

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

27th June 2021

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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 27th June 2021.

Parish Church	Sunday 27 th June Mass	10.00 hours
	Sunday 27 th June Mass	11.30 hours
	Monday 28 th June Mass	09.30 hours
	Monday 28 th June Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	15/17 hours
	Wednesday 30 th June Mass	09.30 hours
	Friday 02 nd July Wedding Mass	13.00 hours
	Friday 02 nd July Mass	19.00 hours
	Saturday 03 rd July Baptism	16.00 hours
	Saturday 03 rd July Vigil Mass	18.00 hours

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

Deaths and anniversaries: Kathleen O'Brien, Mong, and Alice Prendergast, nee Kelly, Darlington, County Durham, England late of Jerpoint Abbey (11.30am Mass); died recently **Brendan Griffin, John & Ellen McGrath, Gabrielle Schmidt**, Colmcille (10am Mass); **Elizabeth McConville**, Low Street (11.30am Mass); **Sr. Ligouri** (Month's Mind Mass 7pm Friday); **Leo Holohan**, Ballylinch; **Teresa Dunne**, Knocktopher; **McEntee Family**, Mount Juliet. **Mary Ryan**, Maudlin Street; **Patrick Doolan**, Castle Avenue; May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses next weekend: Nancy Skehan, Newtown Terrace (6pm Mass); Shiela Treacy, Ballynamona (11.30am Mass).

Cead Mile Failte: Welcome to Luke Anthony Kelly, Brownsbarn & Isabella Elsie Walshe, Mallfield, 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.

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. During the shut-down of the country it became apparent that many people missed the opportunity to receive Holy Communion regularly. It means a lot to so many. Fr. Dan and Sister Anna will bring Communion this week to the people on the 'regular' list. 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.

St. Joseph 's Young Priests Society Virtual Pilgrimage takes place this Sunday June 27th beginning at 2.30pm at Knock Shrine. Can be accessed on www.stjosephsyoungpriestssociety.ie President of the Society John Murphy will attend. You are very welcome to 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, specially with the quick spreading Delta variant of the virus. 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 the work of the people who worked the essential services. During the past 6 months Fr. Dan has been involved on a few occasions when the Gardai got 999 calls and wants to thank them for their dedication, tact, and sensitivity in difficult circumstances. Their service has changed from the times when they checked if we had lights on our bikes and in the pandemic they have regularly been on call for domestic issues.

As we re-open Ireland, our **Schools** shut. All thanks and good wishes to school staff and students who have had to negotiate a very challenging year, dealing with pandemic as well as creating and maintaining a learning environment. Of course, the coming two months will provide so much opportunity for formation, a precious time also.

Sound in the Parish Church has been commented on regularly in the past few weeks and will be attended to this coming week. Speaking with the sound engineer recently he made the point that all who have been attending Mass on radio and webcam have had excellent sound – you could control the volume, and, dare I say, move on somewhere else if not satisfied. So, please check out your expectation, and your hearing aid, if you have one.

Thanks to Ann from Celbridge who joined us for Mass online when Churches were closed to congregations gathering for Mass. You, Ann, and all who have joined us are always welcome.

Congratulations to Meghan Farrell, captain, and all the members of the **Kilkenny Camogie** panel who had a magnificent win in the League final last weekend.

Good wishes to players, staff, and ticket holders and all involved in the **Irish Open Golf** at Mount Juliet this coming week. We have a truly wonderful facility at our doorsteps. Let's all make this a very memorable occasion for all visitors to the area, specially showing patience on our roads.

The woman in the Gospel today, after many years of suffering and isolation, would have been satisfied with a 'quick fix', simply touching Jesus' clothes, and then slinking off quietly. Jesus didn't go in for that kind of healing. He always dealt with people on a personal level. He knew the woman needed not just a physical healing, but psychological and spiritual healing also. After all the years of sickness she was feeling bad about herself and alienated from God too. Jesus let her know he was happy for her. He confirmed the fact that she was healed. This would have given her comfort and assurance.

In therapy and healing the problem is always the whole person, never the symptom alone. Questions must be asked which challenge the whole personality. It is not just the arm or leg that is being treated, but a person. Jesus never healed just an illness; he healed a sick person. His words healed the spirit; his touch healed the body.

Each of us is capable of doing some healing, because we have eyes that can see, ears that can hear, tongues that can speak, hands that can touch, and above all a heart that can love. Lord, make us instruments of your healing power. Where there is hatred, let us sow love. Where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. Amen.