

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**  
St. John's Church between 11.00am and 1.00pm on Wednesdays. Come and pray awhile.

**Society of St Vincent De Paul Says  
'Thank You'**

A sincere thank you for all your generous support at last weekend's collection. Remember the local conference can be contacted in writing through the Parish Office or on 086 895 1239.

**Towards Healing**

A confidential and free counselling service, Phone 1800 303 416. Towards Healing provides face to face counselling, structured phone counselling, family counselling and a counselling helpline for people who have experienced institutional, clerical or religious abuse in Ireland.

**St. Mary's Cathedral Gift and Bookshop**

The Chapter House Bookshop is open on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 9.30am - 5.00pm. Situated in the grounds of St. Mary's Cathedral, the shop has a wide range of books and bibles, cards and prayer books. The shop has books for teenagers and children, including comics and Lego Bibles, traditional picture Bibles, books about Irish and Celtic Saints and Heroes in bilingual versions. Drop in and have a look.



**A Blessing and Prayer for Grandparents**

Lord God, today we bring to you in prayer Our Grandparents and all our elderly relatives. Bless those who are still with us and those who have already died and gone to Heaven.

We also thank you for the gift of life they gave our parents, aunts and uncles.

We will always treasure the memories they created and shared with us.

As they were born into a world different to ours, forgive us for the times we have ever been impatient with them.

Help us to be generous with our love and our care for them in their old age.

Also, Lord, we call down your blessing upon those of us who are grandparents, granduncles and aunts.

We ask Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus, to intercede for us. We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**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**

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

**Jubilee Year 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope**

Pope Francis has declared 2025 a Jubilee Year, entitled *Pilgrims of Hope*. The Pope urges nations to grant amnesty to prisoners and calls on the world's most powerful entities to forgive the debts of poor countries during the Holy Year.

The Holy Door - The beginning of the Jubilee Year is marked by the opening of one of the usually sealed entrances that lead into the major basilicas of Rome; this entrance is called the Holy Door. On Christmas Eve 2024 Pope Francis will formally announce the beginning of the Holy Year as he opens the Holy Door at the entrance to St Peter's Basilica.

2024 - A Year of Prayer - In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year, *Pilgrims of Hope*, 2024 has been designated a Year of Prayer by Pope Francis. He asks us all to join in a great "symphony of prayer", "to renew our desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to him and to adore him".

What do Catholics do during a Jubilee Year? - The Jubilee Year is an opportunity to respond to God's call to turn to him and to pursue justice. In the Jubilee Year of 2000 many Christians joined together to call for cancellation of debt owed by the world's poorest countries.

Often people will go on pilgrimage during a Jubilee year, to Rome or another holy site. Pope Francis writes:

"Pilgrimage is of course a fundamental element of every Jubilee event. Setting out on a journey is traditionally associated with our human quest for meaning in life. A pilgrimage on foot is a great aid for rediscovering the value of silence, effort and simplicity of life."

*(Spes Non Confundit #5)*

**Where Does Prayer Begin?**

Surely by asking. "Ask and you shall receive." Jesus encouraged us to begin there. It is what everyone instinctively understands prayer to be: asking, interceding, beseeching God for things we want. The Old and New Testaments are full of instruction to do this. The psalms, for instance, give many examples of how to pray this prayer, because we never outgrow the needs which give rise to it. We never cease to depend on God for everything, however mystical our prayer may later become. If you have no faith, praying to God to give you things is senseless. But with faith, it is eminently sensible.

*(John Dabrymple, Simple Prayer, DLT 1984)*

**Parish Pilgrimage to Knock**

Our parish pilgrimage to Knock on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> August (the anniversary of the apparitions) is booked out and we have a significant waiting list. If a few more people indicate a willingness to travel we will book additional transport. Please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible so that we can make an informed decision this week. Those who have reserved places already are politely asked to confirm booking by paying the fare at the Office.

### Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

**Recently Deceased:** Janett Baird, Newpark Close, Funeral prayers in Johnston's Funeral Home at 6.15pm on Sunday. Requiem Mass in St. John's Church at 10.30am on Monday followed by burial at St. Kieran's Cemetery

Maureen Kinsella, Larchfield. Requiem Mass in Foulkstown Church at 12 noon on Monday.

Mary Flannery, Talbot's Inch. Requiem Mass in St. Canice's Church at 12.30pm on Tuesday.

Aislinn Nelson Comerford, Lakeside

Paddy Dunphy, Cullohill, Co. Laois

Claire Manning, Dublin & Kilkenny

Eileen Buckley, Kerry

Miroslav Fozo, Carlow

Jo Kenny (8.00am)

**Months Mind:** Dennis Clowry (6.00pm)

Siobhan Hennessy (7.00pm).

