

Dana's – Cross & Cloak Concert

Dana's – Cross & Cloak Concert which is in aid of the all-Ireland Sacred Heart Crusade takes place on Sunday, 2nd February at 7.30pm in the Manor Hotel, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois. Tickets €25 (Book on Eventbrite.ie). For more information contact Antoinette: 086 080 3047.

Pope's Intention for January 2025

For the Right to an Education: Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Beginning on this week the public Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament returns to St. John's Church between 11.00am and 1.00pm on Wednesdays. We invite you to join us and spend some time in prayer before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Programme at Integritas, Ennisnag

For January contemplative prayer will continue at the Integritas Centre, Ennisnag at 8.00pm on each Wednesday evening.

On Saturday, 8th of February 2025, at 10.00am Linda will give a presentation in her series of seminars on 'The Christian Vision of Humanity'. This will continue an exploration of the doctrine of creation. It will focus on two areas of the specifically Christian view of humanity. This seminar will continue until 1.30 pm when lunch will be provided. If you wish to attend it, please let us know beforehand.

The Priory Institute

The Priory Institute provides online theology courses to degree level. Attend Saturday lectures in Tallaght or from the comfort of your own home. Register before 11th February. Find out more on our website, prioryinstitute.com

Year	Baptisms	Communions	Confirmations	Marriages	Funerals
2020	53	50	57	3	63
2021	123	56	60	26	79
2022	115	61	54	31	68
2023	123	53	71	41	73
2024	98	46	47	26	83

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.

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

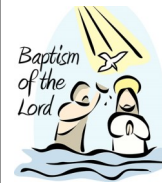
Johnswell - Sunday 10.00am

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

The Baptism of the Lord - 12th January 2025

The Baptism of the Lord



During 2024 a total of 98 candidates were baptised in our parish. On this, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we pray God's continued care and blessing for them, their parents, and families. "By God's gift, through water and the Holy Spirit, we are reborn into everlasting life. In his goodness, may God continue to pour out his blessings on these daughters and sons of his. May he make them, wherever they may be, faithful members of his holy people".

Baptisms in our parish take place on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month at 4.30pm and the 4th Sunday at 12.30pm. Bookings can be made at the Parish Office.

Recognise Jesus Close to Us

Speaking on the Feast of the Epiphany Pope Francis recalled the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus. The Pope called on the Church to follow their path. "If we pay attention, we will discover something rather strange: While these wise men from far away come to find Jesus, those who are close by do not take one step towards the stable in Bethlehem," Francis said.

"Drawn and guided by the star, the Magi face enormous expenses, make their time available and accept the risks and uncertainties of which there was no shortage in those times. And yet they overcome every difficulty to get to see the King Messiah, because they know that something unique is happening in the history of humanity, and they do not want to miss the event," the Pope continued.

"Instead, those who live in Jerusalem, who should be the happiest and the most prompt to rush, stay still. The priests and theologians correctly interpret the Sacred Scriptures and provide directions to the Magi about where to find the Messiah, but they do not move from their 'desks.' They are satisfied with what they have, and they do not go seeking; they do not think it is worth the effort to go to Jerusalem, to accompany the Magi to Bethlehem, even if it is only a matter of a few kilometres," the Pope explained.

Pope Francis asked us to question ourselves on who we imitate: The Magi or those who stayed in Jerusalem? "God came towards us: out of love he bridged all the immense distance between him and us, he was 'born of woman', small and in need of everything. And us? Do we go towards him, do we try to get to know him, or do we go straight on our way, as if nothing happened?" Francis asked.

"Let us ask the Virgin Mary to help us so that, imitating the shepherds and the Magi, we are able to recognize Jesus close to us, in the Eucharist, in the poor, in the abandoned, in the prisoner..."

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Tom O’Loughlin, Clarnwood, Freshford Road. Requiem Mass at St. Canice’s Church at 11.00am on Monday. Interment in Foulkstown Cemetery.
Phyllis O’Rourke, Cedarwood Avenue
Angela Deasy, Marble Crest. Requiem Mass at St. Patrick’s Church 12 noon on Monday.
James Kelly, Greenshill Sean Kealy, England and late Castlewarren
Audrey Daly, Kilkenny Gerard Doran, Loughboy
Kathleen Hindle, Archersfield Thomas Tobin, Castlewarren & late of Middleknock

Months Mind: Mark Brennan (11.00am).

