

Youth 2000

Youth 2000 Summer Festival, Cistercian College, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary from Thursday 13th – Sunday 16th August. For young people aged 16-35, an opportunity not to be missed to experience the Catholic faith and meet many new people. This Festival has been nicknamed the “Holy Oxygen” with over 1000 young people from all corners of Ireland attending last year. The festival is donation only. Free buses available from towns throughout Ireland. For more information and to book online see www.youth2000.ie or phone 01 6753690.

Order of Malta

..... will hold its annual city church gate collections on the weekend of July 25th & 26th. We are presently trying to raise funds for a forever home as after 75 years serving Kilkenny we still do not have a permanent base.

South Kilkenny Historical Society

The South Kilkenny Historical Society will join locals and others on Sunday July 12th (Fraochán Sunday) on the summit of Tory Hill. Meeting time and place: 1.45pm at the church car park, Mullinavat. All welcome. Climbing Tory Hill on Fraochán Sunday is an ancient tradition, going back many centuries and is associated with the ancient festival of Lughnasa.

Monthly Rosary

Monthly Rosary in James Green at the Statue of our Lady today, 3.00pm.

Sunday Dinner

A young couple invited their pastor for Sunday dinner. While they were in the kitchen preparing the meal, the minister asked their son what they were having.

"Goat," the little boy replied.

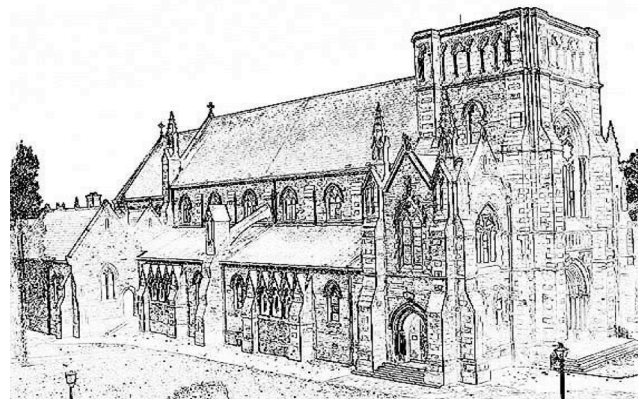
"Goat?" replied the Pastor, "Are you sure about that?"

"Yes," said the youngster. "I heard Dad say to Mom, 'We might as well have the old goat for dinner today as any other day.'"

A Church Sign

"Where will you spend eternity? In Smoking or Non-smoking?"

ST JOHN'S PARISH <> KILKENNY



Pastoral Council

Mary Brennan,
Alan Burke,
Margaret Cleere,
Jimmy Kelly,
Sheila O'Callaghan,
Fr Seán O'Connor,
Aidan Phelan,
Fr Frank Purcell,
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Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 5th July 2015

Dunmore & Johnswell

We commend and thank the Communities of Dunmore and Johnswell for the efficiency with which they prepared for and celebrated the Annual Cemetery Masses on Friday evening. The cemeteries were meticulously neat and tidy – a fitting mark of respect for all laid to rest in them. The excellent work of the caretakers, sacristans, volunteers and the many others who cooperated with these annual events deserve great credit.

Divine Mercy Apostolate

You are invited to join in the *Service for Healing of The Generations* which takes place in St Brigid's Church, Coon, next Wednesday, 8th July, led by Fr John Delaney and team.

It commences with Adoration at 6.30pm. Holy Mass at 7.30pm, concluding with Benediction.

Deaths – Month’s Minds – Anniversaries

Months Mind: Carrie Doheny (6.30pm).
Nina Falsey (7.30pm).

Anniv: Mick Butler (10.00am);
Nicholas & Bridget Kavanagh (10.30am); Michael Wall; Mary Fry;
Joseph Shorthall; Maurice, Anna & Jack Nolan; Dermot Delaney;
Renee Murphy; Bridget Ward; Michael Walsh;

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8.00am	Nora Webster & Margaret Leahy
10.30am	Mary Hanafin & Seamus Mahoney
12.00noon	Anne Maria Walsh
7.30pm	Anne Marie Grace
Johnswell 10.00am	Robert Butler
Dunmore 11.00am	Philip Comerford & Esther Comerford

Weekly Envelope Collection

Thanks to all who contribute and those who pay by Standing Order. S.O. forms available in Parish Office.

Ossory Vocations Promotion #32

“My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.”

If you think you may be called to serve Jesus as a priest Call or Email.
Fr. Willie Purcell Ossory Vocations Director: ossoryvocdir@gmail.com
056 7770261.

THE WORD OF GOD

Today, St Mark begins a new theme: the blindness of people to the power and authority of Jesus. The people of Jesus’ own hometown reject his message. They consider Jesus too much “one of them” to be taken seriously. They are too obsessed with superficialities -- occupation, ancestry, origins - to realize God present in their midst and to be affected by that presence.

A Prophet Despised In His Own Country

In the Gospel we see Jesus coming to his own home town of Nazareth to preach to his people. Not only did the people refuse to accept Jesus, but they were offended by him, and refused to listen.

They thought he was not worth listening for two reasons:

Firstly, he was a worker. "This is the carpenter, surely...". Some of them, like some of us, thought that people who worked with their hands are incapable of any level of intellectual capacity which could command their respect.

The second reason for their rejection of Jesus was that they were so close to him. He was also related to many of the townsfolk having maybe extended family and cousins or other remote relatives. As good Jews the townsfolk were expecting the Messiah, but surely not one of their own, someone they grew up with, someone whose family was just like any other family in the village.

The Gospel of Mark tells us that Jesus was so distressed at this lack of faith that he could work no miracles there. It does not say that he chose to work no miracles there, but that because of their hardness of heart he couldn't work any there.

How does Jesus react to the locals? He says to them: "A prophet is only despised in his own country, among his own relations and in his own house." In Mark's version of the Gospel, Jesus is rejected by his own relations and by those of his own house, they believed him to be out of his mind and now the rejection is complete.

Jesus' experience of rejection in Nazareth renders him powerless to do any miracle among his own people and so he moves elsewhere, refusing to be enslaved by his failure to reach his own people.

By coping thus with failure and rejection, Jesus points beyond himself in the power of the Father.

Today, it is worth asking how we treat our modern day prophets? Prophets are controversial, they swim against the tide; they tell people things that they don't want to hear. They can be extremely unpopular. Can you think of one modern-day prophet who may be calling you to something different, to something greater, even if it is uncomfortable? We will always learn something, even if our viewpoint doesn't change. We should challenge ourselves to listen, to grow. How often has Jesus come to us in the form of someone we know very well, but we did not recognise him?