

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

15th July 2018

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| Parish Priest: Fr. Dan Bollard Tel 056 7724279 - 1pm Email: thomastown@ossory.ie Website www.thomastownparish.ie Radio: fm108 | Parish Office: Tel No 056 7793191 Opening Hours Wed. Thur. Fri. 10 Mobile 087 6644858 Email dbollard@eircom.net Facebook: Thomastown Parish |
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CHURCH SERVICES BEGINNING SUNDAY 15th July

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| 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 |
| | 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 21st July at 5.45pm & 04th August at 5.45pm
Mass in Mong 14th July at 5.45pm & 28th July at 5.45pm

Deaths/Anniversaries: **Martin Morrissey**, Ardnacrusha, Co. Clare, died recently, and **Kathleen, Bill & Eamon Barron**, Bawnskeha (7pm Mass); **Tom Olden**, The Greens (7pm Mass); **Catherine & Edward Cotterell**, Brownsbarn (7pm Mass); **Maura Murray**, Jerpoint Abbey (Months Mind Mass 11am); **William Walsh**, Cappagh, Thomastown; **John Comerford**, Burrells Park; **Nancy Murphy**, Pleberstown; **Anne Donnelly**, Jerpoint Church; **Liam Walsh**, Cloughabrody; **David Doolan**, Newtown; **Angela McEvoy**, Jerpoint Church. May they rest in peace.

Mass Intentions Next Weekend: **Maria Hoban**, Bawnskeha (5.45pm Mass); **Joseph (Joe) Challoner**, Cloughabrody (5.45pm Mass)

Collection for the Holy Father - Peters Pence - will be taken up at Church Door this weekend.

A Missionary Sister, Servant of the Holy Spirit will visit Thomastown this weekend and make a mission appeal at all Masses.

Don't forget. As the weather changes this is the time to empty out your attics and sheds for a **Car Boot Sale** on 22nd July beginning at 12 noon at Thomastown GAA grounds. Admission for sellers: car, €20, small van/car with trailer €25. Free admission for buyers.

Thomastown Senior Citizens: Day Trip to Banagher, Tullamore Dew Distillery & Shannon Cruise on Tuesday 17th July 2018 followed by Dinner in O'Gormans, The Bog Road. Bus leaving from Community Centre at 9am. Cost €15 per person. For further information call to the Shop, Marshes Street any time between 9am/3pm Thursday or Friday.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society: Annual Pilgrimage to Our Lady's Island takes place on Sunday July 22nd. Bus leaving the Quay at 12.00 noon. To book a place contact Marian 086-0693510.

Parish Office: closed Wednesday, Thursday & Friday this week. Notices etc. for Parish Newsletter can be emailed or put through the letter box in the normal way.

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

The Parish Finance Committee will meet on Monday at 7.30pm at the Parish Office.

World Meeting of Families: get details on www.worldmeeting2018.ie. On Wednesday 22nd August Inistioge and Thomastown will share a bus for those wishing to travel that day. Please contact the Parish Office to book a place on the bus.

Croke Park - Festival of Families - Saturday August 25th Each Parish in Ireland is asked to nominate a family to attend the Festival of Families in Croke Park with Pope Francis at 7.30 pm on Saturday August 25th. Every Parish in the country will be allocated 10 tickets for this event. If interested, please contact Fr. Dan this week.

Youth 2000 Summer Festival, Cistercian College, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary from Thursday 16th August – Sunday 19th August 2018. For young people aged 16-35, an opportunity not to be missed to experience Catholic faith and meet many new people, with over 1000 young people from all corners of Ireland attending last year. The festival is donation only. Free buses travelling from all around Ireland. For more info and to book online, see www.youth2000.ie

Are you struggling with anxiety or depression? finding life difficult? feeling isolated? in need of support? GROW is here to help you. GROW is a *community*-based mental health organisation which holds weekly meetings in your local community. GROW meetings provide help and support to anyone experiencing mental health difficulties or struggling with any aspect of their mental wellbeing. Meetings are confidential and no referral is necessary, just come along. GROW promotes breaking social isolation and promoting social connectedness and is centred around the idea that '*I alone can do it, but I cannot do it alone*'.

