

**Centre:** "The Country Boy" a play by John Murphy will be performed on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm in the Concert Hall Community Centre by the Fionn MacCumhail Players set in the 60's. Tickets cost €10. Available at O'Keeffe's Daybreak, Market Street & Prendergasts Butchers or at the Door on the night. Enquiries Bookings on 087 7728170.

**Thomastown Community Alert/Text Alert:** Thomastown Community Alert has been reformed in recent weeks with regard to setting up a Text Alert as this has been set up in most of our surrounding parishes as extra security to help in Crime Prevention. There will be a public registration for anyone who wishes to become part of this text alert in the Community Centre, Thomastown on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April from 7pm/8.30pm. Cost is €10 per phone for the year. Call in for more information.

**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, 11<sup>th</sup> April to Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**St Luke's Hospital** will be holding its annual remembrance ceremony for families who have been bereaved by the death of their child through miscarriage, still-birth or early infancy death. This will take place on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> in St Fiacre's Church, Loughboy, Kilkenny at 7.30pm.

**Friends of Fallen Friends Road Run:** 01<sup>st</sup> 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.

**Day Trip for Senior Citizens** takes place Tuesday May 17<sup>th</sup>, 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.

**Volunteer in Africa:** Humanitarian Volunteers are looking for volunteers to travel to Kenya on 26 June 2016. The volunteers will work on a humanitarian project for two weeks. No experience required and no age restrictions. Supervision provided. Volunteers will also visit the resting place of the Venerable Edel Quinn. No large fundraising. Volunteers will pay their own costs. If you can assist teaching English, or assist with sports, games, arts, crafts or more, then you can make a real impact on the lives of the poorest and those without hope. Contact Denis at Humanitarian Volunteers 086 8520271.

**World Youth Day 2016:** World Youth Day will be celebrated this July in Krakow from July 25<sup>th</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup>. Young people, over the age of 18 years of age, are invited to Contact Fr. Richard Scriven (087 2420033) or Derek Dooley (087 938 4242) if they would like to participate in this pilgrimage with Pope Francis to the homeland of Pope John Paul II. Further information from Fr Scriven, PP Inistioge, 087 2420033 or [inistioge@ossory.ie](mailto:inistioge@ossory.ie) or [wyd@ossory.ie](mailto:wyd@ossory.ie)

**'Amoris Laetitia'** – in English 'The Joy of Love' – is the title, taken from the first words of the 'Apostolic Exhortation', or letter, which Pope Francis is to publish this weekend. Over the past two Autumns there have been gatherings in Rome to talk about Marriage and Family. Pope Francis has listened carefully, and presents his thoughts on the topic for all of us. Newspapers will take particular slants on the document – too conservative or too liberal, depending on what side they take on the topic. Why not read the Document itself, rather than getting pieces the journalists get heated over. Check [www.catholicbishops.ie](http://www.catholicbishops.ie) or [www.news.va](http://www.news.va) for the document.

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**Parish Office**

Wed Hours: 9h 10:00am - 1:00pm  
Tel: 056 7793191  
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# THOMASTOWN PARISH Newsletter

THOMASTOWN  
WEBSITE  
[www.thomastownparish.ie](http://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@ossory.ie](mailto:thomastown@ossory.ie)



10<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Third Sunday of Easter

Lord, we thank you for people who have forgiven us, not a mean, calculating forgiveness, not harping on the ways in which we wronged them, but forgiving with the forgiveness of Jesus, so that it was like coming back from a hard night's work, and seeing some bread there and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on it and the very person we had hurt saying, 'Come and have breakfast'.

# Newsletter

THOMASTOWN  
WEBSITE  
www.thomastownparish.ie



THOMASTOWN PARISH

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## CHURCH SERVICES THIS WEEK BEGINNING 10<sup>th</sup> April 2016

<b>Parish Church</b>	Sunday morning Mass	11.00am
	Monday, Wednesday & Friday Mass	09.30am
	Monday Adoration in Mercy Chapel	02/08pm
	Wednesday Lectio Divina in Mercy Chapel	10.00am
<b>St. Columba's Hospital</b>	Saturday evening Vigil Mass	07.00pm
	Sunday morning Mass	09.30am
<b>Chapel Hill</b>	Tuesday & Thursday Mass	10.00am
	Saturday evening 16 <sup>th</sup> April Mass	05.45pm
<b>Confessions</b>	Saturday 11am & after 7pm Mass when requested	

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

Mass in Chapel Hill Saturday evening 16<sup>th</sup> April, 30<sup>th</sup> April at 5.45pm

Mass in Mong Saturday evening 09<sup>th</sup> April, 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 5.45pm

**Deaths/Anniversaries:** **Ned Nevin** (Months Mind Mass 7pm); **Gerry Gibbons**, Colmcille & Castle Avenue (9.30am Mass); **James Lannon**, 26, Dangan Terrace (11am Mass); **Terry Anderson**, Newtown; **Bridget (Bridie) O'Keeffe**, Smithstown; **Margaret & Thomas Begley**, 9, Newtown Terrace; **Jimmy & Bill Maher**, Durrow; **John & Mary Challoner**, 41, Newtown Terrace. May they rest in peace.

**Do This In Memory Programme** this Sunday at 11am Mass.

**Children with Special Educational Needs:** Church Door Collection this weekend 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> April.

**Thomastown Branch of St. Joseph's Young Priests Society** will take up a collection towards the education of students for Priesthood on the weekend celebrating Vocations Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup>. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated. Thank you to our dedicated members for their continued support.

**Trocaire:** Please return your donation as soon as possible.

**Remembering 1916** The 7pm Mass on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April will be our time to recall the people who died in 1916 at the Easter Rising, and to ask God's blessing for the journey of the next 100 years.

**Our Mother of Perpetual Help:** A Pilgrimage with the Icon to the Cathedrals of Ireland takes place in the Jubilee Year of Mercy 2016 celebrating 150 years of Redemptorist Devotion. The Icon is being welcomed to St. Mary's Cathedral, Kilkenny, 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> April 2016. The programme of events taking place

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016** – St. Mary's Cathedral 7.30pm Mass of Welcome

*Chief celebrant: Bishop Séamus Freeman.* A Service of Healing – will follow after Mass

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2016** – St. Mary's Cathedral 9.00am Mass & 11.30am Prayer Service for Primary Schools.

**The Universe Story & God - Implications and Reflections:** Come and explore with **Dr Margaret Twomey RSM** how contemporary ways of thinking about the world are reflected in ancient Christian tradition; how theology can be enhanced by evolutionary theory and how the Universe Story calls for justice for all. Details as follows: Date: Saturday **April 23<sup>rd</sup>**; Venue: **St. Patrick's Parish Centre, Loughboy, Kilkenny**; Time: 10.00-4.30; Cost €10. **Please bring packed lunch.** Please **book before 18 April** by contacting: Catherina or Catherine at 056 7722870 9—5 pm

**Dates for Accord Pre-Marriage Courses** to take place in Kilkenny this year: 27,28<sup>th</sup> May, 17,18<sup>th</sup> June, 23,24<sup>th</sup> September, 21,22<sup>nd</sup> October, 25,26<sup>th</sup> November. Please check the Accord website, and if one of the above dates suits you, book early as courses get filled up.

**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 next 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.

