

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

17th February 2019

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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 17th February

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 Lectio Divina	10.00am
	Saturday Vigil Mass	07.00pm
St. Columba's Hospital	Sunday Morning Mass	09.30am
	Tuesday & Thursday Mass	10.00am

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

Mass in Chapel Hill	16 th February at 5.45pm & 02 nd March at 5.45pm
Mass in Mong	23 rd February at 5.45pm & 09 th March at 5.45pm

Deaths/Anniversaries: Sean Finan, Kilmurry recently deceased. **Pdraig Kirwan**, Jerpoint Church (7pm Mass); **Patrick Burke**, Station Road (7pm Mass); **Nellie Delaney**, Pipe Street (11am Mass); **Toddy & Eileen Davis**, Dangan (11am Mass); **Elizabeth Challoner**, Newtown Terrace; **Doireann Murphy**, Brownsford; **Gretta Dunphy**, Newtown Terrace; **Tom Stapleton**, Maudlin Street. May they rest in peace.

Mass Intentions Next Weekend: **Billy Woods**, 43, Cloughabrody (7pm Mass); **Catherine O'Byrne**, Jerpoint West. (9.30am Mass)

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. All welcome, please join us.

St. Vincent de Paul Society holds its church door collection next weekend 16th/17th February. Your support is greatly appreciated. The tel. number of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is **086-2664669** for anyone in need.

St. Mary's National School Enrolment 2019/2020: Reminder if parents wish to enrol their child for Junior Infants they may do so by contacting the school @ 056-7724290 or calling to the school.

Accord Pre-Marriage Courses: the next course in Kilkenny is 22nd/23rd March. Contact the Accord website or call 056-7722674.

Blessing of rings: This weekend at Masses we will bless rings for engaged and married couples at our Masses. Engagement and wedding rings speak of commitment and love, and it is good for the People of God to acknowledge that and ask God's blessing on all who have chosen this heroic way of life.

Parish Prayer: We pray for our parish, our family and friends: that we may reach out in love to all who are sad, so that they may laugh and feel joy again.

Fiver Friday: The School of Food pop up restaurant will be open from 12pm – 2pm every Friday serving a delicious lunch! We will also have a take away option available from 11.30am. All dishes €5 or whatever you would like to donate.

Ossory Lourdes Pilgrimage: Bookings are now being taken for those who wish to travel on the Ossory Pilgrimage to Lourdes from May 21st to May 26th, 2019. Fare is €790pps. Please contact Eleanor (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 9.30am – 1.30pm, closed on Wednesdays) on 051 880414 or email glenmore@ossory.ie

Anam Cara Tipperary the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Bereavement Information Evening on Monday 18th February at 7:20pm in the Horse & Jockey Hotel, Thurles, Co. Tipperary. This is a free event and open to all bereaved parents. As Anam Cara will need to confirm numbers for teas, coffees, etc, please call the Information Line on 085 2888 888.

Thomastown Library News: February is Library Card Sign Up Month. Membership is FREE and your card gives you access to books, audiobooks, DVDs, internet, printing, classes, workshops and so much more! Since January, we no longer charge fines on overdue material! We look forward to seeing you very soon...

Lego Workshop: We will be running a Lego workshop for children ages 7 to 12 on Tuesday 19th February at 2.30pm. Booking is advisable. Give us a call on 056 7794331 for further details.

Thomastown Library Ciorcal Comhra: Our Irish conversation group has started up. If you would like to practise the “cupla focal” you remember from school come along to the library on Wednesday 20th February at 6.30pm and have a chat. Slan go foill...

South Kilkenny Historical Society: Thursday, February 21st - Annual General Meeting followed at 8pm, by 'Kilkenny 685' (January 1966), A Radharc documentary which deals with the setting up of voluntary social services under the leadership of Dr. Peter Birch, former Bishop of Ossory. Friday, March 1st, 8pm - Lecture 'The Beginning of the War of Independence in Kilkenny' by Eoin Swithin Walsh. Both events will take place in Mullinavat Parish Hall (opposite church).

The Kilkenny Great War Memorial Committee: Second World War Names Appeal. If you know someone from Kilkenny who took part in World War II, please email: kilkennywarmemorial@gmail.com phone 086 3369080 Post to 48, John Street. If possible include rank, regiment, service number and any other relevant information.

St. Valentine: A story goes that in the third century, the Roman Empire was ruled by Emperor Claudius, nicknamed Claudius the Cruel because of his tendency for getting into wars. He was getting into so many wars that he was having a difficult time recruiting enough soldiers. Claudius believed that recruitment for the army was down because Roman men did not want to leave their loves or families behind, so he cancelled all marriages and engagements in Rome. Thousands of couples saw their hopes of matrimony dashed by the single act of a tyrant. But a simple Christian priest named Valentine did come forward and stood up for love. He began to secretly marry soldiers before they went off to war, despite the emperor's orders. In 269 A.D., Emperor Claudius found out about the secret ceremonies. He had Valentine thrown into prison and had him put to death. St. Valentine gave his life so that young couples could be bonded together in holy matrimony. The story of Valentine's self-sacrificing commitment to love was legendary in Rome. Eventually, he was granted sainthood and the Catholic Church decided to create a feast in his honour. They picked February 14 as the day of celebration because of the ancient belief that birds (particularly lovebirds, but also owls and doves) began to mate on that very day. Around Valentine's Day, what are you doing to keep the love in your marriage burning?