

Parish Christmas Cards

This year's Parish Christmas Cards are now available in the Sacristy after masses or during office hours (9.30 a.m. – 2.00 p.m.) in the presbytery.

Johnswell School

Johnswell School will hold a coffee morning, cake and craft sale on Sunday 15th at 10.30am in the school hall. All are welcome.

Pope John Paul II Awards

90 young people from the Diocese of Ossory will this weekend in St Mary's Cathedral receive the Pope John Paul II Award. This is a great achievement for our young people.

The Puss Club at '50'

The celebrate the 50th Anniversary a special draw will take place on Sunday 8th December in the office of the Ossory Social Services on the Waterford Road. Draw takes place at 4.00pm. refreshments will be served. For details contact our local representative Theresa Trehy on 087 7701334.

Irish Wheelchair Association

Christmas Relishes Chutneys Preserves and James for sale, also made to order Hampers. Call in and see our range of homemade products on offer. Claddagh Court, Callan Road. Contact 7762775.

Set Dancing

Irish Set Dancing Classes will take place every Thursday Night in The Orchard House Bar & Restaurant from 8.00pm – 9.30pm. Admission €5. For all enquiries contact John Davis on 087 2067053.

Coffee Morning

The Kilkenny Traveller Community Health Project is hosting a Charity Fairtrade Coffee Morning in Ossory Youth, Desart Hall on Friday from 10.30am till 12.30pm. Proceeds to local Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Initiatives.

Coeliac Support Group

The local Coeliac Support Group will hold its final meeting of 2013 in St. Patrick's Parish Centre on Monday December 2nd at 8.00 pm. Anyone effected by this disease is invited to attend.

Monthly Rosary

... in James Green this Sunday 1st December at 3 O'clock.

Youth 2000

Youth 2000 Ireland will be hosting their annual Christmas Retreat in Newbridge College, Newbridge, co. Kildare from Friday 13th to Sunday 15th December.

ST JOHN'S PARISH – KILKENNY



Pastoral Council

Mary Brennan,
Alan Burke,
Margaret Cleere,
Ann-Marie Ivers,
Jimmy Kelly,
Úna Lennon,
Sheila O'Callaghan,
Fr Seán O'Connor,
Aidan Phelan,
Fr Frank Purcell,
Pat Ryan.

Fr Frank Purcell (086) 601 0001

Fr Seán O'Connor (086) 389 5911

T: (056) 772 1072 E: stjohms@ossory.ie W: stjohnskilkenny.com

SVP HELPLINE - 086 895 1239

First Sunday of Advent
1st December 2013

What is a Jesse Tree?

The Jesse Tree represents *the family tree*, or genealogy of Jesus Christ. It tells the story of God's salvation plan, beginning with creation and continuing through the Old Testament, to the coming of the Messiah. The name comes from Isaiah 11:1, "*Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, and a branch from his roots will bear fruit.*"

This Advent, each church of our parish has a Jesse Tree at the sanctuary. The Symbols of the story down through the ages leading up to the birth of Jesus, The Messiah, will be added, week by week, to the tree. Coupled with the Jesse Tree, you will notice four boxes with the words:

HOPE – PEACE – JOY – LOVE

The words on the boxes are our wishes for this time of year as the birth of Jesus draws near. We wish for *Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love* for each member of our faith community. As we prepare for Christmas during the Advent Season, you are invited to write on slips of paper (without your name) prayerful intentions surrounding these four wishes regarding yourself, or family, or parish, or country or regarding the world in general.

Deaths – Month's Minds – Anniversaries

Deaths: Pat Feehan, Newpark Close.
Gerard Wysniewski, Hebron Park.
Richard Clifford, Old Callan Road.

Months Mind: Michael Heffernan (7.30pm)

Anniv: Nicola Hayes (6.30pm); Katie Brennan (10.00am);
Etta Shine (10.30am); Helen Purcell (11.00am); Julia O'Keeffe (12.00
noon); Ann & Jim Doran; John Murphy; Brigid Comerford;
Brendan Hayes; Ellen Delaney; Thomas Moloney; Dollie & Pearse Butler;

Eucharistic Ministers For Next Weekend – Panel 1 Readers for Next Weekend – Page 85

8.00am	Ann O'Grady
10.30am	Kathleen Ferguson & Saoirse Ryan
12.00noon	Bobbie Lahart
7.30pm	Marie Fogarty
Johnswell 10.00am	Josie Manning & Catherine Bergin
Dunmore 11.00am	Jim Kavanagh & Claire Hanrick

O'Loughlin Gaels Lotto

Numbers:15, 21, 22,26. Bonus: 1 . No Jackpot or Bonus winners.
Next week's prize fund €20,000.

Ossory Vocations Promotion #1

Stay awake! The Lord is coming. Be ready! (Matthew 24: 37- 44).

If you think God is calling you to be a priest, visit our website at
www.ossory.ie/vocations or contact Fr. Willie Purcell at
ossoryvocdir@gmail.com. Facebook: [ossoryvocdir](https://www.facebook.com/ossoryvocdir) Tel: 056 7770261

Parish Pastoral Council

A meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will take place next Wednesday at 7.30pm in the presbytery.

Dunmore Junior Choir

To prepare for Christmas in Dunmore we would like to invite all our young musicians and singers to leave their names into the sacristy after mass on the coming Sunday mornings.

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 or neighbour who would appreciate a visit.

St Vincent de Paul

The St Vincent de Paul *Christmas Collection* for will take next weekend. Your support will be much appreciated.

Advent Text

The *Adult Faith Development group* are hoping to support people on their journey through Advent. Why not avail of the Advent Text Message (a thought or line of scripture) which will be sent daily to your phone. Text your number to AFD office 0858313100, email afd@ossory.ie, tel. 056-7753624 or write your number on the sheets provided.

Scripture Reflection

Available from this weekend, for the four weeks of Advent, is a *Lectio Divina* style sheet to support and encourage people in their reflecting on the scriptures during Advent. Why not take a copy home.

Thinking Through Advent

The Adult Faith Development group have produced a small pocket sized "*Thought for the Day Booklet*". This booklet will allow people to reflect on a line of scripture each day by means of a short reflection, prayer and question. These booklets cost €2 and are available after all Masses from the Sacristy, Parish Office; the Adult Faith Development office, tel. 056-7753624 or the Chapter House Bookshop, St Mary's Cathedral.

St John's Homes for Elderly

St John's Homes for Elderly Committee meeting will take place next Wednesday 4th December at 7pm in the Presbytery.

Readers Rota

A new Readers Rota is now available for collection in the Sacristy.