

# THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

07<sup>th</sup> July 2019

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## CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 07<sup>th</sup> July

<b>Parish Church</b>	Sunday morning Mass	11.00am
	Monday, Wednesday & Friday Mass	09.30am
	Monday Adoration in Mercy Chapel	10.00am
	Monday Adoration in Mercy Chapel	07/08pm
	Lectio Divina in Mercy Chapel off for the Summer	
	Saturday Vigil Mass	07.00pm
<b>St. Columba's Hospital</b>	Sunday Morning Mass	09.30am
	Tuesday & Thursday Mass	10.00am

## Mass times in Chapel Hill & Mong for the coming weeks.

**Mass in Chapel Hill** 06<sup>th</sup> July at 5.30pm & 20<sup>th</sup> July at 5.30pm

**Mass in Mong** 13<sup>th</sup> July at 5.30pm & 27<sup>th</sup> July at 5.30pm

**Deaths/Anniversaries.** **Richard (Dick) Morrissey**, Berkley Lawn & **Sheila Treacy**, Ballinamona died recently. **Larry Walsh**, Cappagh, Thomastown (Months Mind Mass 7pm); **Nancy Skehan**, 18, Newtown Terrace (7pm Mass); **Mary O'Reilly**, Ladywell Street (7pm Mass); **Mr. Chacko Kandathil** father of Babu (7pm Mass); **Mary O'Rourke**, Newtown (Months Mind Mass 11am); **Brigid Kirwan**, Goatsbridge; **Angela McEvoy**, Jerpoint Church; **Mary Grace**, Grennan; **Patrick (Paud) Kelly**, 42, Newtown Terrace; **Mitchel Walsh**, Jerpoint Abbey; **Evelyn Bookle**, Grennan, **Martin Morrissey Jnr**, formerly Station Road. May they rest in peace

**Mass Intentions Next Weekend: Geraldine Forristal**, (Months Mind Mass 7pm)

**Good Shepherd Centre** Church Gate Collection this weekend.

**Annual Collection for Holy Father** next weekend 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> July.

**Ministers of the Eucharist for July:** Unable to attend, please exchange with another Minister

<b>07.00pm</b>	Mary McComb	Sr. De Lourdes	Richard Moore
<b>11.00am</b>	Jim Fitzmorris	Seamus Quigley	Rita Doyle

**Ministers of the Word for July.** Unable to attend, please exchange with another Minister

<b>07.00pm</b>	<b>09.30am</b>	<b>11.00am</b>
Danny McPherson	Sr. Anna	Janet Sahaffi
Pat Doherty	Bernadette Bradshaw	Michael O'Brien

**Fr. Tom Norris**, a native of Danesrath, was ordained in Rome in 1969, 50 years ago. In that time, he served at St. Kieran's College, and St. Patrick's College Maynooth. He spent a few years in the US and became Spiritual Director at the Irish College in Rome six years ago. Bishop Farrell has given him a new assignment as CC at St. Canice's parish in Kilkenny. Meanwhile, he joins us this weekend for the 11am Mass. We wish him well as he begins a new chapter in his life. Incidentally, Fr. Gerry Byrne, PP in neighbouring Graignamanagh, was ordained with Fr. Tom, and retires this weekend from Graignamanagh. We wish him well too as he begins a new chapter in his life.

**The Pastoral Area** comprising Thomastown and Inistioge will take as its patron St. Colmcille. That is appropriate because of the local ties with the Saint – the parish Church in Inistioge is dedicated to him, and we have a townland called after him. Going into this new time there will be lessons to be learnt from his life.

Members of the two Parish Councils have formed a Pastoral Area Council.

One of the first, and most difficult, tasks addressed at the meetings was the number of Masses in the area, based on the number of priests and the desire for a better quality of liturgy with fewer Masses Bishop Farrell listed several principles to be considered.

- No priest ought to be celebrating three Masses on a Sunday and no priest should celebrate two vigil Masses as his normal commitment.

- Every effort ought to be made to arrange Mass times to facilitate assistance between the priests of Thomastown and Inistioge. So, holidays and sick leave ought to be considered when

- The starting times for Masses ought to be at least 90 minutes apart.

- Planning ought to look to the future – 2025 or thereabouts – rather than short term.

- Applying those principles, new Mass schedules will apply throughout the Diocese at Advent.

Following those principles, both parishes will have a reduced Mass schedule beginning 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent 2019, that is 1<sup>st</sup> December, as follows: Saturday Vigil Masses will be in Thomastown at 6pm, and in The Rower at 7.30pm. On Sunday Mass will be in Thomastown at 10am and in Inistioge at 11.30am. While there are two priests in the Area and both are available for Masses, there will be Mass in Clodiagh at 9.30am Sunday, and at St. Columba's Hospital at 11.30am. Masses in Mong and Chapel Hill will be held midweek, at a time to be agreed with the local communities.

It was decided too that from Advent Sunday Funeral Masses won't be held in the Area.

These new arrangements have been agreed by the Parish Pastoral Council.

It is appreciated that these changes will cause upset, sometimes anger, and a lot of getting used to. Please God we will all approach and embrace this new time with openness, courage and hope.

**Cemetery Masses** will be held at St. Mary's Cemetery on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August at 8pm, and at the Cemetery at St. Columba's Hospital on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August at 10am.

**Hospital visits:** Please let Fr. Dan know if someone in Hospital might like a visit. Hospital data protection regulations, personal preference, brevity of time in Hospital and lack of information make it more difficult nowadays to know if someone is in Hospital. If the time is short, he will be happy to call to the homes of former patients.

**Senior Citizens Day Trip:** Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July to Croke Park and Dinner. €15 per person (€5 extra for skyline tour) bus leaving at 8.45am. Names to the shop on Thursday or Fridays.

**GROW** Mental Health Support groups are free and confidential and open to all, no referral or booking needed. Meeting Times are: Tuesday @ 10am. Wednesday @ 8pm Friday @ 10.30am. Venue: Grow Office Barrack Street Kilkenny. (CEART grp: mental health effects of living with chronic pain/long term illness. Please contact Mary 087 2843424

## SAFEGUARDING

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

*Mr Cathal Cullen*

*087 100 0232*

*[dlp@ossory.ie](mailto:dlp@ossory.ie)*

*The Safeguarding Representatives in this parish are*

*Brigid Begley and Ray O'Carroll*

*They can be contacted through the Parish Office.*