

# THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

8<sup>th</sup> November 2020

**Parish Priest:****Fr. Dan Bollard****Mobile 087 6644858****Email: [bollarddan@gmail.com](mailto:bollarddan@gmail.com)****Website [www.thomastownparish.ie](http://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](mailto:thomastown@ossory.ie)****Facebook: Thomastown Parish****CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November**

<b>Parish Church</b>	Sunday morning Mass	10.00am
	Monday & Wednesday Mass	09.30am
	Friday evening Mass	07.00pm
	Saturday Vigil Mass	06.00pm

**Deaths and anniversaries:** **Hanna Dunne** (nee Shanahan), Cherrymount who died recently; **Peter, Molly and Patrick Lannon**, Newtown (6pm Mass); **Alice O'Keeffe**, Smithstown (10am Mass); **Mick Dack**, Dublin Road; **Tom Kelly**, Dublin Road; **David Walsh**, Dysart; **Mary O'Neill**, Station Road. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

**Mass Intentions next weekend:** **Deceased members of the Coonan Family**, Dangan (6pm); **Bessie Delaney**, Pipe Street (10am Mass).

**November as a Month of Prayer and Remembrance for the Dead and the Bereaved:**

**November Masses for the Dead:** This year Masses for those who died since last November, and all the dead, will be offered each Friday at 7pm. Next Friday we will be particularly conscious of all who died February, March and April. We invite families of the deceased of those months to provide us with a photograph which we will keep in the Church for the month.

**The List of the Names of the Dead:** A basket is provided in the Parish Church. Please bring your list of those whom you commend to our prayers during November. Each day while the Church is open a candle will be lit to show the prayers rising for your deceased relatives, friends and neighbours.

**Evening Prayers** will be held on our radio and webcam during November as the sun goes down and the evening draws in, at 5pm on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday.

**The Plan for living with Covid-19 at Level 3.** Places of Worship will remain closed except for private prayer, weddings and funerals.

For Religious Services in places of worship (including weddings and funerals), up to 25 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). Much as we would want to return to Mass, we should stay at home and participate, as now, via webcam, social media, television or radio. Join us for Mass on Radio 108fm or Webcam by going to [www.thomastownparish.ie](http://www.thomastownparish.ie) and you will find the link there. We will not hold the Sunday Midday Mass until our Churches reopen for Masses with congregations.

Each Sunday morning, at 9.30am, a live Mass is celebrated on KCLR96fm and broadcast to the people of Kilkenny and Carlow.

**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.

**Parish Newsletter by email.....** We can now distribute the weekly Newsletter by email. Please drop an email request to [thomastown@ossory.ie](mailto:thomastown@ossory.ie) if you are interested. Otherwise you can find it on the website.

**COVID-19 Support Line for Older People:** 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). 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.

**Accord** Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG has temporarily suspended face-to-face marriage preparation programmes and instead Accord facilitators will offer the interactive adapted programme. So, if you, or one of the family, is planning Marriage, get on to the Accord website, [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie)

**Coillte Renewable Energy** invites the wider Kilkenny community to learn more about the proposed Castlebanny Wind Farm project which forms part of our contribution to helping the state and Kilkenny County meet its targets and play its role in promoting and sustaining a cleaner, secure, healthier environment for our children and future generations. As the official project event is not possible under the current Covid-19 restrictions, the team has developed an online presentation outlining the details of the project. If you would like to view the presentation, please visit [www.castlebannywindfarm.ie](http://www.castlebannywindfarm.ie) to learn more.

**Getting Back on Track Financially**

The unfortunate reality is that due to the impact of COVID-19 many more people in Ireland may be struggling to pay their debts having recently lost their jobs or struggling to make ends meet on reduced incomes. This is where the Insolvency Service of Ireland (ISI) can help.

The ISI is the independent government body with four debt solutions to help people with all levels of problem debt - from credit cards to mortgages. It regulates debt advisors called Personal Insolvency Practitioners (PIPs).

You could be insolvent if:

- you can't pay your bills in full when they are due
- You're paying a little off each bill trying to keep creditors at bay
- You've had calls and letters about missed repayments and threats of repossession.

If you are insolvent and in arrears on your home mortgage you could also be eligible for a free consultation with a PIP under the State-funded Abhaile Scheme. The purpose of that Scheme is to help people in serious arrears to find the best available solutions, with the help of professional advisors. The priority will be to find a sustainable solution that keeps a person in their home, where possible.

For more information visit [www.backontrack.ie](http://www.backontrack.ie) or freetext GETHELP to 50015 for a callback.

*God's patience and graciousness is shown in a prayer found in the pocket of a Russian soldier who was killed during World War II. It reads 'Are you listening to me, God? I have never spoken to you before.... However, tonight I want to greet you. You know how from my earliest days as a child I was told you did not exist. And I believed it, foolish I was then. From the exquisite beauty of your creation I learned nothing. But tonight, from the bottom of this crater carved out by a bomb I have been attentive to the beauty of the sky filled with the light of the stars. To my utter amazement I have become acutely aware that the glittering light is your presence shining through... Lord, I don't know whether your hand is outstretched towards me or not but I want to say to you that the beautiful insight which has been given to me in this crater has brought to my heart a relief that words cannot describe. It's late in the day but at last I have come to recognise you. After saying that I don't know what more there is for me to add except to say that I am so very happy. It is so good to know that I am in your presence'.*