

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

11th July 2021

Parish Priest:

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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 11th July 2021.

Parish Church	Sunday 11 th July Mass	10.00 hours
	Sunday 11 th July Mass	11.30 hours
	Monday 12 th July Mass	09.30 hours
	Monday 12 th July Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	15/17 hours
	Wednesday 14 th July Mass	09.30 hours
	Wednesday 14 th July Wedding Mass	15.00 hours
	Friday 16 th July Mass	19.00 hours
	Saturday 17 th July Vigil Mass	18.00 hours
Chapel Hill	Thursday 15 th July Mass	19.30 hours

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

Deaths and anniversaries: **Anne Donnelly**, Jerpoint Church (10am Mass); **John Morrissey**, Clogregg (11.30am Mass); **Rita Kirwan**, San-Therese and **Angela McEvoy**, Jerpoint Church (11.30am Mass); **Patrick Kelly**, Newtown Terrace; **Declan Roe**, Kilfane East; **James, Margaret & Thomas Kelly**, Knockbrack; **Mitchel Walsh**, Jerpoint Abbey; **Mary O'Reilly**, Ladywell St.; **John Comerford**, Burrells Park (9.30am Mass on Monday); **Mgr. Jack Jones**. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses next weekend: Catherine Walsh, (11.30am Mass)

Cead Mile Failte: Welcome to Alex William Meyler, Raheenroche & Daithi O'Hara, Priory Grove, Kells baptised into the family of God last weekend.

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. Attendees at Baptisms are confined to parents, siblings, sponsors, and grandparents.

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, especially with the quick spreading Delta variant of the virus. Thanks to all who have worked under very challenging circumstances over the past 16 months. Summer holiday time from school has come, but let's remember all the Moms and Dads who, practically speaking, were home schooling, while often working from home also. Quite a load, and yet we must admire your ingenuity in adapting to the strangest of situations. Thank you all! Hopefully this is a good time for you.

As the country re-opens, don't forget to support local businesses!

Theology of the Arts. Does the Church Need Art? The Priory Institute offers a one-week online summer school motivated by a significant question posed by Pope John Paul II in his Letter to Artists: Does the Church Need Art? Six lectures will examine current theological debate on beauty and the arts, and consider some of the challenges posed by a contemporary culture of image and sound to the Church's traditional understanding of the function of sacred art. *The Summer School will run from 8-13 August and again from 22-27 August. The course includes six recorded presentations and is very flexible as it is delivered entirely online.* Find out more and register on prioryinstitute.com

These can be **challenging times** for many people. We are happy to remind you of some services which may be of help.

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 website to check for a convenient location and arrange a face-to-face appointment".

Kilkenny Bereavement Support offers a free listening service to bereaved people of all ages. Now, KBS 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.

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.

St. Vincent de Paul Society The telephone number of the Thomastown St. Vincent de Paul Society is **086 2664669** for anyone who wishes to contact the Society.

MABS: The Money Advice and Budgeting Service is a free, confidential and independent service funded through the Citizens Information Board. MABS assist people who have debt problems, who are in difficulty paying a mortgage or who are facing legal action because of debt. They also provide information and access to Insolvency Services. For more information contact MABS on: www.mabs.ie or call MABS on 0761 072610.

Meister Eckhart (1260 – 1328) was a Dominican friar and is a great Christian mystic. Through the vivid use of imagery such as, the spark of the soul, the abyss, the desert, the birth of the Word in the heart and the pilgrim on foot, Eckhart directs us to that place which lies beyond the image. Take this one: 'God is always at home. It is we who have gone for a walk'. It is full of paradox and depth. Eckhart was unjustly accused of heresy and met with condemnation. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus literally sends the disciples out for a walk! As his followers they have the job of showing that the message and the mission of Jesus is credible through listening, preaching and healing. He even alerts them to the reality of rejection. They are to travel light. We often carry baggage that is internal. We hold onto festering old wounds, not because we enjoy being hurt, but because we are afraid to let go. We carry resentments, anger, and all kinds of hatred and prejudice, thinking that these heavy pieces of baggage will protect us from further hurt or injury. Jesus urges us to let go of these things that weigh us down. Take only the sandals of discipleship, along with a walking stick to support us. Take the risk, he tells us, of depending on the hospitality and kindness of others. In telling us to travel in pairs, he encourages us to trust the community of believers, the other members of this parish, to support us in living the Gospel values he teaches.