

Ruach Ministry Portlaoise
3-Day Residential Retreats 2024

Faith Formation based on the teachings of the Catholic Church and Inner Healing Adoration

Led by: Fr. Prince Clarence S.J.

Dates: 23rd July,
30th July – 1st August
6th – 8th August

Venue: De La Salle Retreat Centre,
Castletown, Co. Laois. R32 N6D8

Cost: €195 per person, per retreat

Contact: Margaret: 087 231 2066
Oonagh: 086 173 6181

Email: ruachministry5@gmail.com

These retreats are strictly residential: Arrive on Tuesday, 9.00am. Leave on Thursday, 5.00pm.

Designer Minds STEAM Summer Camps
Designer Minds STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Maths) Summer Camps start soon in Kilkenny. For all boys and girls going into 1st to 6th Class this September. All details and online registration: designerminds.ie.

Give your child the opportunity to explore, create, and innovate in a fun and supportive environment this summer!

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

The public adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues in St. John's Church between 11.00am and 1.00pm on Wednesdays.

An Exam Prayer

God stay close to me today
Guide my study and light my way.
Ease my nerves and comfort me
With peace and love so tenderly.
May I remember the things I need
And understand all I study and read.
May I strive to give my best
And do myself justice in each test.
May the topics I know and like appear
On the exam paper to lessen my fear.
And during the moments I may feel stressed
I'll try to remember the ways I'm blessed.
And if there are times that I feel at sea,
Help me to trust that you're here with me.
Amen.

In St. John's Parish we continue to pray at all our Masses and in private for those sitting exams at the moment. We remember also our 3rd Level Students who are anticipating exam results at this time. May God bless you all.

Dates for Your Diary

St. Kieran's Cemetery Mass

Friday, 28th June @ 7.30pm

Dunmore and Johnswell Cemetery Masses

Friday, 5th July @ 7.30pm

Parish Pilgrimage to Knock

Wednesday, 21st August. Fare: €20.

Booking at the Parish Office.

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

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 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

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.

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

Johnswell - Sunday 10.00am

Dunmore - Sunday 11.00am

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - 16th June 2024

Compassion and Hope at the End of Life

Day for Life Sunday is celebrated annually with a special message by the Catholic Church in Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales. It is a day dedicated to raising awareness and reflecting upon the deep value and meaning of human life at every stage, and in every condition. Celebrated this Sunday, 16th June, the message for Day for Life 2024 has as its theme: *The Lord is my shepherd - Compassion and Hope at the End of Life.*

Welcoming this year's message Bishop Kevin Doran of Elphin Diocese said, "Far from abandoning people who are living with terminal illness, we need to surround them with the kind of love that enables them to live life as fully and as richly as possible for the time that is left to them. This can be a time of growth and integration, both for the one who is sick and for those who gather around him or her."

Saint Kieran's Cemetery Mass – Friday 28th June

The Annual Cemetery Mass in St. Kieran's Cemetery will be celebrated in two weeks' time on Friday 28th June at 7.30pm. Great preparations have already been made with families tending to their loved one's plots which is a credit to all concerned – including the excellent caretakers of the cemetery.

All Eucharistic Ministers assisting on the evening will be looking for a person to hold an umbrella (provided) – not for the rain, but to indicate the distribution points for Holy Communion. Should you be available to help please let Jane know.

The Cemetery Mass in Dunmore and Johnswell Cemeteries will be celebrated on the following Friday, 6th July at 7.30pm.

Kilkenny Gospel Choir

The Ceto Choir from Connecticut USA will join the Kilkenny Gospel Choir for an outreach concert in the Black Abbey Church on Saturday, June 22nd at 7.30 pm. An in-house collection will be taken up for the Southeast Radiotherapy Trust (SERT) - providing free and confidential transport for cancer patients who require radiotherapy living in the southeast. All Welcome to come along and enjoy excellent song while supporting this worthy cause.

St John's Senior School Family Fun Day

St. John's Senior School, Ballybought Street has organised a Family Fun Day for this Sunday, 16th June. The event will be in the school grounds from 2.00 to 5.00pm. All in St. John's community are very welcome to attend especially if you have children at the school or are a past pupil etc.

Wonderful attractions include, Shooting Range, Coconut Shy, Inflatable Obstacle Course, Music and much more... Come along and enjoy a great afternoon with neighbours and friends. €5 for 6 Activity Tickets.



Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: James Hayes, Johnswell Road. Rosary and Vigil Prayers at 6.00pm on Sunday in Johnston's Funeral Home. Requiem Mass on Monday at 10.30am in St. John's Church. Funeral afterwards to Mount Jerome Crematorium.

