



ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

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

Tel: (056) 772 1253 Email: stmaryscathedral@ossory.ie

Rev Dermot Ryan, Adm. Email: dermotryan@ossory.ie

25th February 2024 – Second Sunday of Lent

A Thought...

This past week a group from the Diocese undertook a pilgrimage of art and faith to Tuscany, Italy. It was an opportunity to ask questions of faith, and in so doing, hopefully, deepen that faith, by means of exploring some truly wonderful pieces of art and sculpture. While visiting the church of the Collegiate in San Gimignano the local priest observed that the painting on the walls there, from the 14th Century, were "the poor man's Bible", teaching those who entered the mysteries of the Bible and faith even if they could not read or understand the language of faith... It was a wonderful description - our world, and so much of what we see, brings God to us in its wonder and beauty. As we celebrate the feast of the Transfiguration, then, may it remind us to open our eyes to the wonders of God that stand before us each day and in so doing may our faith be continually enriched.

Fr Dermot

Please remember the following in your prayers

Recently Deceased

Sr Columbiere Costello, Presentation Convent.

Anniversaries

11am Kathleen and Richard Whyte, College Court, Stella Doheny, High Street, Michael O'Hanrahan, Duke's Meadows, Johanna Kenna, Kickham Street.

5.30 Mary O'Shea, Martin O'Shea, Fr. Murphy Square-Anniversary
Michael Kelly, Katie Graham, Daryl Culbert who died recently.

And for those whose anniversaries occur about this time

Michelle Delaney, Catherine Kelly, Margaret Rowe.

Weekly Collections

Envelope Collection: €400.00; Baskets €1173.52. Your support of the parish is greatly appreciated.

Lenten Offering

The Lenten Envelopes are available for distribution at this time. Thanks to all who distribute them throughout the parish and to all who contribute so generously.

Young people in our Parish – Altar Servers – John Paul II Awards - Prayer

We need not be reminded that you are the future of faith. Our task is to hand on the faith to you in ways that are credible – why not volunteer for the John Paul II Awards if you are in TY; become an Altar Server if you are in 3rd to 6th Class or join us for the Taize Prayer and Pizza on Friday next 1st March at 7pm.

Diocesan Draw

The February Draw will take place on Wednesday, 28th February at 8.00pm in the Chapter Room. All welcome.

Coffee Morning for Trocaire

Next Saturday morning 2nd March we have a Coffee morning here in the Parish for Trocaire. Please join us in the Chapter House at 10.30 – 11.30am for a coffee and a bun and you can make a small contribution to the needs of Trocaire.

Easter Celebration on RTE

We continue to work with the producers from RTE who are helping us to plan the Easter ceremonies to be broadcast from the Cathedral. Thanks to all who are helping out – with the liturgies; the readings, the music and so much more... many are busy preparing.

Lent Programme

Please take a look at the notice boards at the back of the Cathedral for details on the many offerings of the Faith Development Group for us all for Lent. Feel free to drop into any of them - they are open to all.

The Trocaire Box

You will notice the large Trócaire box at the front of the church. This tradition was first launched by the Irish bishops in 1973 as a means of encouraging and facilitating families to give what extra they had to those who are poorest in our world. It is a beautiful Lenten tradition - which of us from our childhood doesn't remember them at home; bringing them from school or lifting them periodically to see how heavy it was getting. Please help continue that wonderful tradition of our caring for those who need it most. Take a Trócaire box home from the church this Lent. You can return it after Easter.

City Retreat

You will see a poster at the back of the church for a City Retreat. We are asking the four City parishes to come together on one of the weeks of Lent for a few simple nights of prayer. The first night will be led by Fr Billy Swan of Wexford on the topics Faith, Hope and Love and then Bishop Niall will lead us all in a Lenten Penitential Service on the last night. Try to make this week part of your Lenten journey.

Mother of Fair Love Parents Association are holding a fundraising clothes collection on 7th March 2024. Bags can be dropped to Mother of Fair Love School, James's Street any day from 9-3 up until 7th March.

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