Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Charlotte Bevan, England
Colin Magahy, London Caroline Kellaghan, Lord Edward Street

Months Mind: Mary Lawlor (6.00pm).

Anniversaries: Liam Leydon; Members of the Deceased Staff of Smithwick's Brewery (6.00pm); The Sullivan Family (11.00am); Kathleen, Micko & Stephen Slattery; Larry & Dick O'Shea; Helen Purcell (11.30am); Helen Butler; Ollie Bergin (7.00pm); Michael Diggin; Patrick Malone; Mai Cleary; Patricia Doherty; Mary Shelly; Ellen Delaney; Anna & Michael Beale; Thomas & John O'Neill.

Those we love don't go away; they walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard, forever near. So loved, so missed, so very dear.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 30th November 2026

Wednesday:	8.00am:	Patrick Malone
	10.30am:	Mai Cleary & Patricia Doherty
Saturday:	10.30am:	Mary Shelly
	6.00pm:	Ann Stapleton & Deceased Members of the Stapleton Families
		Thomas Dowling / Johnny Lawlor / John Holmes
Sunday:	11.00am	Tom & Bridie Sloyan
		John & Mary Butler / Matthew & Catherine Walsh
	11.30am:	Eileen Tynan / Joseph Bambrick / Kathleen & Tom Cody
		Thomas Dowling
	7.00pm:	Ann & Francie Murphy / **BR** Marcin Muza

Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection: €1,110.00

Mass	Attendance	Baskets
6.00pm St John's	149	187.00
8.00am St John's	91	362.00
10.00am Johnswell	45	97.00
11.00am Dunmore	85	118.00
11.30am St John's	156	280.00
7.00pm St John's	110	246.00
	636	€1,290.00

Thank you for your continued support.

Diocesan Advent Resources

Advent Taizé Prayer
"Wait for the Lord"
St Mary's Cathedral on Friday, 4th December at 7.30pm
Diocesan Christmas Carol Service
St Mary's Cathedral on Sunday, 20th December at 7.30pm
Daily Advent Tweet
"Thoughts, reflections, prayer"
Follow on Twitter @ossorydiocese

Ministries for Weekend, 28th November & 29th November

Mass	Readers	Ministers of the Eucharist
6.00pm	Mairin Bergin	Fiona Lavelle & Jane Feehan
8.00am	Luca Larrazabal	Jacinta O'Connell & Rosarii Francis
10.00am	Seán Colgan	Siobhan McKieran
11.00am	Martina Brennan & Tom Keating	Gavin Phelan
11.30am	Rosemary McPhilips & Frank Bradley	Kathleen Ferguson & Geraldine Ruessmann
7.00pm	Joan Galwey	Anna Morrison & Susan Bofin

First Friday of December

The sick and housebound will be visited at the usual times.

Dunmore Cake Sale

Join us for our Annual Christmas Bake Sale on next Sunday, 6th December after the 11.00am Mass in Dunmore. Please drop baked goods and raffle prizes into the Community Hall before Mass. Everyone is very welcome for a cuppa and refreshments after the Mass.

Parish Penitential Service

This year's Parish Advent Penitential Service will be held in St John's Church on Friday, 18th December at 7.30pm. Keep the date free.

St. Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Collection

The Society of St Vincent de Paul Christmas Collection will take place on weekend, 12th/13th December. Your donation will help families in our parish with basics such as food and fuel. You could save someone from impossible choices this winter. Contact: 051 350 725.

CUAN at Newpark Close Family Resource Centre

CUAN offers free and strictly confidential support for men and children facing abuse and coercive control. We support men — and their children — affected by domestic abuse, coercive control and high-conflict separation. Immediate access. Parishioners can self-refer directly. Contact: Mobile/WhatsApp: 083 151 7037; Phone: 056 772 3309; Email: roger@newparkclosefrc.ie; Web: newparkclosefrc.ie.

Carols in Castlewarren Church

A Carol service will take place in Castlewarren Church (R95 NX37) on Thursday, 10th December at 7.00pm. Music and song by St Scuithin's Children's Choir; *In Caelo* Chamber Choir - Andreea Bouro's Little Mozart Ensemble - Harvest Meabh Sabhaois - Uilleann Pipes Billy Carrigan - Friends of Kilkenny Community Orchestra. All donations on the night will help keep young voices singing, supporting the future of St Scuithin's children's choir.

Making Room: The Season of Advent

Each week between now and Christmas we will light another candle on the Advent wreath, a quiet reminder that the light of Christ outshines any darkness we carry. Why not make a small Advent promise this year? Pray for a few minutes each day, light a candle with your family at home, come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, or reach out to someone who may be lonely this Christmas. However busy the coming weeks become, may we all make a little room for the One who comes to make his home among us.

