

## First Friday

Friday next is the First Friday of December. The sick and housebound will be visited at the normal times. Please inform the parish office or one of the priests if you have a relative, neighbour or friend who would appreciate this service.

## Kilkenny Bereavement Support

A time to meet others bereaved by suicide Kilkenny Bereavement Support will hold the monthly meeting for people bereaved by suicide in Villa Maria, Talbots Inch next Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup> Dec. at 8.00pm. All are welcome. For information phone 7756538.

## Adult Faith Development

**This weekend, *Adult Faith Development* present the following for Advent and are available in the Sacristy or the Presbytery:**

*The Advent Scripture Reflection* booklet – an opportunity for groups of individuals to come together once a week to reflect on the scriptures.

*The Advent CD* is based on the central characteristics of ‘Lectio Divina’ and is an audio version of the scripture Reflection Booklet.

*The Advent Text:* Following on from the success of a similar venture at Lent the Adult Faith Development group is once again offering a *daily text message*.

Those who wish to receive these texts at no cost are asked to:

TEXT their mobile number to the Ossory Faith Development Group at 085 – 8313100; or EMAIL [afd@ossory.ie](mailto:afd@ossory.ie); or TELEPHONE 056-775 3624; or WRITE their mobile phone number in the sheets provided in the church porch.

## Finding Hope-In Advent Time

On the three Tuesday’s in Advent at 11.00 am in St. Patrick’s Parish Centre, Fr. Willie Purcell will give a talk and discussion on above. Tea / coffee will be provided.

## Kilkenny Coeliac Support Group

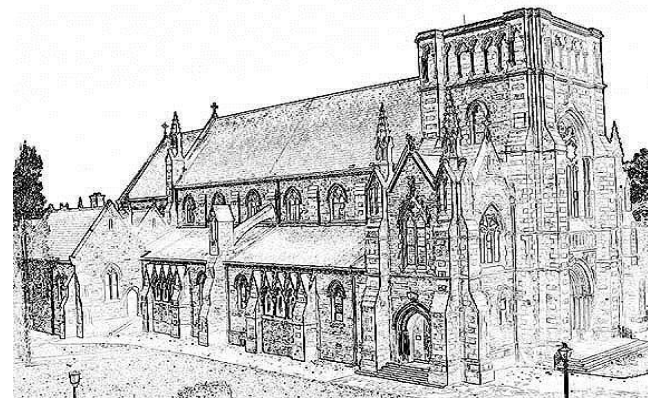
A meeting for the Kilkenny Coeliac Support Group will take place next Monday at 8.00pm in the Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel.

## KCLR 's Spirit of Christmas Carol Concert

KCLR's *Soul Agenda* presenters Vicki Sandall and Fr Dan Carroll, present the first “*Spirit of Christmas Carol Concert*” in aid of the Carlow Kilkenny Homecare Team. Tickets €5, available from KCLR or on the door.

The Carol Concert takes place in St Canice's Cathedral, on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm.

# ST JOHN'S PARISH – KILKENNY



## Pastoral Council

Claire Bowden,  
Margaret Cleere,  
Mary Brennan,  
Jimmy Kelly,  
Úna Lennon,  
Fr Seán O'Connor,  
Mary O'Hanlon,  
Aidan Phelan,  
Fr Frank Purcell,  
Pat Ryan.

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SVP HELPLINE - 086 895 1239

**First Sunday of Advent  
2<sup>nd</sup> December 2012**

## The Jesse Tree

The Jesse Tree tells the story of God's redemptive plan for the world through 25 Symbols from the Old and New Testament. Each week during advent we will place new symbols on our Jesse Tree. These symbols will trace the heritage of Jesus Christ from the beginning of creation and help us to understand the mystery of the Old Testament as it slowly reveals and explains the coming of the Christ child. Our hope, this year is that this tree will enable us to share in the power of the Advent season and the true meaning of Christmas as day by day we eagerly prepare our hearts and lives for the coming Saviour. Each week a small number of symbols will be added to the Jesse Tree, to trace the main events and figures before culminating in the Birth of Jesus.

## Pastoral Council Meeting

A meeting of the PPC will take place in the presbytery on Wednesday evening at 7.30 p.m. All members are invited to attend.

