

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



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

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

12th October 2025 – 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

A thought... As I write this there is a promise of peace in Gaza and the Holy Land. For the past two years that part of our world has suffered terribly with a war raging and the lives of so many people taken and destroyed. It occurs to me that peace is so fragile and it takes so little to break it. Surely in our world today diplomacy could be used to resolve so much - could we dream of a day when wars are not "necessary". We give thanks for this peace but we continue to pray for the many other parts of our world that need it so badly. *Fr Dermot*

Please remember the following in your prayers

Liam Murphy, Callan and formerly Stephen Street

Anniversaries

11.00am – Sean Quigley, Dean Cavanagh Place, Michael Dalton, St Teresa's Tce.

5.30pm – Margaret Comerford, Stephen Street and those whose anniversaries occur about this time Patrick and Julia Burke.

Weekly Collections

Envelopes: €375.00, Baskets €1,282.20. Your support of the parish is greatly appreciated.

Synod Mass

On Saturday 18th October people from every diocese in Ireland will come to Kilkenny to take part in the next phase of the National Synodal conversation for the church in Ireland. This day will start with **Mass at 8am in St Mary's Cathedral** (the normal 9am Mass will be rescheduled to 8am on that day). It is hoped that many of the Bishops of Ireland and those people working that day will join us for that celebration. We invite you to come along to support the beginning of that work in prayer at that Mass.

Taizé Youth Programme 2026

A youth trip to Taizé in France organised by Ossory Youth will take place from Sunday 28th June to Sunday 5th July 2026. A week in the Taizé Community is an opportunity for reflection and contemplation and a little step back from daily life. Tens of thousands of young people from around the world, including 25 from Kilkenny, will make the trip to Taizé next year. The programme, which runs from November 2025 to July 2026 is open to Transition year and 5th year students. Closing date for applications is Friday 24th Oct. For additional information, including cost and application forms, contact Patrick Bookle, Ossory Youth at (056) 7761200, (087) 2129006 or pbookle@ossoryyouth.com

Medjugorje pilgrimage May 27th 2026, 7 nights, €949 pps (€849 if paid in full by Nov 3rd). Staying in Hotel Leone (half board). Spiritual Director Fr. Ted Sheehan. Group Leader Sean O'Shaughnessy 0862959380 / medjugorjecork@icloud.com. Or contact JWT on 01 2410800. Places Limited. Early booking advisable.

Art and Architecture - A pilgrimage exploring God's Gifts

Next year the Adult Faith Development Group are holding a pilgrimage to Northern Italy (Padua, Venice & Bologna) March (20th-26th). This pilgrimage will explore faith by means of reflecting upon some of the many wonderful pieces of art scattered throughout these cities. Italy is blessed with a remarkable array of religious art - frescos, paintings, sculptures, mosaics and stuccos. this pilgrimage will explore the religious and catechetical meaning of some of these masterpieces. Further details in parishes on posters or by email afd@ossory.ie or call 057 93 55050.

Prayers for the Pre-Synodal Assembly of the Catholic Church in Ireland All Catholics are invited to pray for a special gathering that will take place in Kilkenny on 18 October, called a Pre-Synodal Assembly of the Catholic Church in Ireland. This assembly is an important juncture on the journey towards a National Synodal Assembly to be held in 2026. Around 240 people will be in attendance and these are drawn from each diocese on the island, Religious Congregations and Church movements. A preparatory document, entitled *Baptised and Sent* - the fruits of listening sessions across Ireland last spring - will be the basis for discussion at this gathering, and for the next stage of the journey of renewal. Central to the document is a renewed focus on baptism as the foundation of our Christian dignity, unity, and mission and how baptism infuses the life and mission of the Church in Ireland today and into the future. You are invited to read this document by visiting www.synod.ie/baptised-and-sent-preparatory-document-available-now/ Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide the conversations at Kilkenny, and those flowing from it, as we walk together as sisters and brothers of Christ, united by our baptism and filled with hope.

Prayer to Accompany the Synod

On Saturday 18th the next phase of the National Synodal Journey will take place in Lyrath. It is hoped that we will have adoration from 10am-6pm as the work of the synod is taking place. Ideally we would like 2 people for each hour. If you are available to be part of this adoration team in Lyrath might you contact the parish office.

St Luke's General Hospital Annual Remembrance Mass

Mass will take place on Tuesday, 21st October at 7.30pm in St. Canice's Church, Kilkenny R95 V440. This is an opportunity for families and loved ones of patients who have died in the hospital to come together for prayer and remembrance. All welcome.

October Offering

Envelopes are ready for distribution and can be collected at Parish Office. Thank you to all who give of their time to distribute envelopes.

Readers Next Weekend 11.00am – M. Whelan, 5.30pm – Sr. Nuala Eucharistic Ministers 11.00am – B. Quinn, D. Quinn, R. Heffernan; 5.30pm-T. Lawlor, B. Cagney.

YOUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPS: Sr Betty Cagney, Martina Lawlor

Contact: safeguardingstmarys@ossory.ie

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 policies.

Invite your family members to support the Cathedral **FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL** at www.stmaryscathedral.ie/friends