yourself. These two commandments, He says, are the foundation of everything.

As we gather at Mass this Sunday, we are invited to examine whether our love of God is total — not just in what we say, but in how we treat the person in front of us. The neighbour is not a distraction from loving God. The neighbour is where love of God is put to the test.

Mass for Deceased Bishops, Priests and Religious

Bishop Ger will celebrate a Memorial Mass for deceased Bishops, Priests and Religious of Ossory on Sunday, 8th November 2026 in St Mary's Cathedral at 5.30pm. All are welcome.

Feasts of All Saints and All Souls – Next Weekend

The Feast of All Saints will be celebrated on next Sunday. It is an annual celebration on which we celebrate all the saints in heaven.

Monday, 2nd November is the Feast of All Souls on which we remember our dead. Names of your deceased loved ones can be written on a notelet, available in the church porches during the week, and placed in the basket in the sacred space before the altar.

Annual Remembrance Mass

We are currently planning our Remembrance Mass for those of our parishioners who died during the past year. We invite relatives and friends to St. John's Church at 7.30pm on Friday, 20th November when we will call to mind in prayer those who have died since this time last year. Please inform those who live away from Kilkenny. More details later.

Rosary on the Green

Rosary will be recited in James Green on Thursday, 29th October at 6.30pm. Prayers will be offered for the Pro-Life Intention. All are welcome.

No 8.00am Mass on Bank Holiday Monday, 10.30am Mass as usual!