

St. Mary's Cathedral Restoration Fund Draw. The second of twelve draws takes place the last Wednesday of April. The subscription is €10 per month. Join at O'Keeffe's or Murphy Victualler in Market Street, Reddy's on Pipe Street or the Parish Office.

St. Mary's National School will hold a clothes (handbags, belts, soft toys) collection to support the Laura Lynn House. Unwanted mobile phones/ digital cameras & tablets will also be accepted. Please bring your unwanted items to the school from Monday, 11th April to Friday, 22nd April.

Coeliacs If reception of Communion is a problem for you, please contact Fr. Mark or Fr. Dan or one of the Sacristans at the churches and arrangements will be made to facilitate you at Mass.

The Rower Church celebrates 200 years this year. As part of the celebration two talks have been planned for April each taking place in The Rower Community Hall at 8pm. All welcome.

April 20th: The Building of Churches in the early 1800s. Fr Fearghus O'Fearghail, PP Windgap, will examine the building of churches before and after Catholic Emancipation in 1829. He will talk in particular upon the churches of the Parish of Inistioge: St Brendan's Church Clodiagh (1800), The Church of the Assumption (1816) and St Colmcille's Church (1836).

April 27th: The Religious Influence upon the 1916 Rising and its Leaders. Fr Billy Swan, CC St Senan's Cathedral Enniscorthy, has written on this subject and will examine the influence of religious beliefs upon the drafting of the Proclamation and the motivation of the signatories, the choice of Easter as the date for the Rising and the notion of nationhood 100 years later.

Friends of Fallen Friends Road Run: 01st May 2016. Run leaves approximately 12 noon from Thomastown United AFC Grounds. All vehicles are welcome, costing €20. All money raised will go to Thomastown Community Hall and Thomastown Scouts.

Jubilee Volunteers: During this Jubilee year there is an opportunity for people to travel to Rome to act as volunteers helping pilgrims throughout the city. Accommodation and food etc..will be provided for successful applicants. There is a notional requirement of basic Italian but that should not stop people applying as a few easy classes to give people the basics will be provided. Adult Faith Development will sponsor up to 10 people to travel.

Day Trip for Senior Citizens takes place Tuesday May 17th, leaving at 10am, costing €10 per person, with Indoor Crazy Golf, Newbridge Silverware and the Icon Museum of Style, and time to explore Newbridge town. Please give names to the Shop on Thursday or Friday.

Family Carers Ireland are providing the QQI Level 5 Healthcare Support Full Award Training in your area in May 2016. This training will be run one day a week for five weeks from 9.30am to 4.30 per module. This qualification will qualify you to work in areas of the care sector. For more info or to express an interest contact the training department on 0579370221.

Family Carers Ireland are hoping to run the Care Skills Module beginning in May 2016 for Family Carers. Please contact 056 7721424 for more info. Charity Number 10962.

Amoris Laetitia, Pope Francis' letter on Marriage and Family life, was released last weekend. To access the letter, see www.catholicbishops.ie. Commentators recommend chapter 4, a reflection on 1 Corinthians 13. Fr. James Martin, SJ, states: 'Using insights from the Synod of Bishops on the Family and from bishops' conferences from around the world, Pope Francis affirms church teaching on family life and marriage, but strongly emphasizes the role of personal conscience and pastoral discernment. He urges the church to appreciate the context of people's lives when helping them make good decisions. The goal is to help families—in fact, everyone—experience God's love and know that they are welcome members of the church. All this may require what the pope calls "new pastoral methods".

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Wed 12.30pm to 1.00pm
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THOMASTOWN PARISH Newsletter

THOMASTOWN
WEBSITE
www.thomastownparish.ie



PARISH OFFICE

Notices for the Newsletter must be placed in the letter box before Thursday 12 noon for inclusion in the coming weekend's Newsletter.

MARRIAGES

All people planning Marriage in Church in Thomastown must give at least three months notice to the Parish. Please contact the Office or one of the Priests. With such a significant step for life, it is important that couples intending Marriage undergo a course of Marriage Preparation. Accord is the official provider of Pre-Marriage courses.

BAPTISMS

Baptisms are held on 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month and on 2nd Sunday of each month after 11.00am Mass. Please contact the Parish Office, tel 056-7793191 or email: thomastown@rossary.ie



**17th April 2016
Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Dorothy Day, Gandhi, Oscar Romero:
they knew your hunger and thirst,
as you filled the hearts of each poor one
throughout this world. They are the love you use,
to wipe away every tear, upon every face.
Let us love you as they did.
Let us lay down our lives for our friends.