Anniversaries: Michael Kinchella; John & Ann Barry; Elizabeth Burke (6.00pm); Michael Dowling (8.00am); Michael Mahony; Gemma Clancy (11.00am); Ann Gibbons; Patrick Joseph O’Shea; Bernard O’Gorman (11.30am); Alex Dewberry (7.00pm); Bridie Murphy; James Cleary; Michael & Kevin Dowling; Eileen Browne; Michael “Mockey” Delaney; Ann Fennelly; Jimmy & Chrissie Bergin; Johnny Brennan; Denis Guilfoyle; Michael O’Connor; Bridget Slatery; John Lanigan; Tom & Mary Gaffney; Alice Buckley; Mary Darcy; John & Nuala Byrne; Flora Kilusungu.

*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 Eve Brennan & Anna Ryan
11.00am Eddie Holohan & Liz Holohan
11.30am Bobbie Lahart & Rosemary McPhillips
7.00pm Joan Scott



Attendance/Collections Last Weekend

Envelope Collection:		€5,505.00
	<small>Mass</small>	<small>Attendance</small>
6.00pm	St. John’s	165
8.00am	St. John’s	35
10.00am	Johnswell	19
11.00am	Dunmore	43
11.30am	St. John’s	112
7.00pm	St. John’s	25
		399
		€1,451.00

Confirmation Candidates

The final parish preparatory session for the Confirmation Candidates will take place next Tuesday in John’s Church at 7.30pm. We look forward to welcoming all the Candidates and their parents to this important meeting. Please keep the young adults and their families in your prayers as they prepare to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit next February.

St. John’s Junior School

St. John’s Junior School is currently accepting applications for September 2025. Please contact the school at 056 776 2888 or info@stjohnsthelake.ie for an application form. There will be an information meeting for parents in the school on Tuesday, 14th January at 7.30pm.

Side by Side Club

The Side-by-Side club will be resuming this week after the cold snap. The Club meets every Thursday from 2.00pm to 5.00pm. For further information please contact Helen on 083 406 8148.

Leaving Cert Irish Oral Exam Workshop 2025

A three-part Leaving Cert Irish Oral Workshop which will cover all elements of the Leaving Cert Irish Oral examination will take place in Johnswell Community Hall on the following dates: 8th, 15th and 22nd of March. These workshops will provide an opportunity for students to learn, prepare and practice for their upcoming Leaving Cert Irish Oral Exam. To book or for further information please contact tobarnageailge@yahoo.com or 087 667 3302 (Maria Ní Thuama).

Mass Intentions for Week Beginning - 13th January

Monday: 10.30am Flora Kilusungu
Tuesday: 10.30am James Cleary
7.30pm Confirmation Candidates Program
Wednesday: 8.00am Michael & Kevin Dowling
10.30am Eileen Browne
Michael Mockey Delaney
Friday 10.30am Ann Fennelly
Saturday: 10.30am Jimmy & Chrissie Bergin
6.00pm Mary Lahert
MM Helen Butler
Maura & Tommy Anderson
Sunday: 11.30am Patrick & Catherine Guidera
7.00pm Teresa (Tess) Hillman
MM Mary Kiely
Eoghan 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 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

80s - 90s Disco

An 80s-90s Disco will take place on Friday, 17th January in Langton’s Ballroom from 9.00pm till late. All proceeds in aid of local Group 174 Irish Pilgrimage Trust who bring young people with additional needs to Lourdes each April. Tickets are €15 available from Fr. Dan or Jane in the Sacristy, through Eventbrite or phone 087 904 0208 or 087 2070609. Come and join in the fun while supporting a good cause. Fancy dress is optional!



Thought for the Day

Most of us who were baptised as infants cannot remember the moment of our baptism. Fortunately, we have an abundance of symbols and rituals to anchor us in our ‘baptismal memory’. When we pass by the baptismal font in our Church we can ‘remember’ our baptism. Anytime we have the pleasure of being in the congregation at a baptism ceremony we can ‘remember’ our baptism. We can look at photographs or take out the family christening gown or baptismal candle to have a visual reminder of our initiation into the Christian faith. But most significantly whenever we turn to one of the Gospel passages that tell the story of Jesus’ baptism we can ‘remember’ our baptism in an especially powerful way.

The simple act of entering a Catholic Church and blessing ourselves with water from the font at the entrance is a way of remembering our baptismal commitment and it makes even more sense to put water on our foreheads as we leave the Church and go out into the world – for there the battles are fought. This is a month in which many of us are feeling overwhelmed. In January, the holidays are over, and the bills are looming. Some people are dealing with a variety of post-holiday emotions; others already feel that they have failed in their new year’s resolutions. The message of Jesus’ baptism and a reminder of our own is needed at a time such as this: ‘Lord we are yours, help us to know it, to know it in the depth of our hearts and to act accordingly.’

blessingtonparish.ie

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.