

The Synodal Pathway

The Church in Ireland and throughout the world is on a synodal journey. This is, Pope Francis is clear, not a journey to a particular destination rather it is the journey itself which is our destination. It is a Church that walks together, sharing our hopes and fears about faith, a Church wherein we listen deeply to each other - that is our goal. It is not the voices of some but the voices of all that truly matter. In doing this we will hear the promptings of the Holy Spirit for the Church today. In the weeks ahead plans will be made for these conversations. We will keep you informed. On our parish website you will find a video outlining what synodality is all about.

First Phase (February – March) In these months we will create awareness of Synod/synodality throughout the Diocese.

Second Phase Lent (March, April) During our “Listening Lent” we will have consultation sessions in all our parishes and Pastoral Areas to ensure that the voices of all in Ossory all are heard.

Third Phase (April, May) During Easter the Synod Group will collate all these responses (what has been heard) to share with the bishop and each other.

This week Bishop Nulty wrote to all the primary schools in the diocese and created an animated video for each class from 1st to 6th with a view to raising awareness and getting children involved in the process. Contact will be made with the schools again soon asking children lots of simple age appropriate questions about their faith, their parishes and the Church. You can view the videos and find out more at www.ossory.ie

Greeting Cards and Mass Cards

We have a modest selection of Mass cards, get well cards and Christening cards available at the Parish Office during office hours. This service is for your convenience and, if people show an interest, we will expand our stock and provide a greater variety.

Some Useful Help Agencies

St. Vincent de Paul Parish Help Line: 086 895 1239.

Address: St John's Presbytery, Dublin Road, Kilkenny. **Email:** stjohns@ossory.ie

Website: www.stjohnskilkenny.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

Fr Dan Carroll: 087 907 7769; Fr Lorcan Moran: 086 855 0521;

Fr Raymond Dempsey: 089 497 1924;

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Fergal Brennan; Mary Brennan; Jo Browne; Alan Burke; Fr Dan Carroll;

Claire Coogan; Fr Raymond Dempsey; Luke Leydon; Fr Lorcan Moran;

Iris O'Flynn; Karna Phelan.

IF YOU HAVE A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN CONTACT

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

OUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES ARE:

Mary Weadick; Máirín Bergin; 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

PARISH OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

incorporating | St John's | Dunmore | Johnswell | *church areas*

MASS TIMES

St John's – Sundays & Holy Days: Vigil: 6.00pm; Sun: 8.00am, 11.30am & 7.00pm.

Polish Mass: 2nd Sat. Monthly, 7.00pm; **Weekdays:** 8.00am, 10.30am. (Sat. 10.30am only).

Johnswell - Sunday 10.00am

Dunmore - Sunday 11.00am

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - 20th February 2022

Covid-19 Update – St. John's Parish

Now that many of the pandemic restrictions have been lifted we are happy to announce that in St. John's Parish we are slowly starting the process of returning to how we operated before Covid-19. In doing so we are mindful that there are people who are nervous about returning to Mass and public worship. Therefore, we ask that you continue to take responsibility for your own health and the health of others, especially when visiting our churches. The following steps will remain in place.

- Please do not come to church if you feel unwell or display any symptoms of illness;
- Follow the advice of our volunteer ushers who will remain in place for the moment;
- Please wear a face mask;
- Use the hand sanitisers positioned at the doors of the churches;
- Continue to use the local arrangements for receiving Holy Communion;
- Receive Holy Communion in the hand only;
- Be conscience that some parishioners are still anxious about maintaining a social distance – be mindful of those around you and be respectful of their space;
- The Sign of Peace will continue to be suspended;
- Holy Water fonts will remain empty for the moment;
- Continue to contribute in the buckets at the church doors - we will not pass around the collection baskets for the moment.

We have done very well in our parish and have supported each other during the past two years. While rejoicing in the relaxation of the restrictions let us be careful and continue to care for each other. You can keep up to date with public health advice by visiting the Government website at www.gov.ie and the HSE website at www.hse.ie.

150th Anniversary of the Sisters of St. John of God

A liturgical celebration is planned to mark the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. John of God and to enable us to give thanks for the service and ministry the Sisters and their collaborators have provided in the Diocese of Ossory. Throughout the years the Sisters have ministered in a number of parishes in our diocese - including our own - and have provided all parishes and religious houses with Altar Breads.

The celebration will take place at St. Fiacre's Church, Loughboy, Kilkenny (R95 DK88) at 5.30pm on Thursday, 10th March 2022 and will be followed by refreshments in the adjoining Parish Centre. All those who would like to recognise and give thanks for the work of the Sisters are invited to attend. Former staff members are especially invited to attend.

Remembering Those Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Marcin Kocou, St Kieran's Crescent, late of Poland.

Mary Curran, Poccoke Valley.

Sr. Clare Feeley, St John of God Convent Wexford.

Celine McNamee, Glasgow.

Margaret Kierney (nee Staunton), Dublin and formerly Coolgraney, Kilkenny. Requiem Mass in Dublin on Monday followed by interment in St. Kieran's Cemetery.

David O'Neill, Clonakilty, Co. Cork and formerly of Ashwood, Hebron Road, Kilkenny.

Months Mind: Ann Fennelly (Wednesday 10.30am).