For Kilkenny Carlow Groups:

Tuesday @ 10am, Grow Office, Ormonde Home, Barrack St Kilkenny

Tuesday @ 7.45pm, St Catherine's Social Service Centre, Joseph's Road, Carlow

Wednesday @ 8pm, Grow Office, Ormonde Home, Barrack St Kilkenny
Friday @ 10.30am Ceart/Grow Group, Grow Office, Ormonde Home, Barrack St Kilkenny

Amoris Laetitia, The Joy of Love. Pope Francis says: 'We cannot encourage a path of fidelity and mutual self-giving without encouraging the growth, strengthening and deepening of conjugal and family love. The word love is commonly used and often misused'. Pope Francis then reflects on love, based on 1Corinthians 13:4-7. **Love forgives.** Once we allow ill will to take root in our hearts, it leads to deep resentment. The opposite is forgiveness, which is rooted in a positive attitude that seeks to understand other people's weaknesses and to excuse them. The stability of the family can be undermined by any mistake or lapse. The just desire to see our rights respected can turn into a thirst for vengeance rather than a reasoned defence of our dignity. We recognise that being able to forgive others implies the liberating experience of understanding and forgiving ourselves. We need to learn to pray over our past history, to accept ourselves, to learn how to live with our limitations, and even to forgive ourselves, in order to have this same attitude towards others. All this assumes that we ourselves have had the experience of being forgiven by God, justified by his grace and not by our own merits. (Sections 105 - 108). Read the document, specially this beautiful chapter as the Pope reflects on St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. So many couples choose this reading for their wedding ceremony. What do you think of his reflections?

Don't forget that **the Cemetery Mass** will take place on Friday 3rd August at 8pm.

Online Theology Course: Study theology by distance learning, attend Saturday lectures in Tallaght or from your own home – why not join us this autumn? Register by September 25th. enquiries@priorinstitute.com Tel No.01 4048124.

Kilkenny County Council are reviewing the [Local Area Plan for Thomastown \(2009\)](#). The Pre-draft Issues Paper for the review of the Thomastown Local Area Plan and preparation of a new Plan for 2019-2025 was recently published, with the public consultation period running until **5pm on the 27th of July 2018**. As part of this consultation we are inviting all interested parties including residents, business owners, groups, youth groups, sports groups and other stakeholders to make submissions on the pre-draft Issues Paper and any other themes which may be considered relevant to the preparation of the Thomastown Local Area Plan.

Anniversary Masses: Over the past few months it has become increasingly difficult to accommodate the number of Anniversary Masses requested in the weekend Mass schedule. With immediate effect, as is the practice in many other parishes, more than one anniversary or months mind remembrance will now be assigned to a weekend Mass.

Confirmation 2019 will be held on Friday 12th April at 11am, the Diocesan Office informs us.

Anniversary Masses: as is the practice in many other parishes, more than one anniversary or months mind remembrance will now be assigned to a weekend Mass. It has become very difficult to accommodate the number of Masses requested on particular weekends. If that doesn't suit, perhaps the Mass can be offered at our weekday Masses.

Cushinstown Pilgrimage to Knock, overnight 16th/17th July. Stopping in Thomastown/Inistioge en route. Contact Angela Power 051 428505.

A Car Boot Sale will be held at Grennan, Thomastown GAA Grounds on Sunday 22nd July at 12 noon. See if you have something to sell, and be sure that you will find something to buy there. Time to empty out your attics and sheds. Admission for sellers Car €20 - small van/car with trailer €25. Free admission for buyers.

You are invited to nominate up to **6 such couples from your Diocese** to be part of this meeting. To facilitate Garda security clearance, it is essential that I receive the details of the couples you wish to nominate by Saturday 14th July, **at the latest**. Diocesan allocations not used by this date will become part of a national allocation distributed at the discretion of the WMOF office. The information required in respect of each couple nominated includes:

Names, contact address, email and mobile number(s).

The date of their planned or recent sacramental marriage (within the past twelve months) and the Church in which the marriage will take place or has taken place.

Confirmation that the couple is available to attend the meeting with Pope Francis on Saturday 25th August.

Once confirmed, we will liaise directly with each couple about the practical arrangements for the day.

Last night I received the above information from Fr. Tim Bartlett of WMOF. Please email me with details of such couples you might wish to nominate by Saturday July 14th. In the event of more than 6 couples being nominated names will be drawn to ensure fairness.

