

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

13th September 2020

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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 13th September

Parish Church	Sunday morning Mass	10.00am
	Sunday morning Mass	12.00noon
	Monday & Wednesday Mass	09.30am
	Friday evening Mass	07.30pm
	Saturday Vigil Mass	06.00pm
	Sacrament of Reconciliation after 6pm Saturday Mass.	

Deaths and anniversaries: Please remember in your prayers this weekend **Maureen Forristal**, Jerpoint Church, recently deceased. **Mary Fitzsimons**, 6, Newtown Terrace (6pm Mass); **Dorothy Teesdale**, Belmore (09.30 am Mass on Monday); **William & Mary O’Keeffe**, Kilmurray; **John Walsh**, Powerswood; **Thomas & Margaret Begley**, 9, Newtown Terrace; **Michael Bookle**, Newtown; **John & Elizabeth Doolan**, Mill Street. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Mass Intentions next weekend: **Michael Bookle**, Newtown (6pm Mass); **Imelda Rimmer** (12 pm Mass); **Nancy Carroll**, Ladywell (12pm Mass).

St. Vincent de Paul Society holds its Church Door Collection next weekend. Your support is greatly appreciated. The telephone number of the Thomastown St. Vincent de Paul Society is **086 2664669** for anyone who wishes to contact the Society.

First Communions for last year’s second class, will take place over two days, with two Masses each day. On Saturday 26th September the boys of Mrs. Moore’s class of last year will have Mass at 10am, with the girls following at 12pm. Ms. Tyrrell’s class of last year will follow on Saturday 3rd October.

We are invited to look at three videos which are available on the diocesan website. These videos will help all of us to prepare for this special event in the life of our Parish.

The Roadmap for reopening Society and Business: Regarding Religious Services in places of worship (including funerals), things remain unchanged (i.e. pods of up to 50 with social distancing, etc. The limit of 6 is for indoor settings in homes and applies to funeral related events in private homes (e.g. wakes, etc). Church leaders recommend the use of face coverings at all services of worship. In Church our stewards seek to keep things right, so please accept their directions. Much as we would want to return to Mass, firstly remember that people who are vulnerable or unwell, and especially those with any symptoms that might suggest corona virus infection, or have been in contact with someone who has had the virus, should stay at home and, if possible, participate, as now, via webcam, social media, television or radio. Let’s all commit – in the obvious practical ways - to make sure that the coronavirus is managed, by each of us. It is up to each of us!

Thomastown Parish Seniors Citizens AGM: Wednesday 16th September @7pm in Thomastown Community Centre.

Thomastown Camogie: all the best to the to the girls on the senior panel who play Lisdowney in the Senior County final at Palmerstown on Sunday, after a decisive victory in the semi-final. It is good to see all codes of sport returning.

Congratulations to the young people who got Leaving Cert results on Monday. God bless you for decisions you’re making these times, and setting out into a future being written by the day.

Season of Creation:

Resources during the Season of Creation can be found at the following:
<https://www.catholicbishops.ie/2020/07/15/season-of-creation-2020/>

In parts of our planet our beautiful landscapes are now covered with rubbish. Reflect on how I appreciate our beautiful landscape here in Thomastown. This may be an opportunity to make a new start. What one positive action can I make which will make a difference?

Meister Eckhart, a theologian of the Middle Ages, wrote the following:

Apprehend God in all things

for God is in all things.

Every single creature is full of God

and is a book about God.

Every creature is a word of God.

If I spent enough time with the tiniest creature –

even a caterpillar – I would never have to prepare a sermon

so full of God is every creature.

National Grandparents Pilgrimage 2020. Broadcast live on Sunday 13 September at 3pm from Knock Basilica. This year due to covid-19 restrictions, capacity will be very limited in the Basilica. The Grandparents Pilgrimage will be streamed online. We invite grandparents and their families everywhere to join us online at www.knockshrine.ie/watch

Prayer for Grandparents: *Lord Jesus, you were born of the Virgin Mary, the daughter of Saints Joachim and Anne. Look with love on grandparents the world over. Protect them! They are a source of enrichment for families, for the Church and for all of society. Support them! As they grow older may they continue to be for their families strong pillars of Gospel faith, guardians of noble domestic ideals, living treasuries of sound religious traditions. Make them teachers of wisdom and courage, that they may pass on to future generations the fruits of their mature human and spiritual experience. Lord Jesus, help families and society to value the presence and roles of grandparents. My they never be ignored or excluded, but always encounter respect and love. Help them to live serenely and to feel welcomed in all the years of life which you give them. Mary, Mother of all the living, keep grandparents constantly in your care, accompany them on their earthly pilgrimage, and by your prayers, grant that all families may one day be reunited in our heavenly homeland, where you await all humanity for the great embrace of life without end. Amen.* (written by retired Pope Benedict XVI)

Cathedral Draw: The first draw of the Diocesan Draw 2020/2021 was postponed due to the Covid - 19 Pandemic. The draw will now run from September 2020 to August 2021. The first draw of Year Six will be held on Wednesday 30th September. Do please consider joining. Join the Draw, €10 per month, at Reddy’s Gift Shop, Murphy Victualler at Market Street, the Parish Office or Fr. Dan.

Mercy liberates. ‘The greatest form of giving is forgiving’. (G.K.Chesterton) *The servant who wants his fellow servant put in prison for not paying his debt is in a prison of his own. Where grievance is the currency in circulation the time is ripe for a new currency to be released. A sense of grievance can feed into self-pity. Unfortunately, we do tend to stroke our grievances until they fester. If we don’t forgive, then the person who hurt us still has power over us. To forgive is to claim our freedom, let go of self-pity, try to understand and forgive. God wants us to become people who give and forgive.* (Bishop Martin Drennan)