

Leaving Cert Results

We remember in our prayers those who will receive their Leaving Cert '24 results on next Friday. We wish you well as you consider your future. God bless you.

Prayer for Those Awaiting Exam Results

God our Father,
may your presence be felt as young people receive exam results at this time. May they know that their worth and value is based on your great love for them. Help them to trust in your goodness, fix their eyes firmly on you and guide their steps along the path before them. Thank you for the doors open to them give them wisdom digging and hope in the challenges and opportunities that lie in the future. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pilgrimage to Greece/Footsteps of St. Paul

From 23rd October to 2nd November 2024 experience a 10-night/11-day pilgrimage covering all major sites associated with St. Paul including an overnight stay on the island of Patmos. Cost: €2,040 (Land only). Please contact Angela McMorrow at 089 210 7277 or stpaul2024@proton.me for more information.

Mass Paths and Holy Wells Survey

Kilkenny County Council, in partnership with Shanarc Archaeology and Wicklow Willow, are conducting a survey of holy wells and Mass paths in County Kilkenny. Holy wells have been visited for centuries around the county to provide cures, comfort and community. This survey seeks to record what remains in the landscape and in memory so that future generations will understand their importance in our spiritual, social and cultural heritage. Mass paths are an important and under-recorded part of our cultural heritage. They serve as reminders of the challenges faced by Catholics during penal times, and also reminders of a later era when they were used by people of the area as pedestrian routes to Mass, to visit neighbours and for going to school. If they are not recorded in the near future, their presence and value will have faded from the public memory. Much of the knowledge of holy wells and Mass paths rests in community memory and Kilkenny County Council needs your help to record this knowledge before it is too late. We also hope to hold workshops around the county over the coming months to hear your stories. To get involved in the project/share information, contact Heritage Office, Kilkenny County Council at heritage@kilkennycoco.ie or 056 779 4923.

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

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 18th August 2024

St. John's Parish Pilgrimage to Knock

The story begins on 21st August 1879, when 15 people from the village of Knock witnessed an apparition of Mary on the gable wall of the parish church. They said she appeared with St. Joseph, St. John the Evangelist, a Lamb and a Cross. They watched in pouring rain for two hours, reciting the Rosary. The watchers were soaked in rain but the gable wall and the apparition remained dry. The witnesses, aged between 5 and 74, gave their testimony to a Commission of Enquiry later in 1879. It found their words "trustworthy and satisfactory". In 1936, a second Commission of Enquiry heard from the two surviving witnesses, Mary O'Connell and Patrick Byrne. Mary O'Connell ended her sworn statement with the words: "I am clear about everything I have said and I make this statement knowing I am going before my God." She died later that year.

Since the Apparition on 21st August 1879, pilgrims and visitors have been welcomed to Knock Shrine from all four corners of the world. The Shrine offers a peaceful, contemplative space in which to pray, to reflect and to reconnect. Among those who have visited are St. Pope John Paul II, St. Teresa of Calcutta and Pope Francis. In March 2019 Pope Francis elevated Knock Shrine to the status of International Eucharistic and Marian Shrine.

On Wednesday of this week about 75 people from our area will travel to Knock with the St. John's Parish Pilgrimage. Buses will leave from St. John's Church at 7.00am sharp returning at about 10.00pm. Pilgrims will break the journey enroute for optional breakfast and dinner - some may prefer to bring their own provisions. Please God we will have a safe and refreshing journey - "One thing that is guaranteed is that you will leave Knock Shrine feeling refreshed and renewed. There are no strangers here, only fellow pilgrims..." (*Knock Shrine Website*)

Relics of Saint Bernadette of Lourdes

The Diocese of Ossory will host a visit of the Relics of Saint Bernadette of Lourdes on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, 21st and 22nd September 2024 in St. Mary's Cathedral, Kilkenny. This is an initiative to bring a small piece of Lourdes to Ireland and make it possible for more people to experience something of what is close to the hearts of those who travel on our diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes each year. Details later. See www.stbernadette.ie

Seeking, Serving and Sharing Christ in a Synodal Church

The Priory Institute two-week online Summer School is reflective, informative and interactive and will run from 19th August. The course includes eight recorded presentations and three online zoom discussions and is very flexible as it is delivered entirely online. Find out more and register visit prioryinstitute.com.

Book Fair in Aid of Irish Pilgrimage Trust

The Book, CD and DVD Fair continues at the St. John's Parish Centre until after 7.00pm Mass on Sunday evening. Thanks for your support so far - some bargains remain.

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Seán McGuinness, Wolfe Tone Street. Requiem Mass Monday in St John's at 10.30am.
 Fr. Ned Grace, Tullaroan and Kiltegan
 Fabian Jacob, Seven Cross Roads Gillian Cantwell, late of Leggettsrath.
 Noel Byrne, Parnell Street Mick Nolan, Old Callan Road
 Richard (Dickie) Forristal, Dunnamaggin Richard Hennessy, Patrick Street

Month's Mind: Aidan Kelly (10.00am).

