

# THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

15<sup>th</sup> December 2019

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## CHURCH SERVICES this week beginning Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December

<b>Parish Church</b>	Sunday morning Mass	10.00am
	Monday, Wednesday & Friday Mass	09.30am
	Adoration in Mercy Chapel Monday	10/09pm
	Wednesday Lectio Divina in Mercy Chapel	10.00am
	Saturday Vigil Mass	06.00pm
<b>St. Columba's Hospital</b>	Tuesday & Thursday Mass	10.00am

## Sunday Masses in Chapel Hill & Mong and St. Columba's Hospital for the coming weeks.

St. Columba's	15 <sup>th</sup> December at 11.30am
Mass in Mong	22 <sup>nd</sup> December at 11.30am
St. Columba's	29 <sup>th</sup> December at 11.30am.
St. Columba's	05 <sup>th</sup> January at 11.30am

**Deaths/Anniversaries:** **Niall Hogan**, Ruppahouse (10am Mass); **Ned Ryan**, Friars Hill (10am Mass); **Thomas Morrissey**, Coolroemore; **Nora & Jackie Dunphy**, Dangan; **Frances Prendergast**, Killarney, Thomastown. May they rest in peace.

**Mass Intentions Next Weekend:** **Kristan Friel**, 55, Cloughabrody Heights (6pm Mass); **Margaret Behan**, late Mount Juliet (6pm Mass); **Mary Delaney**, Pipe Street (6pm Mass); **Luke Donnelly**, Jerpoint Church (10am Mass); **Maggie Morrissey**, Clogregg (11.30am Mass); **Louise O' Brien** (11.30am Mass)

**St. Vincent de Paul Society** holds its Church Door Collection this weekend. Your support is greatly appreciated. The telephone number of the Society is **086 2664669** for anyone in need.

**Do This in Memory Programme** this weekend 10am Mass.

**Prepare a way for the Lord:** The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at 5.20pm, before the Saturday evening Masses and after Sunday Mass when requested.

**The Light Is On For You:** An opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation Thursday from 7pm.

**St. Joseph's Young Priests Society** will join with Parish Adoration on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December with Rosary & Prayers at 7.30pm. Please join us.

**The Priory Institute:** On Line Advent Retreat. Reflect on the great "O Antiphons" used in Evening Prayer and Mass during the second part of Advent. Watch an online talk each day from December 16<sup>th</sup>. Register now! [enquiries@prioryinstitute.com](mailto:enquiries@prioryinstitute.com) [prioryinstitute.com](http://prioryinstitute.com) Phone 01 404 8124.

**Christmas Carols:** Come and join us at the Parish Church on Tuesday at 7pm. Church choirs will join with choirs from the Schools to draw us into the mystery and magic of Christmas.

**The Shepherds Play:** on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 3pm there will be a performance in the Parish Church of "The Shepherds Play, staged by the Camphill communities in Thomastown. Please feel very warmly invited to this traditional portrayal of the Christmas story. There is music and singing, as well as a bit of Panto from the Shepherds. It is suitable for all ages and is free. This is a good antidote to our over-commercialised material driven Christmas celebrations.

**Cathedral Draw:** The Draw is usually the last Wednesday of each month, but as that date coincides with Christmas Day the Draw will take place on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December.

**Thomastown Trackers:** Thomastown GAA Healthy Club in conjunction with Operation Transformation are organising 'Thomastown Trackers' to commence on January 11th, 2020. If you, along with four friends, are interested in making up a group of five and joining this combined fitness and weight loss programme please come along for more information or to register your team to Thomastown Concert Hall on Monday 16th Dec @ 8pm.

**Thomastown UTD AFC** Monster Christmas Draw takes place in Tim's Bar on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 9pm. 60 Prizes. Tickets - €10 – are available from any Committee Member or Team Managers & Club Members. Please support – all funds raised go towards the upkeep of United Park.

**South Kilkenny Historical Society:** Winter Solstice at Knockroe Saturday, December 21st 2pm, meeting at Owing Church. A free shuttle bus will operate from Owing Church car park to Knockroe, returning at approximately 5pm.

**A change to the Christmas Mass Schedule:** A Children's Mass will be held at 6pm on Christmas Eve and 'Midnight' Mass will be celebrated at 8pm. On Christmas Day Mass will be held in the Parish Church at 10am.

**Christmas Day:** The traditional Christmas Dinner with all the trimmings will be served from 12 noon for anyone wishing to have Christmas Dinner in company. Do not be alone this Christmas Day. Drop into the Community Centre and leave your name or contact Seamus 0877728170.

**St Mary's Cathedral Book & Gift Shop** – at the Cathedral in Kilkenny - will be open each day, 9.00 to 5.00, from Monday 16th to Monday 23rd December. It will then be closed until Thursday 2nd January. A good selection of books, gifts, crib sets and cards are all available there.

**Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages April - Oct 2020:** 7 Night Stay and Airport Shuttle service from Dubrovnik or Split for €266 per person sharing. Book any flight - any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service. Call us for further info and book the dates that suit you. Tel. 01 4434510 or email [reservations@med-irishcentre.com](mailto:reservations@med-irishcentre.com).

## Safeguarding Concerns

If you have a child safeguarding concern or wish to raise a matter from the past you may contact any of the following:

### Diocesan Designated Persons

Mr. Cathal Cullen 087 100 0232 or

Ms. Rose Brophy 087 331 4330

### Garda National Protective Services

01 6663430/35

### Civil Authorities

Tusla Child & Family Agency Carlow

Kilkenny area 052 617 7302

Laois, Offaly— 044 935 3997

Safeguarding Reps. for this Parish are:

Brigid Cassin Begley and Ray O'Carroll.

Contact them through the Parish Office.

## Counselling Services

### Towards Healing Confidential Helpline

1800 313 316

[www.towardshealing.ie](http://www.towardshealing.ie)

### Towards Peace Spiritual Support

Service 01 505 3028

[www.towardspeace.ie](http://www.towardspeace.ie)

*Each of us knows the kind of situations that cause us to be fearful and doubtful. We can't stop ourselves from feeling afraid. But we must not allow our fears to cripple us. Courage is not never feeling afraid; it is feeling afraid and going on despite it.*