

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

15th April 2018

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CHURCH SERVICES BEGINNING SUNDAY 15th April

Parish Church	Sunday morning Mass	11.00am
	Monday, Wednesday & Friday Mass	09.30am
	Monday Adoration in Mercy Chapel	10.00am
	Monday Adoration in Mercy Chapel	07/08pm
	Wednesday morning Lectio Divina	10.00am
	Saturday Vigil Mass	07.00pm
St. Columba's Hospital	Sunday Morning Mass	09.30am
	Tuesday, Thursday Mass	10.00am
Confessions	After 7pm Mass when requested.	

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

Mass in Chapel Hill	21 st April at 5.45pm, 5 th May at 5.45pm
Mass in Mong	14 th April, 28 th April at 5.45pm

Deaths/Anniversaries: Catherine Heffernan, Achill (5.45pm); **Gerry Minogue & son Trevor** (7pm Mass); **Kathleen (Kit) Behan**, Cloughabrody (Months Mind Mass 11am); **Jim Lannon**, 26, Dangan Terrace (11am Mass); **Paddy Heafey**, Castle Avenue (11am Mass); **Teresa Hennessy**, The Tower House (11am Mass); **Michael & Mima Gaffney**, Dangan; **Margaret & Thomas Begley**, 9, Newtown Terrace; **Bill & Jimmy Maher**, Durrow; **Philomena Lanigan**, Jerpont Church. May they rest in peace.

Mass Intentions Next Weekend: Larry O'Keeffe, Market Street (7pm Mass); **Robert Lee**, Dangan Terrace, (Months Mind Mass 7pm); **Matty Lawlor**, Maudlin Street (9.30am Mass); **John Dalton**, Dangan Terrace (11am Mass); **Bridie Heavey**, Allen, Co. Kildare.(11am Mass)

Do This in Memory Programme this Sunday 11am Mass

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society will join with Parish Adoration on Monday 16th to pray for Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life ending with Rosary at 8pm. All welcome, please join us.

St. Vincent de Paul Society holds its church door collection this weekend 14th/15th April. Your support is greatly appreciated. The tel. number of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is **086-2664669** for anyone in need.

Church Gate Collection for young people travelling to Medjugorje next weekend 21st/22nd April.

Thanks for your contributions to recent Church door collections. You contributed €275 to the **Collection for Emigrants**, and €325 for the **Church door collection for the Holy Places** – the shrines which Christians seek to look after in the Holy Land. In the recent collection for Children with Special Education Needs your contribution came to €340. Again, thank you!!

Thomastown Parish Golf Classic: Friday 20th and Sat 21st April in Gowran Park. €200 for 4 ball is called off for the moment. Golfers are shy after the long layoff!

You Shall be my witnesses is the Parish preparation for those who will present themselves for Confirmation on Saturday 16th June. It resumes after the Easter break, with meetings on 18th and 25th April, at 7.30pm each evening.

Prayer Initiative for Protection of the 8th Amendment: On April 18th tens of thousands of Irish people will begin 33 days of preparation to consecrate themselves to Jesus through Mary. The actual consecration day is May 21st (New Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church) ...just before the referendum. Can you join the initiative? Contact Maureen Sherlock at 087 9406742 for a free copy of Fr. Michael Gaitley's Book.

The Poor Clares in Galway are hosting a Cloister day on Saturday, April 21st from 10am to 5pm to help young women to find out more about the Poor Clare way of life with a view to vocation discernment. To book a place contact Sr. Faustina at: poorclaresgalwayvocations@gmail.com

The Red Cross: it is planned to set up a Red Cross branch in Thomastown. Please come along to an information evening in the Thomastown Community Centre on Wednesday 18th April at 8.00 pm. Contact Carlow Kilkenny Red Cross Chair Breda Gardner on 087 2025753, or Red Cross Trainer Cora Johnson on 087 7216686.

Clothes Collection on Friday April 20th supporting Friends of Calcutta (CHY 13218) Bags can be left up to 4pm that day in the Church Car Park. To view a short film on what your generosity has funded please visit 'Rajiv 18' on YouTube. All enquirers to Michael Hopkins 087-9073074.

The Irish Pilgrimage Trust Pop Up Sale will take place at St. Fiacre's Church Loughboy after 6.15pm Mass on Saturday, 21st and from 10.00am to 1.30pm on Sunday, 22nd April. Lots of new quality items at amazing prices. Proceeds will be used to defray the cost of the recent Easter pilgrimage/holiday to Lourdes for young people with special needs from our area.

South Kilkenny Historical Society – upcoming events: Lecture, Thursday April 26th – Putting Ireland on Four Wheels by Dr. Austin O'Sullivan, 8pm, Mullinavat Parish Hall. Saturday, May 26th – Coach Trip to Dublin (The Little Museum of Dublin and EPIC – The Irish Emigration Museum). Cost €60 (€55 society members). Booking and further information from either Brigid Barron (brigidbarron@hotmail.com) or Eddie Synnott (edsynnott@yahoo.co.uk).

Lough Derg: Come home to the love of God's Family on Lough Derg. Pilgrimage Season opens on Saturday 5th May. One Day Retreat or Three Day Pilgrimages available. For information contact 071 9861518 of www.loughderg.org

Amoris Laetitia, The Joy of Love. Pope Francis writes: we need to be humble and realistic, acknowledging that at times the way we present our Christian beliefs and treat other people has helped contribute to today's problematic situation. We need a healthy dose of self-criticism. Then too, we often present marriage in such a way that its unitive meaning, its call to grow in love and its ideal of mutual assistance are overshadowed by an almost exclusive insistence on the duty of procreation. Nor have we always provided solid guidance to young married couples, understanding their timetables, their way of thinking and their concrete concerns. At times we have also proposed a far too abstract and almost artificial theological ideal of marriage, far removed from the concrete situations and practical possibilities of real families. This excessive idealisation, especially when we have failed to inspire trust in God's grace, has not helped to make marriage more desirable and attractive, but quite the opposite'. (Section 36) What do you think?