

1. Water.

I woke this morning and saw it was raining heavily outside. Water , Water everywhere ! The Council are telling me there is a leak somewhere near the Church . It will have to wait until after Christmas is over. Indeed, water ,water everywhere. However isn't it better than the black ice we had last week. As I was making my way to Fr. Benignus's funeral in the Friary, I slipped in the yard and my good sense told me not to go. So I turned back. I realise this is most unusual for me but I am glad not to have suffered fractures as many people have. My sympathy to them and we wish all who are ill at this time a speedy recovery.

2. It is Christmas. This is a blessed time when we celebrate the love of God who sends light into our world in the person of Jesus – the light of the world.

Pope Francis was reflecting on how Jesus' birth in a simple and poor manger is a lesson for us in seeing things as they really are. He said "each of us is called to return to what is essential in our lives, to discard all that is superfluous and a potential hindrance on the path of holiness." He calls for what he described as the most important interior attitude : **gratitude** " without a constant exercise of gratitude, we would end up simply cataloguing our failures and lose sight of what counts most: **the graces that the Lord grants us each day.**"

3. Gratitude

My thanks to you all , our faithful parishioners, for all your support throughout the year – your financial support and your encouragement and friendship. Thank you to the Parish Council members who will meet again in the New Year to plan the programme for the year. We are blessed to have a great team – Finance, Liturgy, Readers and Eucharistic Ministers, Collectors, and Stewards in Church. We appreciate our musicians and choirs who enhance the liturgy and who faithfully lift our hearts in our praise of God. My thanks to Margaret and Caroline who present the welcoming face of the Parish in their service in the Parish Centre. I have seen firsthand their care for people, offering a cup of coffee and a listening ear. Thanks to Ailish our Sacristan for her invaluable service too – keeping the candles lit and the doors open with a smile. Sr. Concepta and Sr. Margaret Mary provide a wonderful service to the sick and housebound, and the residents in the nursing homes. My Colleague, Fr. Tom Norris, has been out of circulation since the end of July and he is progressing slowly. I conveyed all your good wishes to him . We wish Fr Tom a speedy recovery.

4. Good Wishes

I appreciate all your generosity and kindness, all your cards and good wishes . You spoil me with your loving kindness. Thank you!

I love working with the Teachers and Pupils in St. Canice's Co-Ed and with the Board of Management . God bless all who are involved in that very important work in our parish school .

We look forward to the Ordination of our new bishop, Fr Niall Coll. May the Spirit of the Lord fill his heart with courage, enthusiasm and joy to fulfil his arduous task as Shepherd of the People of Ossory.

May the Lord bless you all with peace.

Happy Christmas to you all.

– Fr Jim



*Wishing all our Parishioners a Very Happy
And Peaceful Christmas*

ST CANICE'S PARISH

25th DECEMBER 2022

Praying for those who have died

Sean Dooley, Dean Cavanagh Place

Paddy Purcell, Leggettsrath

Ann Mulhall Galvin, Noremount

Anniversaries

St Stephen's Day 10am For the Intentions of all those who sent and received the Parish Christmas Cards

Tues 10am William Butler

Wed 10am Con Downey (1st Anniv)

Thurs 10am John and Kit O'Toole

Fri 10am Ted and Rose Kenny

New Years' Eve 7.30pm Mary, Jim and Seamus Tynan

New Year's Day 10am Josephine Grace, Michael Dowling

New Years' Day 11.30am Joe Woods, Fr Martin Cleere

Thursday 10am Bridget and Walter O'Keeffe, Daniel and Bridget O'Driscoll

Thurs 7.30pm Vigil of the Feast of the Epiphany

Feast of the Epiphany 10am John and Mary Kate Mc Mahon

Sat 7th Jan 7.30pm Larry Tynan and his parents Margaret and James Tynan

Sun 10 am

Sun 11.30am Jerry Dunne (1st Anniv)

We also remember Peggy Blanchfield, Patrick Burke, Stephen Cantwell, Tom Cantwell, Michael and Elizabeth Cullen, Martin Cummins, Jack Donegan, Micheál Downey and Family, Seamus Fry, Ann Guilfoyle, Maura Hearne, Anthony Tierney, Michael Parker, Liam and Mary Ryan, Kay Scott, Roseanna Smyth,

Please Note

There will be no 10am Mass on Mon 2nd, Tues 3rd, Wed 4th January

There will be a Liturgy of the Word and Communion at this time

Sunday Collection

The collection last Sunday amounted to €1302. Thank you for your generosity. We also have the Donate button on the website for those of you who wish to contribute online.

St Vincent De Paul

Sincere thanks to all who contributed to our Christmas appeal for the Society of St Vincent de Paul. The sum of €4,605 was raised and this is all used for the support of people in St Canice's Parish. Thanks also to the many parishioners who left donations at the Parish Office and shop. We live in challenging times, if you or any of your family are struggling financially the parish conference of St Vincent de Paul is here to help. Tel: 086 0721598. Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas



Christmas Mass Times



Christmas Eve 5.30pm and 7.30pm

Christmas Day 10am and 11.30am

St Stephen's Day 10am

Tuesday 27th Dec 10am

Wednesday 28th Dec 10am

Thursday 29th Dec 10am

Friday 30th Dec 10am

Saturday 31st Dec – 7.30pm Vigil

Sunday 1st Jan 10am and 11.30am

Monday 2nd Jan 10am Liturgy

Tuesday 3rd Jan 10am Liturgy

Wednesday 4th Jan 10am Liturgy

Thursday 5th January 10am Mass

Thurs 5th Jan. 7.30pm Vigil of the Epiphany

Fri 6th Jan 10am Feast of the Epiphany

Please Note Daily Masses 27th Dec to 6th Jan will be at 10am

The Annual Kilkenny Camino City Church Crib Walk

The Annual Church Christmas Crib Walk will take place on Sat. Dec 31st beginning at the Friary Church at 11 am. This year the Walk will join the community of Santiago De Compostela who celebrate Holy Crib Day. The walk will be led by Fr. Willie Purcell.

Facemasks

With the current rise in Covid cases we encourage people to please wear Masks at all ceremonies in the Church and be mindful of our more vulnerable Parishioners. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Parish Centre will re-open on Thurs 5th January and will be closed for the Feast of the Epiphany on Friday 6th Jan

Fr. Jim 087 2609545 / 056 7721534 - Fr. Tom 083 3241438

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Secretary: Ms Mgt Logue – Sacristan: Ailish Brennan c/o Parish Centre

Safeguarding reps. Ms Caroline Cummins, Edmund Nolan, c/o Parish Centre.