



Tom

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

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28th January 2024 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Thought...

This past week has seen the Church throughout the world celebrate Christian Unity Week and the Church here in Ireland celebrate Catholic Schools week. It occurs to me that there are resonances between these two celebrations. Our schools are a snapshot of the communities that they serve and in them we have Christians of many denominations, and other religions, and the students who come from these many traditions work and learn so happily together. Our prayer is for a unified Christianity, but along with that let us celebrate then many ways that we are already partly there - our schools are examples of that. I want to thank, most sincerely, the wonderful teachers, ancillary staff, students, Boards of Management, parents and so many others who make up our Catholic Schools. In this parish we are blessed to have two primary, one special and one post primary school.. and what wonderful communities of inclusion they are.. Schools are not just places where kids learn - they are places that can teach us all...

Fr Dermot

Please remember the following in your prayers

Recently Deceased

Tom Brett, Waterford Road.

Anniversaries

11am Conor & Liam Delahunty, Castleinch, Marie & Jerry Davis, Angela Davis, St. Teresa's Tce., Tom Piert, Dean Cavanagh Place.

And for those whose anniversaries occur about this time

Mary Broderick, Elizabeth Kavanagh, Arthur Connick, Teresa Ward, Carmel Maher, Annie Moynihan, Maura Gaffney.

Weekly Collections

Envelope Collection: €492.00; Baskets 747.18. Your support of the parish is greatly appreciated.

Parish Council

On Monday night of this coming week, 29th January, the new Parish Pastoral Council will meet in the Chapter House at 7pm. I want to say a sincere thank you to all those who have agreed to join with this group to help plan parish activities, and to all who have stayed on from the previous Council. This is the first meeting of the new group - and they are a welcome addition to those already serving in this role. We look forward to working together as we plan for the future.

Diocesan Draw

The January Draw will take place on Wednesday, 31st January at 8.00pm in the Chapter Room. All welcome.

Bookshop

On Monday 5th February we will welcome the new person to the bookshop to work alongside Michael. Olesia will start on that day. So in the interim - for the week ahead - the bookshop will not be open for the full week. It will be open most days but in the early part of the week it will be just open for the morning. Thank you for your understanding.

John Paul II Awards

Gemma Mulligan, the Diocesan Pastoral Coordinator, has helped relaunch the John Paul II awards here in the Diocese. This is a national award recognising the involvement of teenagers in their parish communities and Church. It is a wonderful initiative. If there are TY students from the parish who would like to be part of this - know that we will support and encourage you fully in the parish in any way that we can. Tell your school that you would like to be part of this and let us know too.

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

What is Safeguarding Sunday?

Safeguarding Sunday is a time for the Diocese of Ossory to remind our parish communities and wider society that protecting children and vulnerable people is at the heart of the Christian message. It is opportunity for all parishes to pray as one and to acknowledge the dedication of Church personnel and volunteers who serve in the ministry of Safeguarding across the 42 parishes in our diocese.

In our parish, we value and encourage the participation of children and young people in all parish activities that enhance their spiritual, physical, emotional and social development. We recognise the dignity and rights of all children and are committed to ensuring their protection and support.

The Safeguarding Representative in this parish is Sr Betty Cagney

If you, or anyone you know, has a Safeguarding concern please contact:

Diocesan Director of Safeguarding and Designated Liaison Person, DLP, Ailish Higgins at 087 8021633

TUSLA: Kilkenny 052 6177302; Laois/Offaly 044 9353997; Waterford 053 9198201

An Garda Síochána: 1800 555 222 or your local Garda Station

Towards Healing Helpline: 1800 313416 www.towardshealing.ie

Towards Peace Helpline: 01 5053028 www.towardspeace.ie

Caring for 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

First class relic of St Brigid for St. Brigid's Day Service.

A first class relic of St Brigid will be available for this years Feast of St. Brigid. This year is the 1500th anniversary of her death. The annual St Brigid's Day service will take place on Thursday, February 1st in St Fiacc's Church Loughbouy at 7.30 pm. Water from the well of

St Brigid in Kildare and blessed red flannel will be available on the night. Music ministry by the Kilkenny Gospel Choir. All welcome'