



ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

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

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21st January 2024 – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Thought...

This Sunday has been declared Word of God Sunday by Pope Francis. He first asked for this in 2019 and since then one Sunday each year we celebrate this day. The reason he asked us to do this in every church throughout the world is to draw attention to the Bible and to encourage people to read it (not all of it in one sitting) but to be comfortable to pick it up. Traditionally the Catholic Church was the Church of the Sacraments, but in focusing on those we lost sight of the richness of the Bible. Have you one at home? Take it out, read a few lines at some point in the day, and let those lines sit with you as you go about your day... Expose yourself to the Word of God, you certainly won't regret it.

Please remember the following in your prayers

Recently Deceased

Billy Dunphy, Parnell Street, Andy Murray, De Loughry Place.

Anniversaries

11am Sean and Sheila Hyland, Clonmorán, Christopher Mahony, Dean Cavanagh Place, Peggy Moore, Kickham Street.

5.30pm Maureen Murphy, Poulgour.

And for those whose anniversaries occur about this time

John O'Shea, Joe Slattery, William and Catherine Maher, Catherine Delaney, Michael Delaney, Sean Barry, Kathleen Doran, Margaret Doran, Johnny Brennan, Denis Guilfoyle.

Weekly Collections

Envelope Collection: €240.00; Baskets €1263.87. Your support of the parish is greatly appreciated.

Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intention for January 2024

For the gift of diversity in the Church: We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.

Preparation for Marriage Courses 2024

Preparing for Marriage? Weekend residential courses available. 26-28 April and 20-22 September 2024. Details: www.grasta.org or at info@grasta.org

Medjugorje May 29th (7 nights) from Cork airport. €879.00 pps. €50 discount if deposit paid by 15th Jan. Contact Sean O'Shaughnessy 0862959380

Safeguarding Audit

In this past week we have completed the annual Diocesan Safeguarding Audit for the Cathedral Parish. It is a wonderful opportunity each year check that we have the best procedures in place in the parish to ensure that all, young and old, can come to the Cathedral, or any of the activities that we have, and be sure that they are safe. The protection of children and vulnerable adults must be at the heart of our Church life. I want to thank so many people who help in this way. If you every have any concerns, please bring them to the attention of the Safeguarding Representative.

Ossory Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The annual Ossory Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024 is now available to book! The departure will take place on 22nd May 2024 from Cork flying direct to Lourdes with accommodation available in the hotels La Solitude, Padoue or Agena.

With capacity limited this year, it is strongly advised that pilgrims wishing to travel to Lourdes book as soon as possible. Should you require any additional information on the Pilgrimage, please do not hesitate to contact us: info@joewalstours.ie or 01 241 0800. Assisted pilgrims should contact Fr Anthony O'Connor on 087 251 7766 or by email on maoc50@me.com.

St Ignatian Spiritual Exercises for Men

Led by Fr Stephen Kennedy, IVE, Fri Feb 2nd to Mon Feb 5th (bank holiday) in De La Salle Retreat Centre, Castletown, Laois R32N6D8. Cost €200 – includes all meals and en-suite single rooms. Call Sr. Constancy 089-2152307 or c.puertadelaauroral@gmail.com

Catholics in the South East Book Club

Catholics in the South East of Ireland Facebook Group invites you to join our next Book Club Meetup on Saturday 27th January, 2024, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m., Club House Hotel, Kilkenny R95 DX76. Book: Theology for Beginners by Frank Sheed. For more information contact Gissell at 087-761-7792.

Caring from Someone

Are you caring for a loved one at home with additional needs? A spouse, partner, child, close relative or neighbour? Then you are a family carer! Become a member of Family Carers Ireland, the national charity supporting Ireland's 500,000+ family carers nationwide. Contact 057 93 70221 and hear how we can support you or for more info visit www.familycarers.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