Anniversaries: Jim, Betty & Seamus Canty; Mary McCarthy; Lukas Funtal (6.00pm); Derek Butler (10.00am); Mary O'Dwyer (11.30am); Shane O'Carroll; Edward Ned Delaney; Michael Mick Delaney; Patricia Babby Burke; Natalie Hunt; Michael Gibbons; Nance O'Neill; Bridget, Thomas & Jimmy Grace; Nicholas, Bridget & Jim Kavanagh.

*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		Attendance/Collections Last Weekend		
6.00pm	Claire Coogan	Envelope Collection: €1,095.00		
8.00am	Jo Browne	<u>Mass</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Baskets</u>
10.00am	Fiona & Sarah Manning	6.00pm St. John's	156	306.00
11.00am	Bernard O Gorman & John McGourty	8.00am St. John's	98	513.00
11.30am	Anne Maria Walsh & Kay Purcell	10.00am Johnswell	54	171.00
7.00pm	Marie Fogarty	11.00am Dunmore	68	130.00
		11.30am St. John's	162	377.00
		7.00pm St. John's	<u>89</u>	<u>310.00</u>
			627	€1,861.00



Godly Play Camp for Primary School Children

Godly Play is a form of spiritual accompaniment for children. It uses a unique method of storytelling which allows children to explore their own spirituality. Godly Play invites children to wonder about the mysterious presence of God in their lives. Join us for a morning of storytelling, wondering, creating and a real feast! This camp is suitable for children of primary school age and is led by parents of young children trained in this work. St. Kieran's College Saturday 31st August, 10.00am - 12.30pm. Places limited. To book: 056 775 3624 or email afd@ossory.ie

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, 17th and 18th August.

Ruach Ministry

Fr. Prince Clarence S.J. presents an evening of Faith Formation based on the teachings of the Catholic Church, inner healing, Adoration, Confessions and Holy Mass on Monday, 19th August 2024 at St Mary's Cathedral, Kilkenny City at 6.30pm. All are welcome.

The Pope's Prayer Intentions

During the month of August the Holy Father invites the faithful to join him in prayer "that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and the common good, taking care of those who have lost jobs and giving priority to the poorest.

Bereavement Information Evening

Anam Cara is holding an Online Bereavement Information Evening for bereaved parents on Tuesday, 3rd September at 7.00pm. Our guest speaker for this month's talk is Bryan Nolan. Bryan has an M.A. in Healthcare Chaplaincy DCU, Certified Healthcare Chaplain, End of Life and Grief and Loss specialist, Training and Facilitation expert. The link to join is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82282092092>. If you need any further information on supporting bereaved parents please do contact us: Anam Cara Parental Bereavement Support, 01 404 5378 or Information Line 085 288 8888.

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning 19th August

Monday: 10.30am Seán McGuinness (Funeral)
 Thursday: 10.30am Fabian Jacob (Recently deceased)
 Saturday: 10.30am Paddy Deegan
 6.00pm Eoin O'Donovan
 Seamus Murphy
 Jimmy O'Neill
 Sunday: 11.00am Aislinn Nelson Comerford (MM)
 11.30am Tom Ryan (MM)

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,

Catholic Marriage Encounter in Ireland

Friday, 8th – Sunday, 10th November 2024 – Focolare Centre, Prosperous, Co. Kildare.
 The Catholic Marriage Enrichment programme has been transforming marriages in Ireland for over 50 years and in 94 countries around the world. The programme involves a weekend experience that transforms the way spouses communicate to deepen their love for each other. The weekend experience allows one to develop a higher and broader understanding of what it means to be married. Sacramentally married couples are most welcome. While faith is a powerful part of this process, the focus of the Marriage Encounter experience is on the ups and downs of married life. Further information and online booking at: www.marriageencounter.ie

Points to Ponder

There was once a king who engaged a street artist to make a painting of the Last Supper. He wanted a picture of Jesus and his friends at their farewell meal for his banqueting room. The artist had Jesus and his friends around the supper table, but he also included all kinds of people around the table, showing people from many races. There were sick, lame and crippled; men and women; young and old; beggars and misfits and some not very nice people. When the King saw the painting he went into a rage, 'Of what is this a painting?' The artist said 'Your Highness, this is a painting of God who delights in all people; all saints and all sorts are welcomed to the Kingdom and the earthly banquet...and that is my understanding of the Last Supper, Holy Communion and Eucharist.' What we receive in the small piece of bread or the sip of wine at the Eucharist is the gift of life from Jesus. It is the gift of God who has become one of us. It is the gift of love with sacrifice. If we have put self out for others in big or small ways or have cried for another's woes or laughed for another's joy, or held a hand in sympathy or just listened when there were no answers, we know the quality of this gift. In the Eucharist God is close in his creation, In Jesus we can recognise God near at hand. Pope Benedict writes - 'we have to rediscover God, not just any God, but the God that has a human face, because when we see Jesus Christ, we see God'.
 (www.sacredspace.com)

The Season of Creation

This is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all of creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. The season starts on 1st September, the World Day of Prayer for Creation, and ends 4th October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations. During the Season of Creation, we join our sisters and brothers in the ecumenical family in prayer and action as the world's 2.2 billion Christians come together to care for our common home. Creation is not given to humanity to use and abuse, rather, humanity is created to be part of Creation and to care for it. More information closer to the season.