



ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

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

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4th February 2024 – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Thought...

This past week the new Parish Pastoral Council met in the Chapter House. It was a great gathering which saw new members join with people who were already on the old Pastoral Council. What then is the Pastoral Council – it is the group who plan for the life of the parish. They plan liturgies, activities and suggest ideas for ways in which we can better function as a parish. At this past meeting we discussed the possibility of people to greet as we enter the church; some of the remote preparations for the Easter Ceremonies that will be televised by RTE from here; Ministers of the Word and Ministers of the Eucharist, and how best to offer training and support to those who are new and those already serving in these ministries; Lent and so much more... Why Lent just after Christmas you are asking – because it begins in two weeks time! Valentine's day is also Ash Wednesday this year... Sincere thanks to all who are helping on the Parish Pastoral Council they are giving of their time to help gently improve how it is that we are a parish community together.

Fr Dermot

Pastoral Council 2024

Rita Neary; Donie Butler, Marie Tallent, Jim and Edel Meighan, Tina Lawlor, Melanie Hyland, Mary Kealy, Sr Betty Cagney and Fr Dermot

Please remember the following in your prayers

Recently Deceased

Patrick (Paddy) Cody St. Francis Tce. James (Jimmy) Culleton, Old Callan Road.

Anniversaries

11am **Months Mind** Lynn Tyrell, Dominic Street.
Anniversaries Andy Hackett; Gerard Maher,

And for those whose anniversaries occur about this time
Gertie Quinlan, Philip Breen, Maura Jordan, William Burke.

Weekly Collections

Envelope Collection: €450.00; Baskets €1035.48 . Your support of the parish is greatly appreciated.

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for February - For the Terminally Ill

The Holy Father encourages prayers "so that terminally ill patients and their families always receive necessary medical and human care and support."

Polish Mass

Starting this weekend the Polish community here in Kilkenny city and its environs will come to the Cathedral each Sunday for a Mass celebrated in Polish. There is a Polish Chaplain who works from Waterford and who is there for the Polish Community – but there is also now a Polish Priest in this parish, in the Friary, and Fr George will celebrate Mass each Sunday in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at 10am. A very warm welcome for them to the Cathedral Parish.

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

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

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@joewalshstours.ie or 01 241 0800. Assisted pilgrims should contact Fr Anthony O'Connor on 087 251 7766 or by email on maoc50@me.com.

OUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE:

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

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