John Madden (10.30am - Wed)

**Anniversaries:** Brid Maher, Frank Power (6.00pm); Tony & Eileen McEvoy; Catherine Bergin (11.00am); Barbara & Tony Teehan, Maeve Sullivan & Sullivan Family (11.30am); Tom Watson; Catherine Moriarty; John Joe Dowling; Martin Kelly.

*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 Bridget Ahearn  
8.00am Billy Phelan  
10.00am Elaine Bennett  
11.00am Christy Murray & Maise Powell  
11.30am Bobbie Lahart & Rosemary McPhillips  
7.00pm Linda O'Leary



#### Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection:		€1,025.00
Mass	Attendance	Baskets
6.00pm St. John's	100	183.00
8.00am St. John's	106	277.00
10.00am Johnswell	52	134.00
11.00am Dunmore	70	95.00
11.30am St. John's	148	291.00
7.00pm St. John's	134	267.00
	610	€1,247.00

#### First Friday of August

Next Friday is the First Friday of August. During holiday time the sick and housebound will be visited on the day and at the times arranged by the priests. Please inform the Office on 056 772 1072 if you who would like this service.



#### Annual St. James Walk - Today!

The annual Camino Jenkinstown Wood Walk will take place today Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> July beginning at Jenkinstown Church Car Park at 2.30pm. All are welcome.

#### Scripture Study Group

The St. John's Parish Scripture Group meets on Thursdays at 7.30pm in the Presbytery. We always have a relaxed and enjoyable chat while opening our hearts and minds to what is being said to us by the Holy Spirit in the Scriptures for the coming Sunday. All are welcome.

#### Adult Learning Service

Adult Learning Service, 43 Patrick Street, is holding an Open Day, on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> August from 10.00am - 3.00pm. We welcome the community to come to see our facilities and to chat to us about our programmes. All the classes are free and include Certified QQI awards from levels 1 - 4 and uncertified courses. Small friendly group and one-to-one classes available. Classes can be held in outreach centres in local communities. We offer classes in improving reading, writing and maths skills, Computer Skills, Smart Technology, Family Learning, Driver Theory and English language classes.

#### Croagh Patrick Ireland's Holy Mountain

Pope Francis has dedicated 2024 as a Year of Prayer and this year's Croagh Patrick pilgrimage theme is: 'To pray for and honour grandparents and the elderly'. This year, the annual pilgrimage takes place this weekend of 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> July.

#### Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 29<sup>th</sup> July

Monday: 10.30am  
Wednesday: 10.30am  
Saturday: 6.00pm

Funeral: Jannet Baird  
**MM** John Madden  
Nicholas & Daisy Purcell  
Clive O'Carroll

Saturday: 7.00pm  
Sunday: 8.00am  
10.00am

**MM** Maud Nolan  
Martin Kelly (In Dunmore)  
Richard Dempsey  
Eveline Hennessy  
Kathleen Treacy Butler  
Fr Lorcan Moran

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](http://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

#### World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly

Pope Francis established a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly which took place for the first time on Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> July 2021. The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated for the fourth time in 2024 on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July - the Sunday closest to the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, grandparents of Jesus. The theme chosen by Pope Francis for this year's celebration is: *Do not cast me off in my old age* (cf. Psalm 71:9).

Hopefully this new worldwide celebration will reassure grandparents and the elderly that they are loved and that they are needed. We pray for our grandparents and the elderly in our community on this day and thank them for all that they have done for us. Children could mark the day by chatting to their grandparents about when they were the same age as the child and then think about how life has changed or what has remained the same.

- What was school like?
- How has school changed?
- Describe your house where you grew up
- What chores did you have to do?
- What hobbies did you have?



World Day  
for Grandparents  
and the Elderly  
2024

Grandparents bestow upon their grandchildren the strength and wisdom that time and experience have given them. Grandchildren bless their grandparents with a youthful vitality and innocence that help them stay young at heart forever. Together they create a chain of love linking the past with the future. The chain may lengthen, but it will never part.

Grandparents are a family's greatest treasure, the founders of a loving legacy, the greatest storytellers, the keepers of traditions that linger on in cherished memory. Grandparents are the family's strong foundation. Their very special love sets them apart. Through happiness and sorrow, through their special love and caring, grandparents keep a family close at heart.

*(Author Unknown)*

The National Pilgrimage Grandparents' Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine takes place on this Sunday. Mass at the basilica is at 3.00pm and will be available on [www.knockshrine.ie/watch](http://www.knockshrine.ie/watch)

#### A Thought for the Week Ahead

Never regret a day in your life:  
Good days give happiness,  
Bad days give experience,  
Worse days give lessons,  
And the best days give memories.