

# THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

5<sup>th</sup> April 2020

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**CHURCH SERVICES THESE WEEKS** considering the rapidly changing situation that we are living through, there will be no public mass in our churches at this time.

**Mass Intentions this weekend: Toddy Kelly, Kilfane East** (Months Mind Mass, 10am), **Edward Walshe**, Castle Avenue (10am), **Brigid O’Keeffe**, Smithstown.

**Mass Intentions next weekend: Jim Lannon**, Dangan Terrace (10am Mass).

## **RTÉ broadcasting output of liturgies during Holy Week 2020**

RTÉ One TV / RTÉ Radio 1 Extra / LW252 / Digital Radio platforms.

**Palm Sunday 5 April** 11.00-11.50 **Mass on Palm Sunday.**

17.35-17.45 *A Passover Like No Other.* Rabbi Zalman Lent and author and motivational speaker, Yanky Fachler, face the challenge of celebrating Pesach, the Passover festival, which traditionally brings Jews together, in a time of isolation, sickness and fear. Rabbi Lent has, himself, had to self-isolate and has learned to preach and connect with his congregation online. They also explore how the story of the first Passover shows that humankind can weather plagues and hardship, if they put their faith in God (RTÉ One).

06.15-06.18 daily *A Living Word.* Aidan Mathews continues to curate and, in some cases, deliver a daily reflection to start the day.

**Holy Thursday 9 April** 16.40-17.35 **Mass of the Lord’s Supper.** Father Joe Campbell CC, Mullingar, Diocese of Meath, to celebrate Mass in commemoration of the Last Supper and Christ’s agony in Gethsemane, from the Cathedral of Christ the King, Mullingar. (RTÉ One TV and RTÉ Radio 1 Extra / LW252 / Digital Radio platforms. The Mass will air on radio at the later time.

**Good Friday 10 April** 15.00-16.00 **Solemn Liturgy for Good Friday.** Live from the Cathedral of Christ the King,

22.00-22.30 *The Leap of Faith.* Michael Comyn asks whether and how the Easter story continues to resonate with people in today’s Ireland

**Holy Saturday 11 April** 22.00-23.00 **Easter Vigil Mass.** Bishop Tom Deenihan of Meath celebrates the resurrection of Christ, with a vigil Mass in the Cathedral of Christ the King.

**Easter Sunday 12 April** 10.00-11.00 **Easter Sunday Mass.** A Eurovision Mass takes place in the Dominican Convent of Saint Jacques (Saint James the Great) in Paris. Translation and commentary are by Fr Thomas McCarthy OP (RTÉ One & RTÉ Radio 1 Extra).

11.00-11.20 *Urbi et Orbi: Pope Francis’ Easter Message.* Pope Francis will deliver his Easter blessing *To the city and the world* with prayer.

**KCLR** will broadcast Mass on Palm Sunday at 9.20am from the Studio.

The Chrism Mass will be on the St. Mary’s Cathedral [webcam@www.stmaryscathedral.ie](http://webcam@www.stmaryscathedral.ie) at 11am Thursday.

On Thursday KCLR will broadcast Mass from St. Mary’s Cathedral at 8pm,

On Friday at 3pm the Celebration of the Lord’s Passion,

on Holy Saturday at 9pm the Easter Vigil, and from the Studio at 9.30am on Easter Sunday.

**Why not**, on Palm Sunday, bring some palm from one of the evergreens to your kitchen, or wherever you join in the Palm Sunday liturgy. The blessing will extend to your palm and be a wonderful way to join in the Ceremony and welcome Jesus to your home, as he was welcomed to Jerusalem. The Palm Sunday Gospel is St. Matthew’s account of Jesus Passion. Read it in your Bible – Matthew chapter 26, verse 14 to 27:66.

On Holy Thursday Jesus and his apostles sat at table and thank God for the food. Whether alone or with family let your evening meal be in a spirit of gratitude to God and to all who worked to produce the food.

On Good Friday as you join in the Liturgy, have a cross in your kitchen, and venerate the Cross as the congregation on television do so. Read St. John’s account of the Passion and death of Jesus in John chapter 18, verse 1 to chapter 19, verse 47.

At the Easter vigil, light a candle in your home, to stand against the darkness of sin and virus.

In these difficult days, it is good for us to be able to pray together. Our churches remain open for moments of private prayer.

30 minutes prayer will be held on Monday at midday on 108fm

The Rosary will be prayed on Wednesday at midday on 108fm

Stations of the Cross will be held on Good Friday at 7pm on 108fm.

Easter Sunday Mass from the Parish Church at 10am on 108fm.

This is a very different Holy Week than any we have known. Embrace it

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation** Pope Francis recently said ‘If you don’t find a priest to go to Confession, speak to God. He’s your Father. Tell him the truth. “Lord, I did this and this and this. Pardon me.” Ask his forgiveness with all your heart, with an act of contrition, and promise him, “Afterward I will go to Confession.” You will return to God’s grace immediately.’ At this time of crisis, the Pope said the Catechism clearly teaches that one can draw near to God’s forgiveness, even without a priest at hand.

**The Parish Office** is not staffed on a regular basis these days. Best contact the Office, in this era of social distancing, by telephone, email, post, or leave a note into the Office letterbox.

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People: **ALONE** has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). The support line is open Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm, by calling 0818 222 024. Hours may be extended to meet the demand.

**VICTIM ASSISTANCE** As a national charity that offers “emotional” and “practical” support to all victims of crime and those and their families that have experienced a “traumatic” incident. We can be contacted through our NATIONAL HELPLINE at 1800 277 477, our office telephone 094 9000251 or by email at [support@victimassistance.ie](mailto:support@victimassistance.ie). Our offices are manned Monday-Friday 9.30am-5.30pm. Remember – social distancing doesn’t mean social isolation – we are here to help and support!

**Common Prayer to God for Help:** God our Father, Creator of the world, almighty and merciful, out of love for us You sent your Son into the world as the doctor of our souls and our bodies. Look upon your children who, in this difficult time of confusion and dismay in many regions of Europe and the world, turn to you seeking strength, salvation and relief. Deliver us from illness and fear, heal our sick, comfort their families, give wisdom to our rulers, energy and reward to our doctors, nurses and volunteers, eternal life to the dead. Do not abandon us in the moment of trial but deliver us from all evil. We ask this of Thee, who with the Son and the Holy Spirit, live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.