Concert In aid of Rise and Shine Trust and Kilkenny Helping the Homeless

Join us for an afternoon of song, harmonies and surprises this Sunday afternoon, 29th November at 3.00pm in St Fiacre's Church. €10 entry fee. Raffle on the day.
Programme includes *Cois Nore* Choir with Tony Coy; Mount Juliet International Chamber Choir; *Cairdeas* Parkinson's Choir; Martina Burke accompanied by James Rice; *Cantabile LK* Choir and more.

Community Radio Kilkenny City Annual Remembrance Service

Community Radio Kilkenny City warmly invites everyone to attend its *Annual Remembrance Service*, which will take place in St. Canice's Catholic Church, Dean Street, on Wednesday, 2nd December at 7.30pm. This special service offers an opportunity to come together in prayer, remembrance and reflection as we remember deceased presenters, listeners and their families. All are most welcome to attend and join in this occasion of prayerful remembrance.

Advent Reflections

This Advent why not make some of these evening reflections be a part of your Advent journey in preparation for Christmas. (See www.stjohnskilkenny.com for more information).

Venue: St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny, 7.30pm each evening.

Monday, 7th December: "Social Media and Our Children — a Truly Moral Question". Rev Dr Michael Shortall, President of St Patrick's College, Maynooth and Lecturer in Moral Theology.

Wednesday, 9th December: "Teaching the Sacraments". The work that makes the celebration. Rev Dr Dermot Ryan, Lecturer in Systematic Theology at Carlow College and St Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth and Administrator of St Mary's Cathedral.

Monday, 14th December: Spirit — Shocking Wonder — Christmas in the Poetry of Patrick Kavanagh. Dr James Heaney, Lecturer in English and Irish Studies at Carlow College.

Wednesday, 16th December: Exploring the Synodal Recommendations — a Conversation with Ossory and Ferns Delegates. Ms Gemma Mulligan, Mr Sean O'Leary, Rev Dr Dermot Ryan.

The Kilkenny Choir Choral Concert

Join The Kilkenny Choir conducted by Philip Edmondson on Sunday, 13th December from 4.00pm to 5.00pm for an evening of choral music as they present Michael Haydn's exquisite *Missa Tempore Quadragesimae*. Tickets €20 on Eventbrite or at www.thekilkennychoir.com.

Family Carers Ireland

Are you caring for a loved one at home with additional needs? A spouse, partner, child, close relative, or neighbour? Become a member of Family Carers Ireland, the national charity supporting 624,000+ family carers nationwide. Call 057 93 70221 for information.

Al Anon

Worried about someone's drinking? Al Anon Kilkenny hold meetings on Monday's (excluding bank holidays) in St Fiacre's Parish Centre, Loughboy at 7.45pm. Our confidential helpline 01 873 26 99.

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. Paul Kasu 087 390 5060
Fr Tom O'Toole: 087 224 0787
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

First Sunday of Advent – 29th November 2026

The First Sunday of Advent

A new liturgical year begins today. The Church not only marks the beginning of a new season but calls all Catholics to a renewed commitment to the life of faith in Christ the Lord.

This Sunday traditionally focuses on the theme of hope, symbolised by the first purple candle on our Advent Wreath. That candle, small and flickering, is a defiant act of faith. We light it as a people of hope — a people whose faith is marked by an expectation that we should always be ready for the coming of the Master.

The readings this week set the tone for everything that follows. The prophet Isaiah cries out from the depths of human longing: "Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down! … No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him." That ancient cry is still alive in every human heart. And the Gospel answers it with urgency — "Be on your guard, stay awake!" (Mark 13:33). This year we return to Cycle B, the Gospel of St. Mark, and on this First Sunday, Jesus invites us to recognise the signs of the last days.

The liturgy of Advent focuses on remembering Christ's first coming at Bethlehem, which then directs our minds to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. Both comings demand the same response: a heart wide open and a life actively oriented toward Him.

This time of prayer and penance endeavours to give us a renewed impetus to truly welcome the message of the One who became man for us. So let this Advent be more than calendar and candles. Let it be a genuine turning of the heart.

Advent Calendar

Archbishop Eamon Martin has launched the theme for Ireland's 2026 digital Advent Calendar as, 'Making Room for Christ'. Advent begins this Sunday, 29th November and the digital doors of the calendar can be opened each day on the homepage of catholicbishops.ie

The central theme for this year's Advent calendar is 'Making Room for Christ' — preparing our hearts, our work, and our world for the coming of Jesus' has been specifically chosen to spiritually support the lived reality of many in our fast-paced world. Now in its thirteenth year, the calendar invites individuals, families, and faith communities to create meaningful space for God in their daily lives, and workplaces, by offering a daily moment for people of all ages to pray, reflect, and pause and thereby take stock of our faith journey during this special liturgical season of preparation for Christmas.