

Online Resources

Online resources for Lent are available on the Ossory website. Download them at www.ossory.ie for use in your parish or home.

Lent Tweets

Follow @OssoryDiocese for a simple thought each day during this Lenten Journey. Have your timeline prompt you to pause each day to be reminded of our Lenten Journey.

Walk in Jenkinstown Wood

A guided walk in Jenkinstown Wood for John Paul II Award participants, but also for all young people. Led by Fr Eamonn O’Gorman with Gemma Mulligan, Adult Faith Development Officer in our diocese. Come along on the morning - all welcome. Location: Jenkinstown Wood. Date: Saturday, 5th April at 11.00am.

Godly play

A Lenten Godly Play - Faith the Reason for our Hope with Gemma Mulligan and Marie Tallent. A morning for young people, whose attending our primary schools, to reflect through Godly Play - by means of storytelling drama and movement - the hope-failed message of Lent and Easter.

Location: St Patrick’s Parish Centre, Loughboy.
Date: Saturday, 12th April 2025 at 11.00am.

Young people from our parish are invited to come along and enjoy this experience.

Address: St John’s Presbytery, Dublin Road, Kilkenny. R95 ND2W

Email: stjohns@ossory.ie **Website:** www.stjohnskillkenny.com

Office: 056 772 1072; **Secretary:** Áine Butler; **Office Hours:** Mon-Fri 9.30 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.

Newsletter Deadline: Thursdays 12.00 noon **SVP Help Line:** 086 895 1239

Monsignor Dan Carroll: 087 907 7769. Fr Raymond Dempsey: 089 497 1924.
Monsignor Michael Ryan (Retired)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Fergal Brennan; Mary Brennan; Jo Browne; Alan Burke; Fr Dan Carroll; Claire Coogan; Fr Raymond Dempsey; Luke Leydon; Iris O’Flynn; Karena Phelan.

IF YOU HAVE A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN CONTACT

The Diocesan Designated Liaison Person, Ms. Ailish Higgins, 085 802 1633 - dlp@ossory.ie

OUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES ARE:

Brenda Whitely; Marian Eardly.

Counselling Services - Towards Healing Confidential Helpline

1800 313 316 - www.towardshealing.ie

Roman Catholic Diocese and Parishes of Ossory - Registered Charity No. 20015831

Stations of the Cross

We invite you to join with us at St. John’s Church at 7.30pm on the Fridays of Lent to contemplate the Stations of the Cross. This forty minute devotion commemorates Christ’s last day on earth as a man. The 14 devotions, or stations, focus on specific events of his last day, beginning with his condemnation. At each station, the individual recalls and meditates on a specific event from Christ’s last day.

Rosary for Lent

The members of the local Medjugorje Youth Group meet at St. John’s Church to recite the Rosary before the Friday Stations of the Cross. Meet at 7.00pm. All are welcome.

Reflections for Lent

“The Seven Last Words of Christ.” Reflections are continuing on every Wednesday of Lent, 11.00am - 11.45am in the Black Abbey. Led by Fr. Joe Kavanagh OP.

Society of St Vincent De Paul: ‘Thank You’

A sincere thank you for all your generous support at last weekend’s collection. Contact the local conference on 086 895 1239.

Emigrants’ Chaplaincy Collection

The total Emigrants’ Collection taken up last weekend was €1,461. Thank you for your support. This is a collection for the Bishops’ Outreach and will be used to support our emigrants.

Parish Of Saint John The Evangelist

incorporating | St John’s | Dunmore | Johnswell | church areas

MASS TIMES

St John’s – Saturday: 6.00pm (Vigil); **Sunday:** 8.00am, 11.30am & 7.00pm.

Holy Days: 6.00pm (Vigil); 8.00am, 10.30am & 7.00pm.

Weekdays: 8.00am, 10.30am. (Sat. 10.30am only). **Adoration:** Wednesdays at 11.00am.

Johnswell - Sunday 10.00am

Dunmore - Sunday 11.00am

**St. John’s Parish, St. Mary’s Parish, St. Patrick’s Parish, St. Canice’s Parish
together form the Kilkenny City Pastoral Area**

Third Sunday of Lent - 23rd March 2025

The Story of the Annunciation of the Lord

As early as the middle of the 6th Century in the East, and the 7th Century in Rome, there is evidence of the Feast of the Annunciation being celebrated on 25th March. Since this feast is connected with the Lord Jesus and to His entry into history, the revised liturgical calendar gave this feast the title of the “Annunciation of the Lord”, over the more popular Annunciation of Mary. The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord is a Christmas feast even though it is not celebrated during the Christmas Season. Nine months before we celebrate the Lord’s birth, we celebrate His incarnation in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin’s name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, “Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.” But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his Kingdom there will be no end.” But Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?” And the angel said to her in reply, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God.” Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her. (Lk. 1:26-39).

Trócaire Family Fast Boxes

Trócaire Boxes are available in our churches for Lenten charitable donations from you and your family during Lent to help alleviate poverty in the Third World.

Dunmore Area Public Meeting

An information meeting will be held in Dunmore Community Hall on Monday, 31st March at 7.30pm to discuss the proposed GAA development in Dunmore. All are welcome.

St John’s Community Games Church Gate Collection

St John’s Community Games Church Gate Collection will take place next weekend, 29th & 30th March. A sincere thank you for all your generous support.

