



ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

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22nd October 2023 Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Thought...

This past week we held a meeting of the parents of the children preparing to celebrate the Sacraments of First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. It was a wet, cold evening on Tuesday as we gathered and, in spite of that, the centre of the Cathedral was full of those who attended. It is wonderful to see such commitment, and parents showing such an interest in what their children are preparing for. Parents do lots of selfless things. Often unseen to ensure that we got, or get, the very best. I read recently that the only man or woman who wants you to do better than himself/herself is a father or mother... Make them proud then, but don't forget to give back and say thanks...

Please remember the following in your prayers

Nora O'Brien, Friary Street, Frances Hogan, Larchfield, Mick Maher, Troy's Court, and formerly Rothe Terrace.

Months Mind

11am Mary Gittens, Clonmoran, Eileen Conroy, Rothe Terrace.

Anniversaries

5.30pm Jack & Michael Heffernan, John Allen.

Ross Costigan, Joe Dunne, Frank Murphy, Mary Moynihan, Bernadette Dermody. Sheila Delaney (Birthday Remembrance), Joe Dunne.

Weekly Collections

Envelope Collection: €675; Baskets €1,321.39. Your support of the parish is greatly appreciated.

October Offering

The October Envelopes, which are for the support for the priests and Bishop, are available for distribution at this time. Thanks to all who distribute them throughout the parish and to all who contribute so generously.

Holy Hour – St John's Parish

In response to the Pope's request for fasting and prayer to bring about peace in the Middle East St John's Parish will host a Holy Hour on Friday the 27th of October at 7.30pm.

Synod Update

This past week the Synod discussed mission and a central aspect of that discussion, it seems, focused on the role of women in the Church. Opening this session Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich (Archbishop of Luxembourg) drew attention to the question of gender right away with questions that we could read - "Most of us are men. But men and women receive the same Baptism and the same Spirit. The Baptism of women is not inferior to the Baptism of men. How can we ensure that women feel they are an integral part of this missionary Church?" He challenged participants, most of whom are ordained men, to examine whether they feel "enriched or threatened" when sharing responsibility for the Church's mission with women. Interesting thoughts, now the vast majority in attendance are men, only 54 of the voting members of over 350 are women... but their voice is being heard... remember the Synod does not do decisions, it does deliberations... and it is deliberating. As we noted last week there has been very little information about the details about what is happening inside the Synod hall, but those involved have confirmed that the difficult conversations—for which there are not easy answers—are happening.

Dates for the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated here in the Cathedral Parish on Friday 22nd March at 11am. The celebrations of the Sacrament of First Holy Communion will take place here in the Cathedral Parish on Saturday 18th May. As the children start to prepare we look forward to helping them and their families. Please remember to keep them in your prayers in the months ahead.

Care for our Cathedral

A few weeks back we welcomed Michael to the Cathedral as he has been working as Caretaker, this past week we also welcomed a new caretaker Dermot to the Cathedral Grounds. They are a wonderful addition and the place is already looking better for them. Our thanks to them, and don't forget to tell them how well it looks when you are passing.

Rosary at St James's Green

A Rosary for the protection of life will be recited at St James Green on Thursday the 26th of October at 6.30pm.

Society of St Vincent de Paul

Grants available for third level students. For these or for any enquiries please email stthomaskilkenny@svp.ie

OUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE:

Sr Betty Cagney

Counselling Services - Towards Healing Confidential Helpline 1800 313 316 – www.towardshealing.ie Please consult the Diocesan website (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