

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

27th September 2020

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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 27th September

Parish Church	Sunday morning Mass	10.00am
	Sunday morning Mass	12.00noon
	Monday Mass	09.30am
	Friday evening Mass	07.30pm
	Saturday Vigil Mass	06.00pm
	Sacrament of Reconciliation after 6pm Saturday Mass.	
Mong	Thursday Mass	07.30pm

Deaths and anniversaries: Please remember in your prayers this weekend: **John Kenny**, Kiljames; **Colin O'Brien**, Friars Hill & **Michael Treacy**, Ballinamona recently deceased. **Teresa Skeeahan**, Noreview Crescent. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Mass Intentions next weekend: **Liam Burke**, Castle Avenue (6pm Mass); **Johnny Byrne**, Newtown Terrace (6pm Mass); **Maureen Forristal** (Months Mind 12 noon Mass).

Cead Mile Failte: Welcome to Conor Michael O'Mahony, Chapelizod; Angelica Tiba, Kilkenny; Aoibhinn Ellen O'Neill, Waterford; Ciara Elizabeth McKillen, Jerpoint West; Abigail Lucy Bowman, Dublin; Cian Thomas Treacy, Kilmurry; Jack James McDonald, Mong Upper baptised into the family of God recently

Names First Holy Communion 2020

Allen Grace, Robbie Atkins English, Olivia Barron, Lilianna Borza, Jayden Butler, Ryan Carroll, Nathan Cash, Lily Caulfield, Megan Caulfield, Ruby Collins, Luke Conway, Áine Curran, Evie Dempsey, Erika Dirziute, Abbie Fennelly, Matthew Garry, Cilian Grace, Robbie Heafey, Rachel Hickey, Michael Hobson-Shaw, Colm Hynes, Dara Jordan, Libby Kavanagh, Filip Klejna, Julian Kolodziejczyk, Milosz Kuklinski, Daniellea Lanigan, David McGrath, Oisín McGrath Kenny, Aoibhe Meegan, Will Mernagh O'Gorman, Ben Murphy, Serena Murphy, Anthony Murray, Lilianna Namysl, Ellen Nugent, Eve O'Neill, Shane O'Neill, Kieran O'Shea, Kevin O'Sullivan Wemyss, Victor Pniewski, Paddy Raftice, Kayleigh Skehan, Zac Spence, Saoirse Stapleton, Lucy Stephenson, Tommy Walsh, Melissa Walsh, Sophie Wilson, Dara Wilson.

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.

First Communions Next Saturday 03rd October the boys of Ms. Tyrrell's class of last year will have Mass at 10am, with the girls following at 12pm.

The Plan for living with Covid-19 At Level 2, most areas of economy and society, for example: schools, restaurants, pubs and gyms, are open. The priority is to keep schools and childcare facilities open and minimise disruption in the work force. In order to keep people safe, you will be asked to limit the number of people you meet. 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.

Season of creation As the corona virus pandemic continues to challenge our world we continue to celebrate the season of creation and the 5th anniversary of Pope Francis prophetic Encyclical Letter Laudato Si. We are surely being invited to ponder the beauty and fragility of the gift we have been given in Mother Earth. It is encouraging to see so many people' take personal and corporate action to care for our common home aware of the hospitality of the earth. ' (Laudato Si). What action can I take that will make a difference in my caring for the common home as I walk around and observe the beauty. How do I recycle, dispose of rubbish, use disposables, plastic etc?

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.

No punishment? Is there no punishment for the sinner? We can say that there is. The sinner basically punishes himself. The punishment is built into the very sinfulness. This is what Ezekiel is saying this weekend. 'Listen, House of Israel: is what I do unjust?' It is not altogether uncommon to hear people complain that God is unjust to them. But God responds that a good person who violates his own integrity to do something evil dies in sin, precisely as a result of the evil he has done. Our self-seeking, hate, anger, aggression, violence, jealousy etc all lead to isolation, loneliness, hostility with others and often to physical and mental stress and breakdowns. Sin, which is a refusal to respond to God loving us, brings its own inevitable punishment. Our sins often leave wounds which take a long time to heal. God does not need to punish us; we do that very well by our own choices.

We need to identify where sin really lies. Sin is not just a violation of a rule or a law. It is a violation of our very nature. To act with violence, to steal, to fornicate, to lie, to be avaricious are regarded as sins. But why? Are they sins because the Church says they are? Something is sinful because it is wrong. It denies love and respect for God and for the dignity, the rights and integrity of others. They are sins not only of Catholics but of anyone who does them. Sin, as a violation of our needed relationship with God, Truth and Love, brings nothing but pain and loss. We have no one to blame but ourselves. (Sacred Space)

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