

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

30th May 2021

Parish Priest:

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Opening Tuesday, Wednesday 10 - 1pm

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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 30th May 2021

Parish Church	Sunday 30 th May Mass	Trinity Sunday	10.00 am
	Sunday 30 th May Mass	Trinity Sunday	11.30 am
	Monday 31 st May Mass		09.30 am
	Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament		03/05 pm
	Wednesday 2 nd June Mass		09.30hours
	Friday 4 th June Mass		19.00hours
	Saturday 05 th June Vigil Mass		18.00hours

Masses celebrated at the Parish Church continue to be available on webcam and 108fm.

Deaths and anniversaries: **Emma Jane Mack nee Gale** (10am Mass); **Niall Walsh**, Station Road & **Billy Walsh** (11.30am Mass); **Bridget Power**, Castle View, Grennan; **Michael Power**, Castleview, Grennan; **Stasia Collins**, Norelands; **Chinnamma Chacko**, India; **Biddy Kavanagh** and **Dorakeen Comerford**, Jerpoint Hill. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses Next weekend: **Paul Forristal**, Maudlin Court (6pm Mass); **Tommy Delaney**, Pipe Street (10am Mass); **Mgr. Jim Cassin** (7pm Mass Friday 11th June).

Welcome: Cead Mile Failte to Oisín James Freyne, Berkley Lawn; Isabella Doyle, Jerpoint Church; Aaron Doyle, Jerpoint Church & Maya Jane Glynn, Kilmurry baptised into the family of God recently.

Baptisms are being celebrated, but always adhering to the guidelines – and for now celebrated only as a single-family celebration'. Please contact the Office or Fr. Dan. The Baptismal teams aren't going out to families to prepare for the Sacrament currently.

The First Friday of each month is associated in parishes with bringing Holy Communion to those who are unable to come to Church to receive the Sacrament. That has happened at Christmas and Easter when someone in the bubble brought Communion to those who requested it. Indeed, during the shut-down of the country many people missed the opportunity to receive Holy Communion regularly. It means a lot to so many. Fr. Dan and Sister Anna plan to resume bringing Communion this week and will contact the people on the 'regular' list to enquire if they are happy with the call or would prefer for someone in their bubble to continue bringing Holy Communion. If we haven't been calling to you and you, a family member, or neighbour would like to receive Communion at home, please contact Fr. Dan at 0876644858, or the Office on Tuesday or Wednesday- 7793191.

The Trinity is a great mystery. Yet any child can grasp it in such a way as to be able to pray it and live it. We think of God as our Father (and Mother). We think of Jesus as our Brother, and we think of the Holy Spirit as our friend who helps us to live like Jesus and binds us together as brothers and sisters in a community of faith and love.

Re-opening Ireland: Keep up the good work! Thank you for your efforts to play your part in re-opening Ireland. Government talks about avoiding 'anticipatory behaviour'. We may be inclined to think that all is well and caution can be abandoned. We get many reminders of the need to be careful. Thanks to all who have worked under very challenging circumstances over the past 15 months. We appreciate your dedication, and the extra stress you have been subjected to, both at home and at work.

At the time of printing this Newsletter we await a statement from Government this weekend regarding further opening of the country.

Many businesses face uncertainty as they re-open. **Please support local**, because if we don't **shop locally**, businesses will close, and we will bemoan more closed premises, more unemployment. If we want local shops and offices to open, and stay open, we must support them.

Post-Primary schools close this weekend, and we strongly encourage our young people to enjoy the Summer, to use the time to further their education outside the classroom – with social interaction, sports, work, and of course prayer – and to take good care to be safe in all their comings and goings, and especially regarding Covid-19.

Meanwhile, we think of our young people who prepare for the **Leaving Certificate** exams and come to make important decisions about their future. We wish you all the very best, and all God's blessings. He has great plans for humanity and is relying on you.

A word of thanks to all **school staffs**, you who work in St. Mary's or Grennan College, and you who work in other schools in the area. You have been working, from home or at school, under difficult conditions for the past 16 months or so. National School staff will continue in school for another month. Meanwhile, a big thank you to all for making sure that our schools are safe places and for continuing the work of educating our young people for life, and not just for jobs.

One of our altars in the Parish Church is dedicated to **the Sacred Heart**. Annually, people pray a Novena for 9 days leading to the feast of the Sacred Heart on Friday 11th June. This begins on Thursday 3rd June. Cards with the Novena are available at the Sacred Heart Altar.

Thomastown parish senior citizens second-hand shop: currently open every Thursday to start and in July back to two days weekly. Call in for a bargain, and the Shop is taking clothing and bric-a-brac donations.

The Priory Institute Online will hold an Open Day 19th June. People attending our online Open Day here in Tallaght in June can meet with current students and staff over Zoom, attend a short introductory lecture on theology and find out if studying theology with us is the right thing to do. Contact www.prioryinstitute.com

One day a youngster watched someone as he drank from a well in the town square. After drinking, the man continued to gaze into the well, as though looking at someone. He was a giant of a man but had a friendly face. The youngster approached him and asked: 'Who lives down there?' 'God does,' the stranger answered. 'Can I see him?' 'Sure you can', he answered. Looking down into the well, all the youngster could see was her own reflection in the water. 'But that's only me,' she said. 'All I see is me.' 'Now you know', the stranger said, 'where God lives. He lives in you'.