

St Colmcille's Pastoral Area of Thomastown and Inistioge Parishes

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER – 05th OCTOBER 2025

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Thomastown Parish Mass Schedule		Inistioge Parish Mass Schedule	
Saturday Vigil	6.00pm	Saturday Vigil	The Rower 7.30pm
Sunday	10.00am	Sunday	Clodiagh 9.30am
St Columba's	11.00am		Inistioge 11.00am
Wednesday	9.30am	Tuesday	The Rower 9.30am
Friday	9.30am	Thursday	Inistioge 9.30am
View on webcam: thomastownparish.ie		View on webcam: inistiogeparish.ie	
Adoration after Mass on Wednesday		Adoration after Mass on Thursday	

Bereavements

Anniversaries: Kathleen Finan, Kilmurry; Joe & Ann Challoner, Newtown Tce & Cavan; Nancy & Paddy Carroll, Ladywell; Larry Stapleton, Maudlin St: 6.00pm. Patrick O'Neill, Castle Ave; Paud Kavanagh, Berkley Lawn; Mary & Peter Challoner, Smithstown: 10.00am. Fr. Frank Barron & Jim Barron, Wexford: 9.30am Wednesday.

Next weekend: Bernie O'Neill, Cloughabrody Heights: Month's Mind; Liam Burke, Castle Ave; Noel O'Reilly, Kilkenny Road: 6.00pm.

St Michael's Prayer Group will have their monthly Holy Hour of Exposition in the Mercy Chapel, off the main altar, Thomastown Parish Church, on Tuesday, 7th October from 8.00-9.00pm. We especially pray for Peace in our world at this time.

A public **ROSARY** in honour of Our Lady of Fatima will take place in The Square, Inistioge, on Monday 13th October at 3.00pm. Pope Leo has asked that everyone dedicate this month to praying the Rosary for Peace in the World and so you are all invited to come. Please bring a friend.

Ministry of Catechist

The late Pope Francis instituted the formal ministry of Catechist to recognise the vital role lay people play in handing on the faith. He highlighted the responsibility of the baptised to share the Gospel and deepen others in Christian life. It affirms catechesis as a vocation,

not just a task and strengthens the Church's mission of evangelisation. It also honours countless catechists whose witness sustains communities and nurtures faith across generations.

In Ossory we will soon approach a programme of discernment and formation for those who, already living their faith in Christ according to their Baptismal calling, now feel drawn to share that faith and to minister to God's people in a formal and committed way within our parishes and pastoral areas.

Therefore, the weekend of 25/26 Oct. is dedicated as **Mission and Ministry** weekend in our Diocese. Its focus will be on giving thanks to God for the ministries already flourishing within our respective parish and pastoral area communities and promoting the vocation to lay catechetical and pastoral ministry. Promotional materials and a detailed outline of the steps for those who feel called to pursue this path and apply as candidates.

As we consider potential candidates, we might reflect on questions such as: What pastoral needs or ministerial opportunities exist within your community? Are there individuals who would willingly engage in a vetting and selection process, and - if accepted - commit to a formal period of discernment beginning the first week of Advent this year, followed by a three-year, parttime formation course beginning in September 2026? It's a significant commitment, but it is precisely because this programme prepares candidates for formal ministry that such dedication is necessary.

We are all invited to prayerfully consider people in our Parish and Pastoral Area who display charisms essential for ministry to contemplate to forward.

First Communions 2026

We are pleased to inform you that the children of the National Schools in the Pastoral Area of Saint Colmcille will receive their First Holy Communion in this school year on the following dates:

St Colmcille's National School Inistioge: Saturday, 9th May 2026 at 11.00 am.

St Mary's National School, Thomastown: Saturday 16th May at 11.00 am.

Marymount National School, The Rower: Saturday 23rd May at 11.00 am.

Annual Remembrance Mass

St Luke's General Hospital's Annual Remembrance Mass will take place on Tuesday 21st October at 7.30pm in **St. Canice's Parish Church**. It is an opportunity for families and loved ones of patients who have died in the hospital to come together in prayer. All are welcome.