

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

16th December 2018

Parish Priest:
Fr. Dan Bollard
Tel 056 7724279
Mobile 087 6644858
Email dbollard@eircom.net
Radio: fm108

Parish Office:
Tel No 056 7793191
Opening Hours Wed. Thur. Fri. 10 - 1pm
Email: thomastown@ossory.ie
Website www.thomastownparish.ie
Facebook: Thomastown Parish

CHURCH SERVICES THESE WEEKS, beginning Sunday 16th December 2018

Parish Church	Sunday morning 16 th December Mass	11.00am
	Monday 17 th December Mass	09.30am
	Wednesday 19 th December Mass	09.30am
	Friday 21 st December Mass	09.30am
	Saturday 22 nd December Mass	07.00pm
	Sunday 23 rd December Mass	11.00am
	Monday 24 th December Christmas Eve (Family Mass)	06.00pm
	Monday 24 th December Christmas Eve Midnight Mass	08.00pm
	Tuesday 25 th December Christmas Day Mass	11.00am
St. Columba's Hospital	Sunday morning 16 th December Mass	09.30am
	Tuesday 18 th December Mass	10.00am
	Thursday 20 th December Mass	10.00am
	Sunday 23 rd December Mass	09.30am
	Tuesday 25 th December Christmas Day	09.30am
Chapel Hill	Monday 24 th December Christmas Eve Mass	07.30pm
Mong	Saturday 22 nd December Mass	05.45pm
	Tuesday 25 th December Christmas Day Mass	10.30am
Confessions	After 7pm Mass	

Deaths/Anniversaries: Sean Ryan, Bonnybrook (5.45pm Mass); Niall Hogan, Ruppá House, Inistioge (11am Mass); Thomas Morrissey, Coolroemore; Seamus Byrne, 32, Dangan Terrace; Marie Challoner, Grennan; Mary O'Brien, Friarshill and daughter Margaret Roche; Ned Ryan, Friarshill; John Challoner, Bray & Newtown Tce; Lenny & May Fennelly, Nore View Crescent; Canice & Mary Fennelly, London & Thomastown; Fr. John & Lucy Fennelly, Knock & Thomastown; John O'Reilly, New House, Margaret Bookle, Bawnskeha. May they rest in peace.

Mass Intentions Next Weekend: Margaret & Philomena Behan (11am Mass)

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society will join with Parish Adoration on Monday 17th to pray for Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life ending with Rosary at 8pm. All welcome, please join us.

Parishioners, their friends and families are invited to our Carol Service on Tuesday at 7pm.

The Carol Service in 2017 was 2 hours and 20 minutes long. Following feedback from many who attended, the Parish Pastoral Council together with the Carol Service Sub-committee have decided to trial a new format for our Carol Service 2018 to endeavour to keep it under an hour in length and have more participation from the congregation. Rest assured that this new format is just a trial. We will welcome any feedback you may have and will use your feedback to plan for 2019.

Christmas Offerings will be gratefully received. If you haven't an envelope, please put your donation in an ordinary envelope with your name and address. 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.

Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner 16th December 2pm in Ormonde Hotel in Kilkenny. A Bus will leave the Community Centre at 1.15pm

Eucharistic Adoration in St. Columba's Hospital on Tuesday from 8/9pm.

Sacrament of Forgiveness and Reconciliation As we prepare for Christmas, this is a good time to take stock of our lives and where necessary avail of the Lord's mercy and forgiveness. Girls and boys in the National School are invited to avail of the Sacrament during school time. The Sacrament is available after Saturday evening Masses – Fr. Dan will be available at the Confessional at the end of the Church. Next weekend during Saturday Mass the Sacrament will be available also. Meanwhile, Fr. Ray Dempsey will be available in the Parish Church on the next Thursdays, 7pm to 8pm – The Light is on for you!! During that time Fr. Dan will go to The Rower and Inistioge.

Seniors Gone Crackers: Christmas Show Saturday 22nd December 8pm in Community Centre. Tickets €5 available from O'Keeffe's & Senior Citizen's Shop. For further information call Rosaleen Garry 087 6912990

Fund Raiser in aid of Cancer Research in the Salmon Pool on 22nd December. Tickets €10. Music by Dublin City Ramblers. Your support will be appreciated.

Christmas Day: The Community Centre will open this Christmas Day to serve traditional Christmas Dinner with all the trimmings. Don't be alone this Christmas Day. Call into the Centre and leave your name with any member of the Centre Committee or call 087 7728170. Please let us know in advance if you are coming. All donations welcome.

Thomastown Peace Park Project: A small committee has been working on a proposal to construct a Peace Park in Thomastown. The concept is to have six standing stones in a semi-circle to reflect the conflicts of the last 100 years and to remember those Thomastown people who died in those troubled times. Each stone will reflect World War I, 1916 Easter Rising, War of Independence and Civil War, Spanish Civil War and World War II, the Troubles in Northern Ireland and finally the various United Nations and other Peace Keeping Missions. The most suitable site is an elevated area within the wild garden off the Quay in Thomastown. The Committee proposes to hold a Public Meeting on Thursday, 20th December at 7.30 pm in the Community Hall. The draft wording for each stone together with an artist's impression of the overall scheme will be on display. These exhibits will be on view in the Community Hall for a few days either side of the Public Meeting. It is then proposed to apply for planning permission in January 2019.

South Kilkenny Historical Society: Winter Solstice at Knockroe Friday, December 21st Meeting time and place: 2pm, Owing Church. A free shuttle bus will operate from Owing Church car park to Knockroe, returning at approximately 5pm.

Locals Fionn and Orla Gardner will be singing at the Mass on Christmas Eve at 6.00 pm in the Church of the Assumption. If you would like to hear more of Fionn, he will also be singing in St Canice's Cathedral on 19th December at 8.00 pm as support to the all-female ensemble Alchemy for a fundraiser for Taxi Watch. More details from eventbrite.ie.

Parish Office: The Office will be closed Thursday next. Meanwhile, please email anniversaries or leave a note in the Letter Box at the Parish Office.

Parish Prayer: We thank God for our Parish community, families and friends: we pray that we may be moved to care for one another, and share what we have, so all people can live full and happy lives.