

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

28th March 2021

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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 28th March 2021

Parish Church	Sunday 28 th March Mass	10.00am
	Sunday 28 th March Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	03/06pm
	Monday 29 th March Mass	09.30am
	Monday Reconciliation Service	07.30pm
	Wednesday 31 st March Mass Chrism Mass in the Cathedral	09.30am 07.30pm
	The Easter Triduum Holy Thursday 01 st April Mass of the Lord's Supper	07.30pm
	Good Friday 02 nd April Day of fast and abstinence Celebration of the Lord's Passion	07.30pm
	Holy Saturday 03 rd April Easter Vigil	07.30pm

Deaths and anniversaries: **Albie Townsend**, Jerpoint (Month's Mind Mass Sunday 10am); **Mary Doyle**, Carrickmourne (10am Mass, Sunday). **Bridget and Patrick Dunphy** and family, Newtown Terrace and England; **Rene Kelly**, and **Mickey Kelly**, Kilfane East; **Mary O'Leary**, Pleberstown and London and **James Walsh**, Cappagh; **Dick Brennan**, Powerswood, **Larry and Mark Butler**, Castle Avenue; **Mary Byrne**, Carrickmourne; **Josie Conway**, Jerpoint Church; **Bridget Murray** and **Martin Murray**, **Edmund Forristal**, Jerpoint Church. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses Next weekend: **Mary Walsh**, Powerswood (10am Mass); **Hannah Lillie Roche**, Jerpoint Church (10am Mass).

The Sacrament of Forgiveness will be available Sunday 4-5, during the Adoration, at the Mercy Chapel.

Often people have a **Prayer Request** – something weighing on you and seeking a prayer. Call **087 4310053**, 6.30pm to 7.30pm, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

A Donate Button is now in operation on Parish website on the Home Page. We appreciate, and need, your financial support and this is a good way to do it.

Please note the times for Holy Week ceremonies in Thomastown. While congregations will be joining the ceremonies online or on television or radio, you may decide to join at a time suitable to you and your family. Our evening ceremonies have been scheduled for a similar time to reduce confusion. **Booklets** with the Holy Week ceremonies are available at the Parish Church. You may like to take one so that you will be better able to participate in the Ceremonies.

The Chrism Mass is a diocesan occasion when Bishop Nulty, our Diocesan Administrator while we await the appointment of a Bishop, will bless the oils which will be used for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick, and the anointing of our new Bishop. The ceremony will take place at the Cathedral in Kilkenny on Wednesday 31st March at 7.30pm. join on www.stmaryscathedral.ie As this is a diocesan event, we strongly encourage you to join with Bishop Nulty – specially if you or a family member may be presenting for the Sacraments in the year ahead.

Palms will be blessed at Mass on Sunday. Call and collect some, or bring some palm to your sacred space on this Saturday or Sunday for blessing – a sign of your welcome for Jesus. As Jesus blessed food at the Last Supper, let your evening meal on Thursday be held in a spirit of gratitude for the company and for those who have produced and prepared the food. Bring a crucifix to your sacred space on Good Friday – to be venerated, as in Church. For the Easter Vigil be sure to have a candle – reminder of the Easter Candle of new life in Christ.

The Rosary will be held on radio and webcam each day during Holy Week at midday.

Schedule of RTE broadcasts for Holy Week and the Easter Triduum.

Palm Sunday - 28th March RTÉ News Channel, 2.15pm, **Mass**

<https://www.churchservices.tv/cavancathedral>

Monday – 29th March RTÉ News Channel, 1030am, **Mass**, <https://www.churchservices.tv/ardfinnan>

Tuesday – 30th March RTÉ News Channel, 1030am - **Mass**,

<https://www.churchservices.tv/mariymacdublin>

Wednesday – 31st March RTÉ News Channel, 1030am - **Mass**,

<https://www.churchservices.tv/riverchapel>

Holy Thursday - 1st April RTÉ One, 16.40 (repeated Radio 1 Extra / LW252, 1900) - **Mass of the Lord's Supper** celebrated by Fr Martin Smith (Chaplain, Carlow IT) with members of RTÉ Cor Linn
Good Friday - 2nd April RTÉ One / Radio 1 Extra / LW252, 1500-1600 - **Solemn Liturgy for Good Friday** from Knock Basilica.

There is also a liturgy in Irish at the same time on Raidio na Gaeltachta: Dé hAoine 02 Aibreán 2021, 15.00 - 16.00 **Searmanas na Páise:** Searmanas Aoine an Chéasta beo ó Shéipéal Ghobnatan i gCúil Aodha, Co, Chorcaigh.

Holy Saturday - 3rd April RTÉ One, 1200 noon. **Countdown to Calvary** (Rpt). Downton Abbey star and Cambridge University theology graduate, Hugh Bonneville, tells the story of the last days of Jesus' life.

RTÉ One / Radio 1 Extra / LW252, 2300-0015 - **Easter Vigil Mass** from Knock Basilica, which is recognised by Pope Francis as an International Marian and Eucharistic Shrine

Easter Sunday - 4th April RTÉ One / Radio 1 Extra / LW252, 1000-1100 - **Easter Sunday Mass** from « La Carità » COVID hospital in Locarno, Switzerland.

12.25-12.55 (approx) **Pope Francis' Easter Urbi et Orbi Message and Blessing** will follow live coverage of the 1916 commemoration by President Michael D. Higgins.

First Communions and Confirmations 2021. You will appreciate that it is very difficult to schedule First Penance, First Communions and Confirmation during the current pandemic as numbers gathered in Church are restricted. Currently the plan is to have First Communions on **Saturday 29th May** and **Saturday 12th June**, with two Masses each day so that numbers are kept low.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is scheduled for **Friday 18th June**, with four sessions that day. The teachers will organise the schedules.

Whereas it is possible to control the numbers in the Church, a real concern is the gathering afterwards. Parents / guardians are reminded that there will be restrictions regarding people gathering in homes, so it will be vitally important to observe those restrictions also. A positive consideration is that we are forced to strip down the occasions to their essentials and will have to put aside some of the unnecessary trimmings that have become part of the day. Do please remember that the dates will depend on how we are all doing to manage the virus. We may have to decide to change the dates if circumstances are unfavourable.