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Louis Feeley, Newpark Drive

Eileen Kelly, Newpark Close

Mary Cremin, Shandon Park

Sr Nina Murphy, Broguemakers Hill

Dill Young, St. Rioch's Street

Eoin Corr, Limerick, late of Wolfe Tone Street

Marcin Muza, Carlow & late of Ashfield

Teresa Devlin, Circular Road

Months Mind: Esther Maher (6.00pm).

Anniversaries: Michael Monagle (6.00pm); May Brophy (10.00am); John, Agnes & Mick Stapleton (11.00am); Jack & Mary Parle (11.30am); Bridget Tallis; Ann Kelly; Cadien Hennessy; Theresa Greene; Bridget O'Driscoll; John & Annie Free; Liam Bergin; Essie Collins.

*Those we love don't go away,
they walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard, but always near.
Still loved, still missed and very dear.*

Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm Ann Daly
8.00am Jo Browne
10.00am Teresa Dowling
11.00am Jim Kavanagh & Claire Hanrick
11.30am Frank & Emily Bradley
7.00pm Joan Scott



Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection:		€1,375.00	
Mass	Attendance	Baskets	
6.00pm St. John's	198	203.00	
8.00am St. John's	88	209.00	
10.00am Johnswell	74	98.00	
11.00am Dunmore	77	142.00	
11.30am St. John's	188	252.00	
7.00pm St. John's	67	130.00	
	692	€1,034.00	

St Mary's Cathedral Restoration Fund

The next St Mary's Cathedral Restoration draw will take place next Wednesday, 26th March. Tickets at €10 are available from the Parish Office, or any of the priests.

The Kilkenny Stroke Support Group

The Kilkenny Stroke Support Group meet next Friday, 28th March from 2.00pm - 4.00pm, at the Tuiscint Day Services meeting room, St. Canice's Hospital Complex. Guest speaker attending will be Ann Bray HSE. For further information call/text Lynda 085 733 1522.

St John's Parish Scripture Group.

This friendly and informal group meets in the Presbytery at 7.30pm each Thursday. All are most welcome to come along. We read the Scripture texts for the following Sunday's Mass, and then we have a relaxed chat about the meaning, message and relevance of each. It is an enjoyable way to spend an evening and helps us to better appreciate the Mass.

Religious family of the Incarnate Word

Spiritual Exercises and Silent Ignatian Retreat for men takes place from 2nd to 5th May in An Tobar Retreat Centre, Ardbraccan, Navan, Co. Meath C15 T884. Cost €190 includes all meals and accommodation. Student rate available upon request. For more information contact 087 348 2148 or email iveireland@ive.org.

Pray for Your Enemies

Jesus encourages us to pray for our enemies, to do good to those who are against us.

- A serious obstacle to holiness is making enmity with someone a two-way street.
- Make a list in prayer this week of people who have wronged you or don't seem to like you.
- Transformation in Christ comes through effort and grace, so pray for each person on the list this week and make a conscious resolution to harbour no ill will toward them.

The Season of Lent is the ideal time for reconciliation. Let's make good use of it.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning - 24th March

Thursday: 10.30am Bridget Tallis
Saturday: 6.00pm Seamus 'Scun' Donnelly
Helen Cruise
MM Maura Lanigan
Sunday: 11.00am Ken McDermott
11.30am James Hennessy
7.00pm Christina Barcoe

Please note we may transfer an anniversary Mass on the occasion of a funeral.

*May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

Parish Webcam

Masses and Services in St. John's Church are broadcast on stjohnskilkenny.com and on 106.8FM. Inform those who are unable to attend.

Weekdays

8.00am and 10.30am.

Saturdays

10.30am and 6.00pm.

Sundays

8.00am, 11.30am 7.00pm.

Holy Days

6.00pm (Eve) 8.00am,
10.30am 7.00pm

Points to Ponder

Real repentance is a reflection about whatever is unfruitful in our lifestyle. Jesus' words 'Repent or you will perish' remind us of what Socrates said at his trial, after he had opted for death rather than exile: 'The un-examined life is not worth living'. The parable of the fruitless fig tree is thought-provoking. It is not about doing wrong about failure to do what is positively right. The fig tree that bore no fruit is like a Christian who attempts no good work and lives a purely selfish life.

Francis of Assisi once invited a young Friar to go with him into town to preach. Francis and the young Friar spent all day walking through the streets and then came home. When the day's journey was done, the young Friar was disappointed and asked 'Weren't we supposed to preach today?' Francis replied, 'Son, we have preached. We were preaching while we were walking. We were seen by many, and our behaviour was noted. It is of no use walking anywhere to preach unless we preach wherever as we walk!' He summed up his idea in these words. Preach the Gospel everywhere, and if necessary, use words.' To him witnessing to Jesus wasn't merely quoting some words out of a Bible from time to time but one who lives by the word of God each day. (associationofcatholicpriests.ie)

Songs of Praise at St. Canice's Cathedral

Saint Canice's Cathedral is holding a 'Songs of Praise' service on Sunday, 23rd March at 6.00pm. Come and sing well known hymns and hear the stories behind them. Singing led by the cathedral choir.

Thought for the day

At Lent, we should try the key to our heart's door, it may have gathered rust. If so, this is the time to oil it, in order that the heart's door may open more easily when the Lord Jesus wants us to enter at Easter time! Lord, oil the hinges of our heart's door that we may swing gently and easily to welcome your coming.

Prayer - The Annunciation of The Lord

God of goodness, God of surprises, send angels of inspiration to guide and enlighten as you did Mary. Awaken us again to our true calling, our true mission: to walk with you on the paths laid out to us. Teach us to listen for you in every corner of our lives and to await your messengers in the most unexpected situations and conditions. We ask this prayer in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen!

