

Thank You John Joe & Welcome Jane

This weekend we formally say *Goodbye, Thank You, Good Health and God's Blessing* to John Joe Bergin who has given sterling service to St John's Parish as Sacristan for more than twenty three years. Since the Fall of last year, John Joe has had to endure ailing health and has been under doctor's care. As time progressed he was medically advised to bring forward his chosen month of retirement – which was to be this coming June – and cease his Sacristan's duties from the end of last February. During his twenty three year tenure, John Joe has seen at least seventeen priests come and go from service in St John's – a fact that speaks volumes regarding the security of tenure of sacristans over priests in this parish! During his time in St John's, John Joe has given the parish, the parishioners and the clergy 100% loyalty and commitment. He was dedicated to his task as though it were a vocation rather than a job. Despite meeting many church and state dignitaries over the years, John Joe treated the mighty and the lowly with equal professionalism, courtesy and care.

We all join in thanking him for his dedicated work and service. We thank him for so often being the “public face” of St John's for the countless numbers of tourists that visit our church each year. We hope he enjoys his well-earned retirement, and that God gives him the best of health to do so.

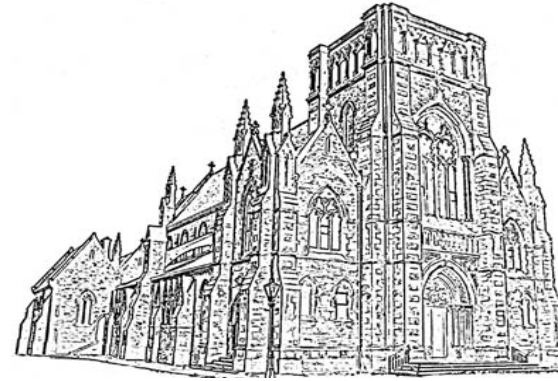
However, in bidding farewell to John Joe, we are delighted to welcome his successor, Ms Jane Dineen. Many of you are familiar with Jane as being a “public face” of welcome at the Newpark Hotel in which she worked for almost the same number of years that John Joe was in St John's.

Jane has always been a familiar figure at Sunday and weekday masses when her work schedule allowed. Now, very qualified, she comes to a much bigger hotel to work, where all are equal in the eyes of God and where all the faithful are fed with the Bread of Life.

We are very happy that she has taken up this new challenge in her life. With Holy Week and Easter already under her belt, as well as a number of baptisms, weddings and funerals, we are very confident that she be a great success and will quickly make her own mark as Church Sacristan.

It must be acknowledged that, during the period of John Joe's absence and Jane's arrival, huge credit is due to all the voluntary personnel what kept things going smoothly. People like Bernie Dermody, Kathleen Ferguson, Ann Fitzpatrick, Margaret Dunne, Hannah Byrne and Marie Fogarty – all helped enormously, and the priests and people are deeply grateful. We hope the good will may continue on Jane's days off and during holiday time!

ST JOHN'S PARISH – KILKENNY



Parish Pastoral Council

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Second Sunday of Easter
19th April 2009

The Sacrament of Confirmation & The Ceremony of Light

In preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation, all Candidates, their Parents and Sponsors are requested to attend a special Mass and Ceremony of Light at 7.30 p.m. this Monday in St John's Church.

This is the final event for the fifty two Candidates as they prepare for the big day next Saturday.

We remind all regular mass-goers that, as the Confirmations take place at 11.00 a.m., there will be no 10.30 a.m. Mass that morning.

Cake Sale

The Children's Liturgy Group will hold their cake sale after 6.30pm Mass on Saturday evening, and before and after all masses this weekend in the Day Care Centre in St. John's in Aid of the National Children's Hospital, Tallaght; – “Cradle” which helps children affected by war/disaster; - St. Patrick's School, Kells Road and ISPC. Please support generously.

Deaths – Month’s Minds – Anniversaries

Recently Decd.: Margaret Connolly, Doon, Formerly 5 Castlecomer Rd.

Month’s Mind: John McHenry (Sun 12 Noon)

Anniversaries: Michael Kelly (Sat 6.30pm); Patsy & Michael McElligott (Sun 8am); William Trait (Sun 10am Johnswell); Kay Kelleher (Sun 10.30am); Peggy Tynan (Dunmore 11am); Margaret & Gerard Rush (Sun 7.30pm); Nano Brennan; Sadie Brennan; Geraldine Carroll; Rev. Fr. Joe Cuddy; Molly Cunningham; Wendy Curley; Mary Kate Coyne; Thomas Dowling; Joseph & Anne Duffe; Thomas & Noel Fry; Elizabeth Geoghegan; Marie Kiely; Mary Muldowney; Joe Whyte;

Eucharistic Ministers For Next Weekend – Panel 1 Readers for Next Weekend – 129

8.00 a.m. Mass	Ann Noonan
10.30 a.m.	Peggy Wall/Declan Wall
12.00 noon	Tony Dalton
7.30 p.m.	Ann Marie Grace
Johnswell 10.00 a.m.	Louise Whitely/Fiona Whitely
Dunmore 11.00 a.m.	First Communion Group

O’Loughlin Gaels Lotto Results

Numbers: 7; 9; 19; 21. Bonus No.13. No Winner. Next Week’s Prize Fund: €6,000.00.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The monthly collection for St. Vincent de Paul will take place this weekend. Many thanks for your contributions to date.

Johnswell Active Retirement Dinner

The Johnswell Active Retirement Dinner will take place this Sunday April at 1pm. For further details please phone 056-7761161.

Enable Ireland

Enable Ireland, Kilkenny would like to invite you to join them on their sponsored walk of Croagh Patrick on the Saturday 23rd May 2009. Taking part in the climb are Duksy Walsh, D.J. Carey, John Leahy, Joe Hennessy, Noel Skehan and Owen Kelly. Sponsorship cards and further information are available from the Enable Ireland, O’Neill Centre. Telephone 056 7762326 or 087 9472127

The Kilkenny Choir

The Kilkenny Choir will perform the *Bach ‘Magnificat’* and *Cantata 11* in St. Canice’s Cathedral, Kilkenny on Sunday 26th April at 8.30pm. The choir will be accompanied by a Professional Orchestra and Soloists – Lynda Lee (Soprano), Duncan Brickenden (Countertenor), John Elwes (Tenor), John Milne (Bass) and the Chamber Choir of Kilkenny College. All conducted by Philip Edmondson. Tickets €20 (€18 concession) available at the door.

Used Clothing Collection Drive

Please help provide vital funding for an orphanage in Kenya which cares for homeless children providing them with education, meals, clothes, medication and accommodation. Any used clothes and household textiles can be dropped off before 12 noon on Tuesday 21st April inside the main gate of St. John’s Church.

Alice Kyteler

Courtney Power – a 2nd year Heritage Studies student in Galway is looking for any information, tales or stories relating Alice Kyteler, the famous witch of Kilkenny for her folklore assignment. Any information welcome – contact Courtney at power.courtney@yahoo.com

“Healthy Aging” – Part 2

A free public information day will take place in the Springhill Court Hotel on Tuesday 28th April. The day will be launched at 10.15am by Mr. John McGuinness, TD, Minister for Trade & Commerce. Guest speakers on the day will discuss Creating Wills, Elder Abuse, Depression and Dementia, Keeping Safe and the launch of the Kilkenny Directory of Services.

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