

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

09th February 2020

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CHURCH SERVICES THESE WEEKS, beginning Sunday 09th February 2020

Parish Church	Sunday morning Mass	10.00am
	Tuesday & Wednesday & Friday Mass	09.30am
	Wednesday Lectio Divina in Mercy Chapel	10.00am
	Saturday Vigil Mass	06.00pm
St. Columba's Hospital	Monday Mass	10.00am
	Adoration in St. Columba's Hospital Chapel on Monday	10.30/9pm
	Thursday Mass with Bishop Farrell	10.00am

11.30am Sunday Masses in this parish will take place as follow

Chapel Hill	09 th February
St. Columba's	16 th February
Mong	23 rd February

In St. Columcille Pastoral Area Masses are celebrated in The Rower at 7.30pm each Saturday, and in Clodiagh at 9.30am and in Inistioge at 11.30am each Sunday Morning.

Deaths/Anniversaries: **Jim Caulfield**, Moonteen died recently, **Breda Burke**, Newtown & Dublin (Months Mind Mass 6pm); **Thomas & Margaret Tyrrell**, Newtown (6pm Mass); **Joe Minogue**, 7, Newtown Terrace (6pm Mass); **Richard Gaule**, Colmcille (6pm Mass), **Teresa Walsh**, Low Street (10am Mass); **Mary McMahon**, Newtown (10am Mass), **Kathleen Delahunty**, Mill Street, **John Delahunty**, Newtown Terrace, **Carmel and Eileen Ryan**, Newtown Terrace, **Nan Walsh**, Cloghabrody, **Andrew and Kathleen Barron**, Ballyconway (Mass 9.30am Wednesday), **Gretta Dunphy**, Newtown Terrace. May they rest in peace.

Mass Intentions next weekend: **Eileen O'Neill**, Dangan Terrace (Months Mind Mass 6pm), **Sean Finan**, Kilmurry (6pm Mass), **Harry Beck and Anne McFadden (nee Beck)**, Dangan (10am Mass), **Nellie Delaney**, Pipe Street (10am Mass), **Bill Savage**, Friars Hill (11.30 Mass).

Rower Inistioge Text Alert AGM will take place on Tuesday 11th February in Cois Abhainn in Inistioge at 8pm. Please come and support.

Thomastown Text Alert AGM: will take place at Thomastown Community Centre on Thursday 13th February at 7.30pm. Membership of €10 is now due for the coming year. Please come and support. Call 0877728170 with enquiries.

Gowran Pantomime Society's New Year's production of *The Little Mermaid*. The curtain will go up in Gowran Parish Hall at 8pm on Tuesday, 18th, Wednesday 19th, Friday 21st, and Saturday 22nd February. Sunday's matinee starts at 3pm. To book your tickets call Claire on 085 2160051.

A Church door Collection for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes is held this weekend. This will help to reduce costs for assisted pilgrims and helpers.

Our **Do this in Memory Mass**, with the children preparing for First Penance and First Communion, will be celebrated next weekend at our 10am Mass.

St. Vincent de Paul Society holds its Church Door Collection this 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 make contact with the Society.

World Day of the Sick Each year around the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, 11th February, the Church puts a focus on people who are ill, and people who care for them. So, Bishop Farrell will celebrate Mass at St. Columba's on Thursday, and all are welcome to join in the Mass.

Pope Francis has written a letter for the Day, to be found in its entirety on the website of the Irish Bishops. We quote below a section of the letter. The Pope highlights Jesus' words, "Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest" (Mt 11:28), and says: "*On this XXVIII World Day of the Sick, Jesus repeats these words to the sick, the oppressed, and the poor. For they realize that they depend entirely on God and, beneath the burden of their trials, stand in need of his healing. Jesus does not make demands of those who endure situations of frailty, suffering and weakness, but offers his mercy and his comforting presence. He looks upon a wounded humanity with eyes that gaze into the heart of each person. That gaze is not one of indifference; rather, it embraces people in their entirety, each person in his or her health condition, discarding no one, but rather inviting everyone to share in his life and to experience his tender love.*

Why does Jesus have these feelings? Because he himself became frail, endured human suffering and received comfort from his Father. Indeed, only those who personally experience suffering are then able to comfort others. There are so many kinds of grave suffering: incurable and chronic diseases, psychological diseases, situations calling for rehabilitation or palliative care, numerous forms of disability, children's or geriatric diseases... At times human warmth is lacking in our approach to these. What is needed is a personalized approach to the sick, not just of curing but also of caring, in view of an integral human healing. In experiencing illness, individuals not only feel threatened in their physical integrity, but also in the relational, intellectual, affective and spiritual dimensions of their lives. For this reason, in addition to therapy and support, they expect care and attention. In a word, love. At the side of every sick person, there is also a family, which itself suffers and needs support and comfort.

Diocese of Ossory Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2020

Bookings for our Pilgrimage, May 17th to 22nd inclusive, can be now made directly with Liz Molphy, Joe Walsh Tours, 143 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin 2. Tel: 01 2410800.

Email: info@joewalshstours.ie Anyone wishing to travel as an Assisted/Sick Pilgrim, should contact the Co-ordinator, Anna Corr at 086 0744675. All bookings should be made and paid for before Good Friday, April 10th, 2020. Fare €790 p.p.s.

Dates for your 2020 Diary:

First Confession	Wednesday 04 th March 2020, 7.30pm.
First Communion	Saturday 16 th May 2020, 11am.
Confirmation	Sunday 26 th April 2020
Cemetery Mass	Friday 31 st July 2020.

SAFEGUARDING

If you have a safeguarding concern contact the
Diocesan Designated Liaison Person

Mr Cathal Cullen

087 100 0232

dlp@ossory.ie

The Safeguarding Representatives in this parish are

Brigid Begley and Ray O'Carroll