

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

20th September 2020

Parish Priest: Fr. Dan Bolland 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, Wed and Friday 10 - 1pm Email: thomastown@ossory.ie Facebook: Thomastown Parish
---	---

CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 20th September

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.	

Deaths and anniversaries: Please remember in your prayers this weekend - **Micheál Bookle**, Newtown (6pm Mass); **John Costelloe**, Galway & **Costelloe Family**, Pipe Street (6pm Mass), **Imelda Rimmer** (12 pm Mass); **Nancy Carroll**, Ladywell (12pm Mass); **Laurence Holden**, Knockbrack; **Billy O'Brien**, Friarhill; **Mary & Peter Challoner**, Smithstown; **John & Catherine Doody**, Colmcille. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Mass Intentions next weekend:

Webcam A webcam has been installed in the Parish Church. This means that Masses and other Services will be videoed and sent to the Parish Office for transmission through the Parish website. So, if you wish to join us for Mass, go to the www.thomastownparish.ie You will find the link there.

Mgr. Jim Cassin died in June. Mass will be held for him on Wednesday, his birthday, at 7pm in the Parish Church. This 'month's mind' Mass was delayed in the hope that that many relatives, friends and associates, unable to gather at his Funeral Mass, could come. However, Stage 2 restrictions will be in place for six to nine months, and those who would wish to come are asked to respect the regulations.

First Communion Next 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. These occasions are wonderful parish events, and all should be very welcome. With current restrictions re corona virus only children and their parents can be facilitated. We are invited to look at three videos which are available on www.ossory.ie. These videos will help all of us to prepare for this special event in the life of our Parish. Be sure to include the children and their families in your prayers in the coming weeks.

The Plan for living with Covid-19 For Religious Services in places of worship (including funerals), up to 50 can be admitted, with social distancing, etc. Face coverings are requested. The limit of 6 is for indoor settings in homes and applies to funeral related events in private homes (e.g. wakes, etc). Up to 50 guests can gather for weddings and receptions. 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 participate, as now, via webcam, social media, television or radio.

Thomastown Parish Finance Committee will meet on Monday at 7.30pm.

St. Vincent de Paul Society The telephone number of the Thomastown St. Vincent de Paul Society is **086 2664669** for anyone who wishes to contact the Society.

Season of Creation: 1st September to 4th October. Think of our use of water. All human beings, animals, birds of the air and insects need water. Sources of fresh water are essential for health care, agriculture and industry. Some countries have no access to safe drinking water. Unsafe drinking water results in illness, disease and death. Detergents and chemical products commonly used continue to pour into our rivers, lakes and sea thus polluting our water (laudato Sí29)

Let's each reflect on our use of and waste of water. How do I use the gift of water? Do I take constant availability of water for granted? Do I waste water more than I need? Boiling a full kettle when I only need one cup? Do I turn off taps properly? What change can I make? Is there one area that I can reflect on and which will make a difference?

Cathedral Draw: The first draw of the Diocesan Draw 2020/2021 was postponed due to the Covid - 19 Pandemic. The draw will now run from September 2020 to August 2021. The first draw of Year Six will be held on Wednesday 30th September. Do please consider joining. Join the Draw, €10 per month, at Reddy's Gift Shop, Murphy Victualler at Market Street, the Parish Office or Fr. Dan.

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.

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.

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

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

Towards Peace Spiritual Support Service

01 505 3028

www.towardspeace.ie

According to an old Jewish saying, it took God one day to get the Israelites out of Egypt, but it took him 40 years to get Egypt out of the Israelites. Getting beyond self-pity was not easy, but God eventually won out and Israel came to look back on her story as a tale of a loving God at work bringing his people to himself. The pattern of misunderstanding, resistance, self-pity, letting go and saying 'yes' to God in thanksgiving, was repeated many times to Israel's story. The struggle to let go of self-pity and choose to be happy in a world of limitations continues today in our faith journey. In all of it, a life of faith continues to mature into a life of thanksgiving for God's victory over our resistance. (Bishop Martin Drennan)