

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

15th November 2020

Parish Priest:**Fr. Dan Bollard****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 15th November**

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

Deaths and anniversaries: The deceased members of the Coonan family, Dangan (6pm Mass); Bessie Delaney, Pipe Street (10am Mass); Patrick Fanning, Grennan, Michael Furlong, Cloughabrody Heights, Sheila Kirby, Dangan Terrace. Bridget and Martin Moore, Ballydonnell, May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Mass Intentions next weekend: Vincent Walsh, Powerswood, who died a month ago (6pm Mass); Pat Stapleton, Dangan Terrace (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 May, June and July. 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.

With the benefit of webcam, some of the classes at the National School will join us for Mass on Wednesday, from their classrooms.

The Plan for living with Covid-19 at Level 3. Places of Worship will have to 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 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 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.

Thomastown Parish Seniors Citizens Shop: The shop will be closed while restrictions in place. Stay safe and hopefully not too long until we be together again.

Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG has suspended face-to-face marriage preparation programmes for the moment and instead Accord facilitators will offer the interactive adapted programme. Kilkenny Accord will provide Marriage Preparation programmes on Saturday 16th January and Saturday 20th February for limited numbers of participants. See www.accord.ie

When the gloss has worn off the memories of the wedding day and couples experience challenges in their relationship, **Accord** provides a **Relationship Support line** at 01-5313331 and 01 9059555, or check 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 to learn more.

This week's Gospel parable is about a man entrusting his servants with his property, and the point it makes concerns the need for fidelity in caring for what belongs to the master. God our master has left us with the earth, not to do with it what we want but to care for it even as we live off its abundant riches. God created the land to support living things:

What will happen when God returns to find so much land strip-mined, strip-cleared, eroded, and burdened with toxic waste?

God created the waters to support living things: What will happen when God returns to find the oceans and rivers polluted with our garbage and chemical by-products?

God created the air to support living things: What will happen when God returns to find smog and holes in the ozone?

God created plants and animals to live on this wonderful earth and revel in its beauty: What will happen when God returns to find so many of them driven to extinction by our destructive practices?

"Father of all that is good, keep us faithful in serving you." May we learn to care better for the Master's goods so that when the Master returns, we will hear those blessed words: "Well done! Come and share your master's joy."

"Men and women bear a unique responsibility under God to safeguard the created world and by their creative labour even to enhance it.

Safeguarding creation requires us to live responsibly within it, rather than manage creation as though we are outside it.

The human family is charged with preserving the beauty, diversity and integrity of nature as well as fostering its productivity". U.S. Bishops, [Renewing the Earth](http://www.renewingtheearth.org).