

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

02nd August 2020

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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 02nd August

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

On **Tuesday** we will have Mass at St. Columba's Hospital only for the patients at 11.30am.

Deaths and anniversaries: Please remember in your prayers this weekend **Nessa Opperman nee Coonen** died in Germany recently late Brookfield Lawns & Dangan. **Alice Bolger**, Beechfield House, Norelands, Stoneyford (10am Mass); **Canon Michael Carroll**; **Anne O'Hanrahan**, The Quay & Kiljames. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Mass Intentions Next Weekend: **Bobbie & Annie Power**, Grennan View (6pm Mass); **Paul Stapleton**, Legan (10am Mass); **Catherine Burke**, Castle Avenue (10am Mass); **Michael Kennedy**, Brownsbam (12 noon Mass)

This weekend, when we traditionally hold our Cemetery Mass at St. Mary's Cemetery, let's call to mind **all who died since last August**. We think of those whose remains were buried at St. Mary's, and some from the area buried elsewhere. **Alice Bolger**, Beechview House, Norelands; **Michael (Mick) Kavanagh**, Jerpoint Church; **Micheal Bookle**, Newtown; **John O'Shea**, Berkley Lawns; **Liam Burke**, Castle Avenue; **Mary Barron**, Ballyconway; **Josie Beck**, Dangan Terrace; **Joseph (Jagger) Wemyss**, Jerpoint Abbey; **John McDonald**, Kilvinogue; **Peter Lannon**, Newtown; **Pat Higginbotham**, Castle Avenue; **Catherine Walsh nee Rafferty**, Chapel Lane; **Margaret Galway**, Knockard; **Paulette Robb**, Newtown & London; **Breda Burke**, Newtown & Dublin; **Eileen (Loxie) O'Neill**, Dangan Terrace; **David (Davy) Power**, Cloughabrody Heights; **Patrick (Paddy) Burke**, Castle Avenue; **James (Jim) Caulfield Monteen**; **Noreen O'Sullivan**, Burrellspark; **Thomas (Toddy) Kelly**, Kilfane East; **Joseph (Joe) O'Hara**, Kiljames; **Margaret Manning**, Kilmurry; **Kit (Catherine) Rafferty**, Chapel Lane; **Mary Canavan**, Thomastown; **Ann Marie Hogan**, Castle Avenue; **Billy(William) Stapleton**, Ladywell; **Brigid Kehoe**, Dunan; **Margaret Byrne**, Thomastown & Ballinamona; **Fr. David Gaffney S.J.** Milltown; **Pat Roche**, Logan Street; **Joseph Maher**, Castleknock & Thomastown; **Mgr James Cassin**, Thomastown; **John Maher**, Colmeille; **Brigid (Bishy) Walsh**, Cloughabrody; **Stephen Roche**, Grennan; **Teresa Dunne**, Knocktopher & Thomastown; **Christina Ryan**, Knockanore; **Mary O'Connor**, Walled Gardens, Mt Juliet Estate; **Shelagh Doherty**, Carrickmourne; **Rita Kirwan**, Jerpoint Church & Goatsbridge; **Matthew Dunne**, Hillview.

Cead Mile Failte: Welcome to **Alex Mikoxay Cichocki**, Marshes Street; **Olivia Moore**, Mallfield; **Ryan James O'Neill**, Berkley Lawns; **Ciaran Michael Prendergast**, Killamey; **Arianna Josephine Borza**, Ballygub; **Darren James Cuddihy**, The Belfry; **Patrick Jayden Cuddihy**, The Belfry; **Corey Luke Rigby**, Maudlin Court; **Patrick James Rigby**, Maudlin Court; **Aodha Leadbetter**, Ballynamona baptised into the family of God over the past few months.

Confirmation 2020 will take place in this Parish on Saturday 29th August. With restricted numbers, we plan to hold two ceremonies, with Mr. Delahunty's class at 10.30am and Mr. Robert's class at 12.15pm. One of the parents accompanying the young person will act in place of the Sponsor. We won't have Mass on the occasion. Meanwhile, the young people and parents will be invited to Mass on the week of the Confirmation ceremony.

Parish Newsletter by email..... We can now distribute the weekly Newsletter by email. Please drop an email request to thomastown@ossory.ie if you are interested.

Charity Tax Forms: We would appreciate it if the completed Form could be returned as soon as possible if not already returned.

Youth 2000 Summer E-Festival will be held 14th to 16th August. Register free at www.youth2000.ie.

Slimming World Thomastown re-opens Tuesday 11th August under current guidelines on a pre-booked time slots. For further information contact Catherine 089 4137300.

The Roadmap for reopening Society and Business: As society holds its breath, and continues to exercise vigilance, we must seek to make sure that all who gather in Church are safe from the corona virus. We are doing well, and please continue to observe the small things that help to keep us safe, such as social distancing – 2 metres, hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette, mask wearing. 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.

Pope Francis chose three specific lessons from the story of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes:

*“Christ does not react with irritation to the crowd that followed him [to the place hard by the Sea of Galilee, to which he had repaired with the disciples], and would not—so to speak—leave Him in peace.’ Rather, He feels **compassion**, because He knows that they do not seek Him out of [mere] curiosity, but out of need.” “Jesus,” said the Holy Father, “teaches us to put the needs of the poor ahead of our own. Our needs, even if legitimate, will never be so urgent as those of the poor, who lack the necessities of life.” Turning to the lesson of **sharing**, Pope Francis contrasted the reaction of the disciples when faced with the needy multitude, with that of Jesus. The disciples would have sent the people away hungry, while Christ tells them to feed the gathered crowd. “Two different reactions,” said Pope Francis, “which reflect two opposing logics: the disciples are thinking according to the world, for which everyone has to take care of himself; Jesus thinks according to the logic of God, which is that of sharing,” and so the people were fed, and fed abundantly. “This is no magic trick, but a ‘sign’—a sign that invites us to have faith in God, the provident Father, who will not force us to go without ‘our daily bread,’ if we know how to share it as brothers and sisters.” The third and final message, regarding the Eucharist, can be seen in Jesus’ recitation of the **blissing and gratitude** before breaking the bread and distributing it to the crowd. “It is,” he said, “the same act that Jesus will make at the Last Supper, when He will establish the perpetual memorial of His redeeming sacrifice,” a memorial that is not mere earthly bread, but the bread of eternal life, Christ’s gift of His very self, as He offers Himself to the Father out of love for us.*