



## ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

Parish Office: St Mary's Cathedral, James's Street, Kilkenny

Tel: (056) 772 1253 Email: [stmaryscathedral@ossory.ie](mailto:stmaryscathedral@ossory.ie)

Rev Dermot Ryan, Adm. Email: [dermotryan@ossory.ie](mailto:dermotryan@ossory.ie)

8<sup>th</sup> October 2023 Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

### A Thought...

Do not be afraid.... words that we often associate with people of faith in the scriptures: the Angel said them to Mary; these words were spoken to Joseph; Jesus repeated them to Peter; and on several occasions to crowds to whom he was speaking. Why is it that these words appear so often in our Bible - it is because sometimes faith asks of us difficult things... like trusting, believing, and being willing to let go. These weeks we see the next phase of the Synod happen in Rome. Pope Francis has asked that the voice of all be heard in our Church - we need not be afraid, we must simply trust that in this process that God will speak.

*Fr Dermot*

### Please remember the following in your prayers

George Howe, Cashel Avenue.

### ANNIVERSARIES

11am Beth Thomas, Dean Cavanagh Place. Patrick Traynor.

### WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

Envelope Collection: €363; Baskets €978.31. Your support of the parish is greatly appreciated.

### Taizé Youth Programme 2024

A youth trip to Taizé in France organised by Ossory Youth will take place from Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June to Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024. A week in the Taizé Community is an opportunity for reflection and contemplation and a little step back from daily life. But bringing people together is also the essence of Taizé and it is a week of meeting young people from different countries and cultures where new friendships are made. Tens of thousands of young people from around the world, including 25 from Kilkenny, will make the trip to Taizé next year.

The programme, which runs from November 2023 to June 2024 is open to Transition year, 5<sup>th</sup> year and Leaving Cert students. Closing date is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Oct. For additional information, including cost and application forms, contact Patrick Bookle, Ossory Youth at (056) 7761200, (087) 2129006 or [pbookle@ossoryyouth.com](mailto:pbookle@ossoryyouth.com)

### Chapter House Bookshop

The Bookshop welcomes you to visit the shop now 5 days a week – Monday 9:30am till 1.00pm; Tuesday – Friday 9:30am till 5:00pm.

### Society of St Vincent de Paul

Grants available for third level students.

For all enquiries please email [stthomaskilkenny@svp.ie](mailto:stthomaskilkenny@svp.ie)

### Synod Update

This past week saw the much awaited Synodal gathering start in Rome. Normally reserved to the Bishops this Synod, at the request of Pope Francis, invited lay faithful, priests and religious from around the world to come together to discern the promptings of the Holy Spirit for the Church today. This is a continuance of the synodal gatherings we had in Ossory and in every Diocese throughout the world. Our ideas are carried there by the Irish delegation.

With such a variety of voices from every part of the world it was recognised that at this Synod tensions will exist - as each one tries to make their views heard. The Dominican priest Fr Timothy Radcliffe has preached to all gathered in these opening days - he noted, in one of these addresses, that in English we say that "we fall in love but we make friends" reminding those gathered for the Synod that difference is ok, variance is to be welcomed and that we won't fall into agreement, we will have to work to make it happen. We pray for the Synod as the first week concludes, may they make harmony happen.

### Benemerenti Medals

This Sunday at our 5.30pm celebration of Mass Bishop Niall will present two Benemerenti medals; one to Sr Helen Maher for her outstanding contribution to the Diocesan Forum over the years and another to Mr Eddie Talent for his selfless service to the Cathedral Parish. We congratulate both Eddie and Sr Helen. These awards are recognition of their living the baptism in service in the Church. In thanking them we also thank the so many more who do the same. We thank God for the service of all - it is what makes our Church come to life.

### Care for our Cathedral

This coming week a new person will be here helping to maintain and look after the Cathedral church and grounds. We welcome Michael to the Parish team and thank him for all that he will be doing to help care for this most magnificent place.

### Pope Francis is writing to us (you)...

Pope Francis has issued a new apostolic exhortation *Laudate Deum* ("Praise God") addressing our care for the environment. He said that the world is not moving fast enough to mitigate the devastating effects of climate change. He said the planet was approaching a "point of no return" as global warming hurtled toward the maximum recommended limit of 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 Fahrenheit) higher than the pre-industrial average. "Even if we do not reach this point of no return, it is certain that the consequences would be disastrous and precipitous measures would have to be taken, at enormous cost and with grave and intolerable economic and social effects,." It is an excellent read and it is available on the Parish and Diocesan Websites. Take the time to read it - we might chat about it soon!

### OUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE:

**Sr Betty Cagney**

**Counselling Services - Towards Healing** Confidential Helpline 1800 313 316 – [www.towardshealing.ie](http://www.towardshealing.ie) Please consult the Diocesan website ([www.ossory.ie](http://www.ossory.ie)) for all relevant documents and diocesan policies.

Invite your family members to support the Cathedral **FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL** at [www.stmaryscathedral.ie/friends](http://www.stmaryscathedral.ie/friends)