

# THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

25th April 2021

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## CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 25th April 2021

<b>Parish Church</b>	Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> April Mass Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	10.00am 3-6pm
	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> April Mass	09.30am
	Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April Mass	09.30am
	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> April Mass	07.00pm
	Saturday 02 <sup>nd</sup> May Vigil Mass	06.00pm

**Deaths and anniversaries:** **Johnny Walsh**, Cheshire, England and formerly Cappagh, died recently. **Patsy Bolger**, Castle Avenue (6pm Mass); **Mattie Lawlor**, Maudlin Street (6pm Mass); **Billy Stapleton**, Lady Well (10am Mass); **Joseph O'Reilly**, Ladywell Street; **Helen Shanahan**, Noreview Crescent. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

**Anniversary Masses Next weekend:** **Brigid Bookle**, Bawnskeha (6pm Mass); **Jim Kearney**, Oldtown (10am Mass).

**Reminder from the HSE for everyone aged 60 and over to register for their vaccine** through the HSE's online registration system or on the phone with HSELive from Friday 23 April. However, before we do, we want to remind those aged 65-69 who have yet to register to make sure to register as soon as possible. Everyone in this age group is now eligible to register including: frontline healthcare workers who haven't gotten an appointment through their workplace and people aged 65-69 who have a health condition that puts them at very high risk (vaccine allocation Group 4) and who haven't been given an appointment through their hospital or healthcare team. People in this age group who are registering online will need: their Personal Public Service Number (PPSN), their Eircode, an email address or a mobile phone number. A friend or family member can help. If someone is finding it difficult to go online and register they can ring HSELive for support on **1850 24 1850** or **01 240 8787** from 8am to 8pm, 7 days. If a person doesn't have a PPSN they can register on the phone with HSELive. Once registered the person will receive their vaccine appointment for the COVID-19 AstraZeneca vaccine. Deaf or hard of hearing, text HSELive on **086 1800 661** to register for your vaccination

**Accord:** Call the couples and relationships support line on 01 531 3331, staffed by counsellors Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 8.00pm, Counselling is also available to anyone wanting to talk through a relationship difficulty. Visit the [accord.ie](http://accord.ie) website to check for a convenient location and arrange a face to face appointment".

**COVID-19 Support Line for Older People:** Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance, seven days a week, 8am - 8pm. Call 0818 222 024.

**Kilkenny Bereavement Support** offers a free listening service to bereaved people of all ages. Now, we support the bereaved by phone or by Zoom. People can discuss their preferred option with their bereavement support volunteer. Please phone 056-7756538 or email: [director@kilkennybereavementsupport.com](mailto:director@kilkennybereavementsupport.com).

"Family Carers Ireland in partnership with An Garda Síochána, the National Ambulance Service Community First Responder Schemes, The Irish Red Cross and The Order of Malta has developed an **Emergency Card Scheme** for family carers. When a family carer has an unplanned hospital admission there is a risk that the person who needs their care and support could be left at home alone and uncared for. The **Emergency Card Scheme** is intended to give peace of mind to family carers as well as ensuring that the person they care for remains safe in such emergencies. For more details on the scheme, visit our website on [www.familycarers.ie](http://www.familycarers.ie) or call our Freephone Careline 1800 24 07 24."

Overseas Volunteers Training Course September 2021 - Open to all!

**Viatore Christy**, a faith-based development organisation has specialised in the recruitment, training, and deployment of overseas volunteers since 1960. VC runs an online volunteer preparation course covering Community Development, Health, Global Awareness, Mission, etc. Once completed, participants can be considered for volunteer roles through VC EU Aid Volunteers #EUAVI programmes. If you want to know more, click [here](#) or visit the News section of our website [www.vcvolunteers.ie](http://www.vcvolunteers.ie) or email [info@viatorechristy.com](mailto:info@viatorechristy.com)

Currently a Covid-19 statutory instrument, published in Iris Oifigiúil recently, makes it a criminal offence to attend certain types of indoor events or gatherings, including religious services other than weddings or funerals. The penalty for breaches of the new law are a fine of €127 or up to six months in jail. This past week the Taoiseach has written to the Bishops to say that the reopening of Churches for public worship will be given 'careful and positive consideration' at Government discussions next week on easing restrictions in May. The Taoiseach remarks in his letter on the comprehensive measures in place when Churches were last opened for congregational worship. Bishop Nulty, our Diocesan Administrator, reminds us that from Monday the number of people allowed to attend Funeral services rises to 25.

**Adoration:** during the current restrictions we've held Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Sunday afternoon. As restrictions are relaxed – please God – we will transfer the Exposition to Monday afternoon, beginning Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May. Sunday may be a time when families get the opportunity to meet and spend time together, an important element of the Lord's Day.

**The Synodal Pathway:** Please check this out on [www.catholicbishops.ie/synod](http://www.catholicbishops.ie/synod) Until Pentecost, 25<sup>th</sup> May, you are invited to make submissions on 'What would be your preferred option for engagement in a conversation process about the Synod? Basically the Bishops are looking for the best way to embark on and engage you and I in a conversation about the Church in Ireland and the way forward. For the present, how might this be best done.

*Jesus speaks of the freedom of the Good Shepherd in laying down his life. Faced with the needs of others, we can at times feel trapped into looking after them, caught by duty, obligation, or guilt. We can become like the hired hands doing a job without care for the person. Perhaps you have experienced both attitudes, caring for others under duress and caring by your free choice. What difference did it make when you chose to care for the other, even in circumstances where you had little option?*