

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

20th June 2021

Parish Priest:

Fr. Dan Bollard

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Diocese of Ossory Reg. Charity No. 20015831.

Parish Office:

Tel No 056 7793191

Opening Tuesday, Wednesday 10 - 1pm

Email: thomastown@ossory.ie

Facebook: Thomastown Parish

CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 20th June 2021.

Parish Church	Sunday 20 th June Mass	10.00 hours
	Sunday 20 th June Mass	11.30 hours
	Monday 21 st June Mass	09.30 hours
	Monday 21 st June Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	15/17 hours
	Wednesday 23 rd June Mass	09.30 hours
	Friday 25 th June Wedding Mass	13.00 hours
	Friday 25 th June Mass	19.00 hours
	Saturday 26 th June Vigil Mass	18.00 hours

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

Deaths and anniversaries: Susan Flynn nee Townsend, London formerly Jerpoint, and Yolanda Salazar Iligan, The Philippines, recently deceased; Patrick Ryan, Legan (6pm Mass); Ester, Jack & Brohna Woods, Newtown Terrace (6pm Mass); Maura Murray, Jerpoint Abbey (10am Mass); Bishy and Liam Walsh, Cloghabrody (11.30 Mass); Johnny Doolan, Mary Kate Doolan, Ben Doolan, Patrick Doolan late of Newtown Terrace; Joseph Challoner, Dangan Terrace; John Maher, Durrow, and the deceased members of the Maher family. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Cead Mile Failte: Welcome to Joseph Martin Hennessy, Newtown 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 are not going out to families to prepare for the Sacrament currently.

Church Services The sanctuary lighting has been replaced, and Masses as normal are back to the Parish Church.

St. Joseph 's Young Priests Society will hold Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the main Church on Thursday June 24th from 7pm to 8pm ending with Rosary. All welcome. Our virtual Pilgrimage takes place on Sunday June 27th beginning at 2.30pm at Knock Shrine. Can be accessed on their website. President John Murphy will attend. Please join in.

Re-opening Ireland: Keep up the good work! Thank you for your efforts to play your part in re-opening Ireland. 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 16 months. As the country re-opens, don't forget to support local businesses! We acknowledge with gratitude all who opened and staffed our shops and offices during the thick of the pandemic, with grace and kindness.

We're approaching the longest day of the year – strange, isn't it. We may well wonder where the first half of 2021 has gone and what we have done with it. There wasn't a lot of external movement, but much will have happened internally, in our own hearts and minds, and in our own family circles. Nurture what good has happened and manage well the things we may have reason to regret.

We think of the young people finishing exams these days, and the great adventure that lies ahead, even if at times the pandemic makes it less clear how things will unfurl. Like the Apostles in the boat, know that the Lord is with them – even if to them he may seem to be asleep and uninvolved. Call him. Know too that the Lord's plans for humanity depend greatly on the part that our young people come to play in family and in the wider life of the country and of humanity.

This weekend's Gospel reading tells us of a storm as Jesus and the Apostles crossed the Sea of Galilee. In the bible the calming of a storm is a characteristic sign of divine power because the sea and the wind are seen as forces of evil and chaos which only God can control. The storm can also stand for the trials and tribulations which the righteous suffer, and from which only the power of God can save them.

In the calming of the storm, the apostles witnessed a work that only God can accomplish, which means that Jesus has divine power. At the same time the miracle shows Jesus' care for his apostles. Mark is using the story to teach a lesson in faith. The storm reflects the post-Easter experience of the early Church. The disciples have run into all sorts of difficulties and feel that the Lord has abandoned them. But they are summoned to have faith in his presence with them and care for them.

Safeguarding Concerns

If you have a child safeguarding concern or wish to raise a matter from the past you may contact any of the following:

Diocesan Designated Persons

Ms. Kathleen Sherry 085 8021633

safeguarding@ossory.ie

Mr. Cathal Cullen 087 100 0232 or

Ms. Rose Brophy 087 331 4330

Garda National Protective Services

01 6663430/35

Civil Authorities

Tusla Child & Family Agency Carlow

Kilkenny area 052 617 7302

Safeguarding Reps. for this Parish are:

Brigid Cassin Begley and Ray O'Carroll. Contact them through the Parish Office.

There is a story told about a sea captain who in his retirement skippered a boat taking day trippers to the Shetland Islands. On one trip the boat was full of young people. These laughed at the old captain when they saw him saying a prayer before setting out, because the day was fine and the sea calm.

However, they weren't long out at sea when a storm suddenly blew up, and the boat began to pitch violently. The terrified passengers came up to the captain and asked him to join them in prayer. He replied, 'I say my prayers when it's calm. When it's rough, I attend to my ship'. How about you?

Counselling Services**Towards Healing Confidential Helpline**

1800 313 316

www.towardshealing.ie

Towards Peace Spiritual Support Service

01 505 3028

www.towardspeace.ie