Anthony Hausser, Waterford Road	Philip Comerford, Radestown North
Edward Holland, Castlecomer	Isabel Ann Hogan, Gortnahoe
John Sweeney, Cork	Peter O'Dwyer, Old Callan Road
Anne Hurley, College Road	
Sr. Marie Aimee du St. Rosaire, Little Sisters of the Poor, Ferrybank	

Anniversaries: Philip Drohan. Jake Brennan (6.00pm); Kit, Oliver & Baby Bill Bennett (10.00am); Joan Costigan, Mary & Dan O'Hanlon (11.00am); Michael Brett, David 'Blondie' Hanlon (11.30am); Richard Bergin (7.00pm) Johnny Nolan; Terence, Bridget, Paschal, Joe & Jim Doherty; Loughlin O'Keeffe; Tim Hickey; David Murphy; Margaret Peg Neary; Ellen Rowe; Jim Maher; Margaret & Abraham Anderson; Dan Carroll; Paul Ryan.

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	Mary Elliott	
10.00am	Seán Colgan	
11.00am	Bernard O'Gorman & John McGourty	
11.30am	Bobbie Lahart, Rosemary McPhillips	
7.00pm	Linda O'Leary	

Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection:			€1,020.00
	<u>Mass</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Baskets</u>
6.00pm St. John's	130		271.00
8.00am St. John's	118		568.00
10.00am Johnswell	40		160.00
11.00am Dunmore	75		213.00
11.30am St. John's	424		956.00
7.00pm St. John's	<u>148</u>		<u>477.00</u>
	935		€2,645.00

The Irish Martyrs: Feast Day 20th June

The celebration of the Irish Martyrs includes hundreds who are remembered for giving their lives for the Catholic faith in Ireland between the years 1537 and 1714. A huge number of priests and lay people suffered much in Ireland during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I and that of her immediate successors, as well as during the era of Oliver Cromwell. However, the details of their endurance in most cases have been lost. Religious persecution of Catholics in Ireland began under Henry VIII, when the English Parliament adopted the Acts of Supremacy, which established the king's supremacy over the Church, independent of the Pope. In England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland, bishops, priests and lay people who continued to recognise the Pope were tortured and killed. Further legislation laid down that any act of allegiance to the Pope was to be considered treason. Many Catholics were imprisoned on this basis.

The number of Irish martyrs alone is very large and grew over several reigns. They began, as mentioned, under King Henry VIII (who died in 1547) but continued under Queen Elizabeth I (1558-1603), James I (1603-25) and Charles I (1625-49). Then under Oliver Cromwell and the Commonwealth (1649-59) and followed by the Restoration (Charles II, William of Orange, Queen Anne, 1660-1714). In 1714, King George I came to the throne.

There was a long delay in starting the investigations into the causes of the Irish martyrs for fear of reprisals. In addition, investigation was hampered by a lack of records which were either destroyed or not drawn up, because of the danger of keeping such evidence.

We celebrate our Irish martyrs on Thursday, 20th June.

Scripture Study Group

This parish group continues in the Presbytery at 7.30pm on Thursday evenings. All are welcome to come and reflect on the Mass readings for the following Sunday.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 17th June

Monday:	10.30am	Funeral - James Hayes
Tuesday:	10.30am	Johnny Nolan
Wednesday:	10.30am	Terence, Bridget, Paschal, Joe & Jim Doherty
Thursday:	8.00am	Paul Ryan
Friday:	10.30am	Loughlin O'Keeffe
Saturday:	6.00pm	Mary, Paddy Walsh, Mary Walsh Snr.
		Michael & Ann Smith
Sunday:	11.30am	MM James Gilmartin

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

Day for Life

Following their meeting in Maynooth during the week the Irish Catholic Bishops said, "This year's Day for Life message reminds us that Jesus did not send the sick away, rather he showed that life always has dignity and that there is no such a thing as a useless life. Catholics are called to defend this gift of life to its natural end and to protect vulnerable citizens from a culture that could pressure them into assisted suicide. In this way, all are encouraged to support people with the companionship of a listening ear, appropriate treatment, and the best of care, so that their last days can be times of grace, intimacy and love. We encourage all to read the brief Day for Life message on <https://councilforlife.ie/day-for-life-2024/>.

Thoughts for the Day for Life

'All life has inestimable value. Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.' *Pope Francis*

'As believers, how can we fail to see that abortion, euthanasia and assisted suicide are a terrible rejection of God's gift of life and love? And as believers, how can we fail to feel the duty to surround the sick and those in distress with the warmth of our affection and the support that will help them always to embrace life?' *St. Pope John Paul II*

A Father's Day Prayer

Heavenly Father, you entrusted your Son, Jesus, The child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, an earthly father. Bless all fathers as they care for their families. Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness, and patience; support them in the work they have to do, protecting those who look to them, as we look to you for love and salvation, through Jesus Christ our rock and defender, in union with the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. St Joseph, Pray for all our Fathers. Amen.

Happy Fathers Day!

