

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

23rd August 2020

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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 23rd 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
	Sacrament of Reconciliation after 6pm Saturday Mass	

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 : **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); **Daniel and Mary Kenny**, Clogregg; **Bishy Walsh** (Months Mind) .May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Mass Intentions Next Weekend: **Ann Cassin**, Boher (Months Mind Mass 6pm)

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

Due to the circumstances in which we celebrate the Sacraments these days, we are subject to Public Health advice, so we will have three ceremonies, at 10.30am, 12.15, and 2pm. The young people have been given their time for the Sacrament, and, with restricted numbers, only their parents will attend the event. Fr. Dan has been delegated to confer the Sacrament – Bishop Farrell will be elsewhere. To prepare the young people and their families for the Sacrament there are three videos available on the Diocesan website – www.ossory.ie Please take time to look at the videos too and remember the young people and their families in your prayer.

In preparation for the Sacrament, the young people and their parents are asked to come to Mass on the evening designated next week.

The following are the young people presenting themselves for Confirmation 29th August.

Conor Barcoe, Daniel F. Begley, Jon Blanchfield, Evie Brennan, Kathryn Carroll, Thomas Coffey, Roisin Collins, Lia Conway, Ciarán Coone, Lee Doherty, Cian Doherty, Oisín Farrell, Caoimhe Fennelly, Shane Fennelly, Michael Haughney, Cian Holohan, Katie Jordan, Harry Kavanagh, Ella May Kennedy, Zuzanna Kolodziejczyk, Isabella Leoni, Darragh Lynch, Aoife Maher, Conor McCaul, Aoife McGuinness, Tadhg McMahan, Cormac Meegan, Dylan Minogue, Oran Murphy, Emma Murphy, Josephine Murray, Daniel Murray, Kirsten Noonan O'Hara, Nicholas O'Connell, Luciana O'Flaherty Lanigan, Colin O'Neill, Kaci O'Neill, Julie Popielarska, Emma Power, Calvin Redmond, Warren Russell, Kate Ryan, Matthew Stephenson, Adam Tennyson, John Walpole, Seán Walsh, Tiffany Walsh, Cian Walsh.

First Communions will follow shortly after Confirmation, for last year's second class, over two days, with two Masses each day. On Saturday 26th September the boys of Mrs. Moore's class of last year will have Mass at 10am, with the girls following at 12pm. Ms. Tyrrell's class of last year will follow on Saturday 3rd October.

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

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: The Government introduced a number of measures on 18th August to stop the spread of Covid-19. Regarding Religious Services in places of worship (including funerals), things remain unchanged (i.e. pods of up to 50 with social distancing, etc., except for Counties Laois, Offaly and Kildare where the number is 25 at present. The limit of 6 is for indoor settings in homes and applies to funeral related events in private homes (eg. wakes, etc) Church leaders all over the island recommend and encourage the use of face coverings at all services of worship. 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.

ALONE manage 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). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

Family Carers Ireland are now accepting nominations for the 2020 Netwatch Carer of the Year. If you know of someone who is looking after a loved one at home and would like to recognise them for everything that they do, you can nominate online at www.familycarers.ie or contact the local office on 0567721424 for a form. Nominations are also being accepted for Young Carer of the Year. Now more than ever it is time to recognise the valuable contribution that family carers bring to society.

Interested in studying Theology in 2020? The one year, part-time Higher Diploma in Theological Studies at St Patrick's College, Maynooth is now offered as a "Blended Learning" programme. Suitable for those with an undergraduate degree in any discipline (or equivalent), the course will run from 25 September to May, with online lectures taking place on Wednesday evenings, complimented with self-directed study. There will also be 6 residential weekends over the course of the year. In certain cases, the programme can serve as a pathway into programmes which require a background in Theology, such as the Higher Diploma in Healthcare Chaplaincy or Masters in Theology. The course also meets the Teaching Council's requirements for the teaching of Religion in Secondary Schools. Closing date for applications extended to Friday 18th September 2020. For more information, please contact Barbara Mahon, Admissions & Marketing Officer, at admissions@spcm.ie or see www.maynoothcollege.ie

The prayer calling the Holy Spirit on those receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation

All powerful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by water and the Holy Spirit you freed your sons and daughters from sin and gave them new life. Send your Holy Spirit upon them to be their helper and guide. Give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of right judgement and courage, the spirit of knowledge and reverence. Fill them with the spirit of wonder and awe in your presence. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.