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4th August 2024 – Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Thought...

I had reason to drive to the middle of the country one day this past week and on route I couldn't help but notice that every farmer in Ireland was cutting, bailing and saving hay... It was, I suppose, the first opportunity to do that this summer and with rain forecast it was the only window, for now, to get it done. We all lament bad weather at this time of year but it must be extra difficult for those who are dependent on the weather for their work and livelihoods. We eventually get all the seasons - I am guessing that we are all hoping this summer stays with us for a while.

Please remember the following in your prayers

Anniversaries

11.00am - Ena Duffy, Fr. Delahunty Tce., John Joe Hennebry, Dunmore.

Clare Donnelly, David Gaffney, Peggy Gaffney, Tommy Ruth, Michael Lawlor, Patrick Hickey, Declan Lawlor, Annie Campion

Weekly Collections

Envelope Collection €550.00; Baskets €1392.66. Your support of the parish is greatly appreciated.

Would you consider becoming a Friend of St Mary's Cathedral

We are in the process of delivering envelopes to all the homes in the parish. These letters invite you to become a friend of the Cathedral through a regular monthly contribution or an annual donation. Your financial support would give us the freedom to develop the Cathedral but also, and perhaps more importantly, the interest and affirmation of the Friends will ensure that the future of the Cathedral will be secure for the next generation. If you are able to help, a sincere thank you.

New Book on St Mary's Cathedral

We have recently launched a new publication on the Cathedral. It documents, in pictures and words, the many wonderful pieces of art, statues and beautiful aspects of this magnificent and sacred place. It is available in English, Irish, Spanish, Italian, German, Polish and French. Hopefully those who visit will now be able to take something to recall their visit here. They are available in the Cathedral Gift Shop.

Mary's Meals – Walk to Knock 2024

Mary's Meals, named in honour of Our Lady, feeds over 2.4 million children in 18 countries every day at their schools. Administrative costs are kept to a minimum at 7cent in the Euro. Starting on Wednesday 7th August, Irish volunteers will begin to walk to Knock and they are all due to arrive in Knock on 15th August, the Feast of the Assumption. Two volunteers will begin at 9 a.m. from St John's Church Kilkenny via Castlecomer. Authorised collectors wearing distinctive blue t-shirts will be happy to receive your donations on the streets. Mary's Meals volunteers have Garda Permits for street collection on the 7th in Kilkenny. The Irish website is <u>www.marysmeals.ie</u>. If you are interested in organising or helping in a fund raising event in the Co. Kilkenny area contact <u>paulmckiernan@live.ie</u> Phone 0894629238 Remember just €22 will feed a child at school for a full year.

Visit of the Relics of Saint Bernadette of Lourdes

It is with joy that the Diocese of Ossory will host a visit of the Relics of Saint Bernadette of Lourdes on the weekend of 21st/22nd September 2024. This is an initiative of *United Irish Pilgrimages to Lourdes*, which is a group comprising of Pilgrimage Directors from most Irish dioceses and of some Religious orders. Saint Bernadette's relics will visit each diocese in the country and some churches belonging to religious orders during the months of September and October 2024. Saint Mary's Cathedral, Kilkenny, will kindly accommodate the visit of the Relics to Ossory Diocese. This is an initiative to bring a small piece of Lourdes to Ireland and make it possible for more people to experience something of what is close to the hearts of those who travel on our diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes each year.

Pilgrimage to Knock – Legion of Mary Sunday

Bus to Knock on Sunday, 29th September leaving the Parade at 7.30am Booking in St. Mary's Parish office or telephone Kay at 087 9428305. Cost €25 and can be paid when booking. All are welcome.

St Mary's Cathedral, Chapter House Bookshop

welcomes you to visit the shop which is now open 5 days a week. Monday 9.30am till 1.00pm; Tuesday - Friday 9.30am till 5.00pm.

Readers Next Weekend 11am Michael Whelan, 5.30pm Monica Dowling Eucharistic Ministers 11.00am Bobby Quinn, David Quinn, Ber Dunphy 5.30pm Betty Cagney, Kate Meighan.

YOUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES: Sr Betty Cagney and 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 <u>www.towardshealing.ie</u>

Towards Peace Helpline: 01 5053028 www.towardspeace.ie

Please consult the Diocesan website (<u>www.ossory.ie</u>) for all relevant documents and diocesan policies.

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