Anniversaries: Joseph Joey Lawless (6.00pm); John Bergin (8.00am); Joe Doherty (11.00am); Philomena Drohan (11.30am); Jimmy Leahy; Teasy Roche; Philip Costello; Peter and John O'Rourke; Sheila Brennan; Molly Cunningham; William Rehling; Frank Rodney McCormack; Noel Murphy; Seamus Culleton; Sadie and Therese McGrath; Andy O'Driscoll; Jim Cody; Ellen Lanigan; Margaret, Jack & Betty Rowe; Jimmy Gahan; Martin Dermody;

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

Readers for Next Weekend

6.00pm Máirín Bergin
8.00am Martin Blake
10.00am Teresa Dowling
11.00am Jim Kavanagh and Claire Hanrick
11.30am Paula Rogers
7.00pm Eileen Kinane

Weekly Envelope Collection

Last week's envelope collection:
€1,260. Thanks to all who contribute weekly, monthly and annually, as well as those who pay by Standing Order.
Your support is greatly appreciated.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

We are introducing Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in St. John's Church on the Fridays of Lent immediately after the 10.30am Mass until 12.00 noon. Should a funeral take place on the day the adoration will be cancelled. We invite parishioners to come and spend some time in prayer in the presence of the Lord. (Because of Covid and the lack of ventilation we are unable to use the Adoration Chapel at this time.)

Society of St. Vincent De Paul Collection

The Monthly Collection for the local conference of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul will take place this weekend, 19th and 20th February. A sincere thank you for all your generous support. Please remember the local conference can be contacted in writing through the Parish Office or by telephone on 086 895 1239.

St Mary's Cathedral Restoration Draw

The February Draw will take place on this Wednesday 23rd February 2022. The annual prize fund is €60,000 and the subscription is €120 per annum or €10 per month. Draw tickets are available at St. John's Parish Office. Your support is very much appreciated. Be in to Win!

Men's Rosary

Join in Men's Rosary on Saturday, 5th March 2022 at 1.00pm at the Statue of Our Lady, James's Green, Kilkenny. Further information contact Ron at 086 669 6632 or Paul at 087 365 0492.

Anam Cara

Anam Cara Tipperary, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding it's monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Monday, 21st February at 7:20pm in the Horse and Jockey Hotel, Thurles. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of death, or whether their death was recent or not.

Mass Intentions for week beginning 21st February

Monday: Jimmy Leahy (8.00am)
Teasy Roche (10.30am).
Tuesday: Philip Costello (10.30am).
Wednesday: Ann Fennelly, Month's Mind (10.30am).
Thursday: Peter & John O'Rourke (8.00am).
Sheila Brennan (10.30am)
Friday: Michael Mullins (Birthday Remembrance (8.00am)
Molly Cunningham (10.30am);
Saturday: William Rehling (10.30am);
Christina O'Connor & Dolores Dowling (6.00pm);
Sunday: Bernadette Egan, Month's Mind (8.00am).
Paddy Brennan (11.00am);
Ken Lynam (11.30am).
Michael Brennan (7.00pm)

*Those we love don't go away,
they walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard, but always near!*

Parish Webcam

You may like to know that all Masses and Services at St. John's Church are broadcast on our webcam at stjohnskilkenny.com, and our Parish Radio Service on 106.8 FM.

**Weekdays
8.00am and 10.30am.
Saturdays
10.30am and 6.00pm.
Sundays
8.00am, 11.30am & 7.00pm.
All welcome!**

**You can stay in touch with
your parish from anywhere
in the world.**

St John's Day Centre

The Day Centre will be reopening on Monday 28th February and Tuesday 1st March from 10.00am to 3.00pm. If anyone is interested in availing of this service where you can meet, socialise, and have dinner contact the Parish Office any weekday from 10.00am to 2.00pm.

Volunteer Readers

We need extra volunteers to proclaim God's Word at all Masses in our parish churches and we are asking you to step up and join the lists of those who have given such generous service. If you are interested in putting your name on the rotas please contact one of the priests or leave your name to the Parish Office.

Readings at Mass

Visit www.universalis.com/today and each day you will find information on the Saint of the Day, the Mass readings and Morning and Evening Prayer of the Church. This is a very useful site for those who wish to follow the Church's liturgical calendar.

Life Saving Training

Interagency certified life saving training will take place in the Ormonde Hotel on Saturday 12th March. Included in the course is: Adult and Child CPR; Life Support for victims of heart attack; Cardiac Arrest and Choking; Recognising signs of stroke. Numbers are limited. To secure a place contact kilkennycivildefence@gmail.com before 21st February.

The Kiss of Christ

This is the title of a short hybrid course (online and at home/in parish) to introduce the way of *lectio divina* and to support those who would wish to practice it during Lent 2022. For further information and to register your interest (€10/pp Registration) visit www.aspal.ie.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, 2nd March is the beginning of Lent. Masses in St. John's Church at 8.00am and 10.30am. Evening Masses in our Pastoral Area at the Capuchin Friary (5.40pm) and St. Fiacre's Church (6.15pm). Trócaire Boxes are available at the churches from this weekend.

World Day of Prayer

Annual ecumenical prayer event will be held at St. Fiacre's Church, Loughboy at 7.30pm on Friday, 4th March 2022. All are welcome.