Newsletter

THOMASTOWN
WEBSITE
www.thomastownparish.ie



THOMASTOWN PARISH

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CHURCH SERVICES THIS WEEK BEGINNING 17th April 2016

Parish Church	Sunday morning Mass	11.00am
	Monday, Wednesday & Friday Mass	09.30am
	Monday Adoration in Mercy Chapel	10/12noon
	Monday Adoration in Mercy Chapel	07/08pm
	Wednesday Lectio Divina in Mercy Chapel	10.00am
	Saturday evening Vigil Mass	07.00pm
St. Columba's Hospital	Sunday morning Mass	09.30am
	Tuesday & Thursday Mass	10.00am
Mong	Saturday evening 23 rd April Mass	05.45pm
Confessions	Saturday 11am & after 7pm Mass when requested	

Mass times in Chapel Hill & Mong for the coming weeks.

Mass in Chapel Hill Saturday evening 16th April, 30th April at 5.45pm
Mass in Mong Saturday evening 23rd April, 14th May at 5.45pm

Deaths/Anniversaries: **Gobnait Murphy** (Months Mind 6.45pm Mass); **Billy & Nelly O'Reilly**, Market Street (7pm Mass); **Johnny Dalton**, 19 Dangan Terrace (9.30am Mass); **Edward Walsh**, 4, Castle Avenue (11am Mass); **Paddy Heafey**, 10, Castle Avenue; **Tess Hennessy**, Low Street; **Martin Farrell**, Jerpoint Hill; **James & Margaret Farrell**, Canada; **Gerard McEvoy**, Jerpoint Church; **Edward Walshe**, 4, Castle Avenue; **Robert Walshe**, formerly Dysart; **William & Edward Barron**, Ladywell Street; **Alice & Jack Norris**, Danesrath; **Nan Butler**, Mount Juliet; **Geoffrey, Chris & John Croke**; **Tom Walsh, Kilvinogue**. May they rest in peace.

St Joseph's Young Priests Society will join with Parish Adoration on Monday 18th to pray for Vocations to Priesthood & Religious life ending with rosary at 8pm. Please join us. All welcome.

Thomastown Branch of St. Joseph's Young Priests Society will take up a collection towards the education of students for Priesthood this weekend Vocations Sunday. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated. Thank you to our dedicated members for their continued support.

St. Mary's Conference of St. Vincent de Paul Society Church door Collection will be held at all Masses next weekend 23/24th April and your support is greatly appreciated. The telephone number of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is 096-2664669.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: With effect from Monday next Adoration times will change. Adoration will begin after 9.30am Mass to 12 noon and from 7 to 8pm.

Remembering 1916: The 7pm Mass next Saturday will be our time to recall the people who died in 1916 at the Easter Rising, and to ask God's blessing for Ireland's journey of the next 100 years.

CYMS The building has had a varied role in the life of Thomastown, as School, and later CYMS and more recently Scout Den. It has been lying idle for a number of years and the fabric of the building is deteriorating. The Parish Finance Committee and Pastoral Council have examined the need for a Parish Pastoral Centre to serve the needs of the people of the Parish and decided that this is the best venue for it, close to the Parish Church and providing a Pastoral Campus. As a building in the town, it is a very significant location. The decision to restore it is strengthened by the fact that as a protected structure we have a duty to protect it. Work will begin on the CYMS this week, and will take three months. The contractor for the current work is Kevin Moore. The work on hand is to secure the building, so work will be done on the roof, and also on the external structure, with new windows, etc. Basically, we want to secure the building. When that project is completed – and paid for – a next phase will see work on the internal structure, to make the building usable for current needs.

Ossory Vocations: Who will shepherd God's people? Pray that good leaders, filled with joy and the Holy Spirit, will serve our Church. (Acts 13:14, 43-52) If you think God is calling you to priesthood, call Fr. Willie Purcell Ossory Vocations Director. 056 7770261 or email ossoryvocdir@gmail.com. www.ossoryvocations.com

Vocations Sunday 2016 is celebrated this weekend on the theme *The Church, Mother of Vocations*. Pope Francis has issued a pastoral message You can read the full text of the Pope's message on www.vocations.ie

Pray for Vocations to the priesthood and religious life on Vocations Sunday and throughout the year. For prayers and additional resources please see www.vocations.ie.

"The vocational call to priesthood is profoundly countercultural because the primary dominating voices today stress doing one's own thing." **Archbishop Michael Neary**
"Always remember the example of the Good Shepherd who came not to be served but to serve, and to seek out and rescue those who were lost" **Bishop McAreavey**