## Deaths – Month's Minds – Anniversaries

**Deaths:** Kevin Hughes, Bennettsbridge Road.

**Anniversaries:** Ollie Bergin (6.30pm), Tom, Peggy & Sheila Bourke (10.30am), Helen Purcell (11.00am), Johanne Maher (12 noon), Thomas & Rena Brett (7.30pm), John Marnell, Sam & Anna Johnston, Brendan Hayes, Nell, May & Ann Walshe, Syl Gaffney, Mark Lynch

## Eucharistic Ministers For Next Weekend – Panel 1 Readers for Next Weekend – Page 84

8.00am	Ann O'Grady
10.30am	Paula Rogers & Louis Feeley
12.00noon	Caroline Mullins
7.30pm	Ann Marie Grace
Johnswell 10.00am	Paul McKiernan
Dunmore 11.00am	Jim Kavanagh & Claire Hanrick

## Ossory Vocations Promotion #01 "Strengthen your hearts in holiness."

Are you being called to grow in holiness as a priest? Contact: Fr Willie Purcell. Vocations Director. [ossoryvocdir@gmail.com](mailto:ossoryvocdir@gmail.com) Tel: 056 7770261

## Christmas Cards

Christmas greeting cards are now available at the Parish office. Pack of six cards are €5. Please note that, as stocks still remain, these cards depict the same Winter Church scene as last year's.

## The Irish Wheelchair Association

The Wheelchair Association will hold its Christmas Arts and Craft Fair at Claddagh Court, Collage Rd. next Wed. from 11.00am to 3.00pm. Special guests include Jackie Tyrrell, Brian Cody and many more.

## Monthly Rosary

Monthly Rosary in James Green continues this Sunday at 3.00pm.

## Saturday – Feast Of The Immaculate Conception

Next Saturday, 8th December, is the feast of The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary, and is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Vigil mass Friday at 6.30pm. Saturday's masses: 8.00 & 10.30am; 12.00 noon and 6.30pm. (*because it's the Vigil of 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent*) in St John's.

## A Gem Is Unveiled At Johnswell

A veritable festival of music and song was enjoyed by a full church in Johnswell last Saturday night as the beautifully restored *Thomas Casson Positive Organ* was unveiled to a most appreciative community.

Fr Seán O'Connor conducted the official launch and blessing, after which the Pipe Organ began its renewed life by accompanying a host of local and guest vocal-talent that made the Dedication Concert a worthy and memorable event. Musical contributions came from Johnswell NS; Castlecomer Male Voice Choir; Bass Trio; Elaine Nolan; Johnswell Choir; Sospiro; St Canice's Cathedral Choir and Malcolm Proud.

The organ, built in the early 1900s, was used as a church organ up to the 1990s at which point it was sold to Mr & Mrs Jim & Jill Walsh who then lived in Dublin. Later, when they changed address they found it too large for their new home. Then, as part of Church Unity week last January, they came with St Canice's Cathedral Choir to Johnswell. They kindly offered the organ to Johnswell Church for free and are now delighted that it is once again being used in Church Worship. We wish to assure them that the Johnswell community is immensely grateful to them for this instrument, which not only sounds fantastic, but also looks fabulous as a church furnishing.

Great credit is due to Paul McKiernan who spearheaded the whole project; to David Forde (Cathedral Choir Conductor) who worked over the Summer to repair/tune the organ; to Johnswell Development Committee; to the Church and School choirs; all the visiting choirs; the helpers and hospitality providers on the night; and to Seán Colgan for being the MC for the event.

## Book Launch in Johnswell

Would you like to celebrate the publishing of "*Townlands: A Habitation*" - a book about Johnswell, the parish, its fields and its environs? Come to the book launch in Johnswell Community Hall on Sunday December 9, at 11.15 am, after Mass. Have a chat with the local authors over a cup of tea.

## Kilkenny Art Exhibition

Kilkenny art exhibition 6<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> December (premises beside Tynan's Bridge House) Official Opening on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec from 6-9pm all proceeds from opening night and 50% of sales will be donated to Cois Nore Cancer support services. All welcome. Please support.