



ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

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

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10th March 2024 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

A Thought...

This Wednesday 13th March at 7pm we will have the Ceremony of Light for the boys and girls from our three schools who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. This is a wonderfully simple but beautiful and significant celebration. The central aspect of the celebration is when the children come forward to take a lighted candle from the Pascal Candle - a simple act but one with great meaning. On the day of their Baptism it was their Godparents who did that very same action promising to help carry the flame of faith alive for them. Now in Confirmation they take that responsibility for themselves. It is a big responsibility wherein they promise to try to deepen their faith throughout their adult lives - as we pray for them this weekend, let us also give thanks. If you are reading this then you have kept/are keeping that promise to try to nurture your own faith. Sometimes that is easy and sometimes it is not - we help each other as a community of faith.

Fr Dermot

Please remember the following in your prayers

Anniversaries

11am **Months Mind** – Paddy Cody, Francis Terrace;

Joe Butler, St. Teresa's Terrace.

5.30 Kitty Egan, Rothe Terrace.

And for those whose anniversaries occur about this time: John and Kitty Maher, Francie Donnelly, John and Annie Free, Maureen Burke, Michael and Mary Tyrrell.

Weekly Collections

Envelope Collection: €295.00; Baskets €1081.71. Your support of the parish is greatly appreciated.

Cancelled Reflection Monday 11th March

The Lenten Reflection due to take place with Prof Salvador Ryan on Monday night in St Kieran's College is cancelled due to a bereavement. Please pass word of this to anyone you know who was planning to attend.

Easter Ceremonies

As you are aware this Easter RTE will broadcast the Easter Ceremonies from our Cathedral, live on Good Friday at 3pm and for the Easter Vigil at 11pm on Holy Saturday night. Again, we thank all those who are working to prepare for these celebrations. We are delighted that the people of St Canice's Parish have opted to join us for the Vigil on that night. We will make them very welcome. We will also be joined by the Dominicans and the Capuchins. These promise to be special celebrations - resist the temptation to sit and watch them from home. Please come to join us.

Altar Pieces

Displayed in the Sacristy corridor are copper reliefs, the work of Irish artist Edward Delaney in 1972. The longer reliefs adorned the black Kilkenny marble altar which stood in the Cathedral following the renovations in the years after the Second Vatican Council. They depict stories from the New Testament: the Flight into Egypt; the Annunciation; the Birth of Christ; the Baptism of Christ; the Miraculous Draught of Fishes; the Healing of the Sick; the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem; the Last Supper; the Meeting of Martha and Mary; the Resurrection; Crucifixion and the Ascension. The shorter pieces were on the Ambo from that time - they depict the Gospel of the Sower and a local scene of a hanging here in Kilkenny. People who were condemned were held in the Court House overnight and refused a visit of a priest for Confession. However, tradition has it that the priest would go to Rothe House and from an upper window offer absolution to those facing execution.

Ministers of the Word

Sincere thanks to all who minister as readers here in the Cathedral Parish. On Wednesday next 13th March at 8pm in St Kieran's College Fr Chris Hayden will lead a short evening of reflection for new and existing Ministers of the Word - we encourage you to go along. There will be a second night on the following Wednesday too. It promises to be very interesting.

Annual Eucharistic Adoration Pilgrimage to Knock

Takes place on Sunday 14th April 2024. Bus leaves from Woodies Carpark at 6.45am sharp. Cost €35. For more details please contact 086 1666547

Diocesan Draw

March draw will take place on Wednesday, 27th March at 2pm in the Chapter Room. All Welcome. Please note change of time.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Fáilte romhat isteach go dtí an Pembroke Hotel ar an Satharn 16/03/24 idir 11.00am go 1.00pm do chaife, scone, ceol, comhluadar agus seans iontach do chúpla focal Gaeilge a úsáid do Sheachtain na Gaeilge. Call in to the Pembroke Hotel. Enjoy a free coffee, scone and music in great company and use any Irish you may have. Tá fáilte roimh gach aois. Beidh Pop-Up Gaeltacht in Bollards pub, Kieran Street on Thursday 14/03 from 8.00pm. Fáilte romhat bualadh isteach agus do chúpla focal a úsáid.

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