Croke Park - Festival of Families - Saturday August 25th Each Parish in Ireland is asked to nominate a family to attend the Festival of Families in Croke Park with Pope Francis at 7.30 pm on Saturday August 25th. Every Parish in the country will be allocated 10 tickets for this event. It is recommended and encouraged that the selection of families at Parish level be done in the most open and transparent way as possible. It is envisaged that each Parish will be given a unique code which will enable you to upload the names of your nominated family onto the WMOF registration system for this event. These codes will hopefully be distributed the week beginning July 16th and priests/parishes have until July 31st to upload names and details on WMOF system.

Date for the Diary Evening Prayer to mark the Opening of World Meeting of Families on Tuesday August 21st in St Mary's Cathedral for the whole diocese. All are welcome.

Cemetery Mass: Mass at St. Mary's New Cemetery on Friday 3rd August at 8pm. The gates of the Belfry Cemetery are locked, and people who wish to visit the Cemetery will get the key at the Parish Office.

Just a thought..... the Cemetery most in use currently was opened around 1927, and continues to be called the 'New' Cemetery. What about knowing the Cemetery in the centre of town as St. Mary's Old Cemetery, the Cemetery at the Parish Church as the Belfry Cemetery, and the Cemetery on the Dublin Road as St. Mary's Cemetery, dropping the adjective 'new'? If you have a problem with that, let a member of the Finance Committee know, or leave word at the Office.

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

Exams: These days many second and third level students have exams. To include them in parish prayer put the names in the book in the Parish Church. All best wishes to the young people sitting Leaving and Junior Cert exams this week. May your work bear fruit, with satisfying results.

Thomastown Safeguarding Our Safeguarding representatives are Brigid Cassin Begley and Ray O' Carroll. Their task is to see that policies and procedures are adhered to in all Churches and Church activities. To contact them, you might like to leave a message for them at the Parish Office.

St. Mary's Cathedral Draw: The May Draw, the third of the current round of Draws, will take place this coming Wednesday at the Chapter House. It is not too late to join. Call to Reddy's, Murphy Victualler, or the Parish Office.

All Church personnel have a responsibility to safeguard children through promoting their welfare, health and development in a safe and caring environment that supports their best interests and prevents abuse. The New Revised Safeguarding Children Policy & standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2016 is now available at www.safeguarding.ie
If you are concerned about the welfare and safety of children contact:
Tusla – Child and Family Agency: Kilkenny area: tel 059 9136570
Garda National Protective Services Bureau 01 666 3430 / 01 666 3435
Diocesan Designated Liaison Person – Mr. Cathal Cullen: 087 100 0232. Email: dlp@ossory.ie
Towards Healing Helpline:
1800 313 316 www.towardshealing.ie

Thomastown Parish Finance Committee the Finance Committee arranged for an engineer to carry out a survey of Chapel Hill and Mong churches. The report is available on the parish website. If unable to access that, please call to the Parish Office for a copy of the report.

MABS: The Money Advice and Budgeting Service is a free, confidential and independent service funded through the Citizens Information Board. MABS assist people who have debt problems, who are in difficulty paying a mortgage or who are facing legal action because of debt. They also provide information and access to Insolvency Services. For more information contact MABS on: www.mabs.ie or call Kilkenny MABS on 0761 072610.

St. Mary's Cathedral Restoration Fund Draw: This is year 4 of the Draw, raising funds to restore the Cathedral. Please support this good cause costing €10 each month. Thanks to all who have supported the Draw in other years. Join the Draw at Reddys Gift Shop, Murphy Victualler at Market Street, the Parish Office, or Fr. Dan.

Lenten Offerings If you didn't receive envelopes, please contact the Parish Office – you may not be on Parish list, so it will be good to include you. We need your financial support.

Regarding the method of payment, The Finance Committee suggests that you may find it more convenient to set up a Standing Order using the following information: Account Name: Thomastown Church Parochial Current Account. BIC: BOFIE2D. IBAN: IE39BOFI90609911711780

First Friday: Next Friday is the first Friday of the month, so Fr. Dan and Sister Anna will bring Holy Communion to the homebound. If you would like to receive Communion in your home, please contact us. If we call regularly and you plan to be away, please let us know.

If someone is in hospital or ill at home and would like if Fr. Dan were to call, please let him know. Often people's stay in hospital is brief, and a visit may be appreciated

The June Collection for the support of the priests is due now. If you haven't got envelopes, contact the Office, or put your contribution in an ordinary envelope with your name and address.

Cead Mile Failte: Welcome to baptised into the family of God recently.

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