



ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

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

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10th December 2023 – Second Sunday of Advent

A Thought...

Our Baptism does far more than make us members of the Church, it also calls us to allow our faith to come to life in many and varied ways, in a real sense we are asked by doing that to help bring others to God. One such way of doing this is to help bring to life the parish community by offering yourself to serve in some capacity. For example, our liturgies, our times of prayer, are better when people are involved and we are fortunate here in St Mary's that so many are involved.. It is good to hear varied voices proclaim to us the stories from the Old and New Testament reminding us of the faith that was handed onto us - it is also good that others help as Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist helping at Masses and helping to bring Communion to those who cannot make it to Mass. You don't have to be special to do these ministries... you simply have to be Baptised. Our Baptism brings our Christian dignity and our call to mission. A sincere thank you to all who help in these ministries and to those who have helped in the past - we would like to see more become involved.

Anniversaries

11am Willie and Mary Smith, Waterford Road, Tommy and Agnes O'Neill, Rothe Terrace, Larry and Joyce Britton, Greenshill

5.30pm Julia Heffernan and Mary Malone

And for those anniversaries occur about this time:
Mary McKee, Patrick and Rose Wixted, Mary Dowling.

Weekly Collections

Envelope Collection: €350; Baskets €1400.54. Your support of the parish is greatly appreciated.

Advent Penitential Service - Sacrament of Reconciliation

A Penitential Service for the four City Parishes will be held in St John's Church on Tuesday 19th December at 7.30pm. Come along and join us as we heed the call of John the Baptist to "prepare a way for the Lord".

St Vincent de Paul

Christmas collection after all masses today. Your generosity is appreciated.

Crib

Take time in the weeks ahead to visit the cribs in the City churches. A sincere thanks to Jim and Edel Meighan who erected the wonderful crib we have in the Cathedral.

Carols at the Cathedral

Annual Carol Service Sunday 17th December at 7.30pm featuring St. Mary's Cathedral Choir, The Kilkenny Youth Orchestra, The Unity Singers with special guest Tanya Sewell (Soprano).

Christmas Cards

A great stock of Christmas Cards is available in the Cathedral Shop. Also gifts for Christmas, a selection of cribs and other seasonal stock. The shop is open Monday-Friday 9.30am – 5.00pm

Ministers of the Word and the Eucharist

Might you be willing to read at Mass, or to help distribute Communion at Mass, or take Communion on occasion to someone who cannot come to Mass. If so we would be delighted to hear from you. Please let us know - call the office or email stmaryscathedral@ossory.ie. Training for both ministries will be provided. The pay for all help given is out of this world!

Altar Servers

Many of us served Mass when we were young children. Sadly, many parishes, particularly over covid, have let this wonderful opportunity for young people to be involved slip. We would like to bring it back. Have you sons or daughters from 3rd class to 6th who would be willing to serve at Mass? A schedule would be set up for them to serve on a rota. If you have someone who might be interested please let us know - phone the office or email stmaryscathedral@ossory.ie to leave your details.

Our Journey Through Advent 2023

During Advent the Diocesan Adult Faith Development Group have arranged a number of talks on topical items of our faith. Why not make these part of your journey towards Christmas

- "From Peace on Earth to Peace with Earth: Theology and Ecology". Professor Tobias Winright, Professor of Moral Theology, St. Patrick's College Maynooth on Monday 11th Dec., St. Kieran's College at 7.30pm. Entry Free
- "The Parish of Tomorrow will be Vastly Different to Today" Fr. Albert McDonnell, Chancellor of the Diocese of Killaloe, will lead us in reflecting on this on Tuesday 12th Dec., St. Kieran's College, 7.30pm

The Kilkenny Choir

An uplifting evening of specially selected Christmas music, which includes a mix of traditional and contemporary carols for all the family to enjoy, on **Sunday, December 10th 2023** at 4.30pm in St. Canice's Catholic Church. The choir will be accompanied by the wonderful soprano Claudia Boyle. Tickets €20 on Eventbrite or at the door, U18s free.

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