

## Christmas Offerings for Christmas and Weekly/Yearly Envelopes for The Parish, 2016

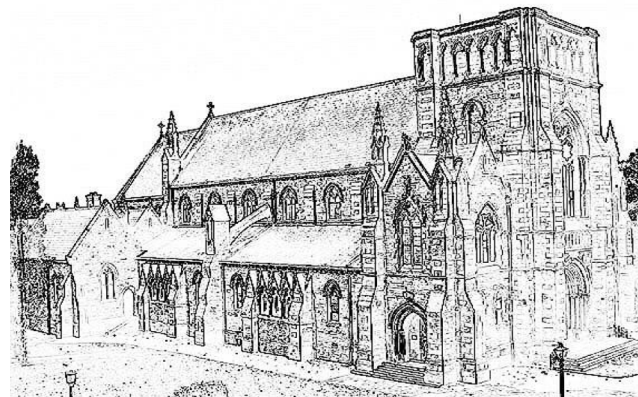
The Weekly/Yearly Envelopes & Christmas Offering Envelopes are available for distribution. We would very much appreciate if the Distributors, whose generous help is always valued, would collect their respective Areas from the presbytery.

- The “**Weekly/Yearly/Standing Order**” contributions go in their entirety to capital expenditure, the maintenance of the three parish churches & buildings, and all the running costs of the parish.
- The “**Christmas Offering Collection**” goes towards the salaries of the Priests of the parish, the Bishop of the Diocese.
- If you have let the practice of supporting your Parish or Personnel slip, we urge you to recommence and play your part in running this very fine parish.
- We are very conscious of the sacrifices you make as you support these collections, and once again we take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to all who do so.

### *Oh Dear - Lots of Room to Improve!*

- Q. How do you know Santa has to be a man ?  
A. No woman is going to wear the same outfit year after year !
- Q. What did the big candle say to the little candle ?  
A. I'm going out tonight !
- Q. What do monkeys sing at Christmas ?  
A. Jungle Bells, Jungle bells.. !
- Q. What did Adam say on the day before Christmas ?  
A. It's Christmas, Eve !
- Q. What do snowmen eat for breakfast?  
A. Snowflakes !
- Q. What is Father Christmas' wife called ?  
A. Mary Christmas !
- Q. What do you call Santa Claus when he doesn't move?  
A. Santa Pause !
- Q. How many presents can Santa fit into an empty sack?  
A. Only one - after that it's not empty any more !
- Q. What king is the children's favourite at Christmas time ?  
A. A stocking !
- Q. Why does Santa have 3 gardens ?  
A. So as he can ho-ho-ho !

## ST JOHN'S PARISH <> KILKENNY



### *Pastoral Council*

Mary Brennan,  
Alan Burke,  
Margaret Cleere,  
Fr Brian Griffin,  
Jimmy Kelly,  
Sheila O'Callaghan,  
Fr Seán O'Connor,  
Aidan Phelan,  
Fr Frank Purcell,  
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### Third Sunday of Advent 13<sup>th</sup> December 2015

## Sunday, 5.30pm - Diocesan Celebration Inaugurate the Great Jubilee Year of Mercy *'Be merciful like the Father'*

The Jubilee Year of Mercy (8 Dec 2015 - 20 Nov 2016) will be inaugurated by Bishop Freeman in our diocese with the celebration of the Eucharist, accompanied by priests, religious and the lay faithful, in St. Mary's Cathedral at 5.30 p.m. **Bishop Seamus, along with bishops throughout the world will officially open the Holy Door of Mercy, which is prepared in St. Mary's Cathedral, the Mother Church of our diocese. All are invited and are most welcome.**

## Thursday, 7.30 pm - Advent Penitential Service

The annual Advent Reconciliation/Penitential Service will take place on Thursday next, 17<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 p.m. in St John's Church. Amidst all the usual material preparations for Christmas, we are urged not to forget our spiritual preparations also as we prepare to celebrate the Lord's birthday. There will be ample priests available on the night, so please make the effort to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Advent Season.

## Deaths – Month's Minds – Anniversaries

**Deaths:** Mary Keane, The Sycamores.  
Mary McGuinness, Wolfe Tone Street.  
Marie Parsons, Assumption Place.  
Nicola O'Sullivan, The Weir.  
*Funeral mass Monday at 12.30pm in Ennis Cathedral.*

**Months Mind:** Frances Ivory

**Anniv:** Ann & Paddy Stapleton & Family (6.30pm);  
Andy Heffernan (10.30am); Jerry O'Neill (11.00am);  
Kathleen & Tom Cody (12.00am); Mary Malone (7.30pm); Nan Brennan;  
Richard O'Carroll; Owen Massey; Petra & Tommy McGuinness;  
Jackie Dowling; Jack Byrne; Frances Guidera; Mary & Eric McGrath;  
Christopher & Catherine Molloy; Hughie Shiels; Seamus, Milo & Ann Fry;  
Patrick Burke; Anne Fogarty;

## Eucharistic Ministers For Next Weekend – Panel 1 Readers for Next Weekend – Page 90

8.00am	Ann Marie Hogan
10.30am	Peggy Wall
12.00noon	Tony Dalton
7.30pm	Eileen Kinane
Johnswell 10.00am	Robert Butler
Dunmore 11.00am	Pierce Lennon & Liam Maddock

## 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 #03

*“what ought we to do?” Let joy and gladness show forth in you.*

*You are called to be the presence of Jesus. (Luke 3:10-18)*

If you think God is calling you to priesthood, call Fr. Willie Purcell Ossory Vocations Director. 056 7770261 or email [ossoryvocdir@gmail.com](mailto:ossoryvocdir@gmail.com).

## ‘Year of Mercy’ Christmas Cards

The ‘*Year of Mercy*’ (8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015 – Nov 20 2016) edition of our Parish Christmas Card, including Pope Francis’ Jubilee Prayer, are now available for purchase at the back of the church, in the sacristy or at the presbytery. Pack of six for €5. They are a limited edition and only small number are left.

## Kilkenny Choir & Kilkenny Youth Orchestra

The Kilkenny Choir together with Kilkenny Youth Orchestra will present a concert this Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> at 4.30pm in St. John’s Church, entitled *Sacred Music from Paris* with compositions by *Liszt, Gounod and Saint-Saens, conducted by Philip Edmondson*. Tickets at the door before the concert. €8/€5.

## St Vincent De Paul Society

The Parish Conference of the St Vincent De Paul Society will hold its Annual Christmas Collection this weekend.

Thank you for your generous support and we wish you a happy Christmas.

## St John’s Eucharistic Adoration

New ‘adorers’ are required for this ministry. If you wish to become an adorer i.e. commit to a regular hour Tuesday to Friday for 8am – 7pm please put your name and number in book outside adoration Chapel Door.

## South Kilkenny Historical Society

Invitation to join the South Kilkenny Historical Society for the Winter Solstice sunset at Knockroe Passage Tomb on Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting at 2.30pm at Owning Church. All welcome.

## Blessed Edmund Rice

The monthly mass to pray for the intercession of Blessed Edmund Rice in our lives and for his canonisation will take place in Westcourt on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm.

St. Joseph’s Young Priests Society will organise the liturgy for this mass. Please note the change of date. All are welcome.

## St John’s Parish Local History Calendar

A new St John’s Local History Calendar for 2016 is now available. Contact Frank Cody, Newpark Close FRC at 056-7723309. Cost: €5.00.

## Divine Mercy

Divine Mercy Hour of Adoration and prayer will take place in the Friary Church this Sunday from 3-4pm. All welcome.