

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

16th August 2020

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| Parish Priest: Fr. Dan Bollard Mobile 087 6644858 Email: bollarddan@gmail.com Website www.thomastownparish.ie Radio: fm108 Diocese of Ossory Reg. Charity No. 20015831. | Parish Office: Tel No 056 7793191 Opening Tuesday and Friday 10 - 1pm Email: thomastown@ossory.ie Facebook: Thomastown Parish |
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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 16th August

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| 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 **Rita Kirwan** (Months Mind); **Michael & Frances O'Shea**, Low Street (9.30am Mass Wednesday); **Andrew Deneeffe**, Jerpoint West; **Joe Walsh**, Low Street; **Josie Challoner**, Dangan Terrace; **Jim Minogue**, Cloughabrody; **Michael (Mick) Piert**, Ladywell. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Mass Intentions Next Weekend: **Michael Kavanagh**, Jerpoint Church (6pm Mass); **Jonathan Hynes**, Newtown (6pm Mass); **Richard Lanigan, Mena, John & Nan Lanigan**, Jerpoint Church (6pm Mass); **Billy Daly**, Castle Avenue (12 noon Mass);

Confirmation 2020 will take place in this Parish on Saturday 29th August.

To prepare the young people and their families for the Sacrament there are three videos available on the Diocesan website – www.ossory.ie Video one is titled 'Who is the Holy Spirit, and the difference the Spirit makes'. Video two is titled 'Gifts and Fruits of the Spirit'. Video Three is named 'The Confirmation Ceremony'. With each video there are worksheets to help the young people reflect on what they have watched. As Confirmation is a parish event – though attendance at the ceremony is limited this year because of the Coronavirus – please take time to look at the videos too and remember the young people and their families in your prayer.

First Communions will take place at the end of September. Dates, and numbers of ceremonies due to restrictions of numbers of people attending, will be finalised this week.

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

The annual **Youth 2000 Summer Festival** is Ireland's largest Catholic Youth event, but this year, for the first time, it will be streamed live on the 14th-16th of August. Youth 2000 Ireland 's motto is 'Youth leading Youth to the Heart of the Church' and we do this by leading Eucharistic-centred festivals, retreats and prayer meetings throughout the country. Register FREE at www.youth2000.ie/summerfestival2020

The St Moling's Well Annual Pattern Mass in Mullinakill, Tullogher due to be celebrated on Sunday 23rd August will not take place due to the Covid 19 Pandemic.

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.

It is holiday time, so this week **the Office** will be open Wednesday and Friday. Continue to contact the Office, when unattended, by telephone – leave your name and number and we will get back to you – email, post, or leave a note into the Office letterbox.

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.

Explore your Faith with the Veritas Blog and the Veritas YouTube channel.

On the weekly blog Veritas shares information, thoughts and prayers aimed at those wanting to know more about the Catholic Faith and the ways in which VERITAS products can help inspire you. The YouTube videos have lots of information about the products with videos from the Veritas Publication authors as well as topical and seasonal videos.

Check out the Veritas blog and YouTube channel today.

Towards Healing Counselling & Support Services is available to survivors of Church, Religious and Institutional abuse. The Towards Healing director is Mr Michael Lyons and the service provides lay independent and fully accredited counsellors to support survivors. Towards Healing may be contacted by: Freephone (RoI) 1800 303 416, Mobile number for Hearing Impaired Clients +353 (0) 85-8022859. Website: www.towardshealing.ie

Nothing can hold back the brave woman from Canaan,
not religious boundaries, not gender rules, nothing,
when she told him the needs of her precious child.

Dear Lord, give us faith like this unswerving woman.

Make us stubborn. Fearless, bold, creative.

Whatever it takes.

Let us hear, "O, great is your faith. Let it be done for you as you wish"

'Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful people with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent'. Calvin Coolidge, US President 1923-1929.

Once, during a particularly severe winter in the Arctic, all but two people in a certain camp died of starvation. The two survivors were an Eskimo woman and her baby.

The woman began a desperate search for some means of obtaining food. Eventually she found a small fishhook. It was a simple matter to rig a line, but she had no bait, and no hope of getting bait. Without a moment's hesitation she took a knife and cut a piece of flesh from her thigh.

Using this as bait she caught a fish. She fed her child and herself, saving the fish gut for bait.

She lived on fish until spring when she walked out of the camp and found some other people.

It was not coincidence that the only adult to survive in that camp was a mother. What kept that mother alive was her concern for her child. There seems to be no limit to what a mother will go through for the sake of her child. A mother doesn't give up easily.