

# THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

08<sup>th</sup> August 2021

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## CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 08<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

<b>Parish Church</b>	Sunday 08 <sup>th</sup> August Mass	10.00 hours
	Sunday 08 <sup>th</sup> August Mass	11.30 hours
	Monday 09 <sup>th</sup> August Mass	09.30 hours
	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> August Mass	09.30 hours
	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> August Mass	09.30 hours
	Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> August Baptism	14.00 hours
	Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> August Vigil Mass	18.00 hours

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

**Deaths and anniversaries:** **Eamonn Byrne**, Carrickmourne (Months Mind Mass 6pm & **John Byrne**, Ballylinch); **Annie & Bobby Power**, Grennan View (6pm Mass); **Michael Kennedy**, Brownsbarn (6pm Mass); **Catherine Burke**, Castle Avenue (10am Mass); **Paul Stapleton**, Legan (10am Mass); **Declan Fennelly**, Oldtown, Stoneyford; **Michael Walsh**, **Nicholas Walsh**, **Monica Villalard (nee) Walsh**, Jerpont Abbey; **Anne O’Hanrahan**, Kiljames House & The Quay; **Paddy ‘Packie’ Purcell**, St. Columba’s Hospital and Kilkenny. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

## Anniversary Masses next weekend:

**Cead Mile Failte:** Welcome to Rhys Simon Reddy & Benjamin Declan Reddy, Bohilla, Inistioge & Shiloh Rose Butler, Dunan baptised into the family of God last weekend.

In the New Testament writings in the Bible St. Paul discouraged people from looking for dates and time when the Lord would come in glory. Nowadays the more pressing question for many people is **the date and time of Confirmation** in this parish. The topic has been discussed nationally during the past ten days. Bishop Nulty, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, is our Diocesan Administrator until a new Bishop of Ossory has been selected. He wrote to all the parishes of the Diocese in the past few days and asked that government guidelines be adhered to. This means that the Sacrament of Confirmation won’t be conferred on 28<sup>th</sup> August as we planned. We will have to wait until we get the nod from the Bishop and are in compliance with the guidelines coming from the Government.

We must await dates and times of Confirmation, and indeed appreciate that in current circumstances the dates and times for First Communion are provisional also.

Meanwhile, we are provided with the wonderful opportunity for our young people, and families too, to prepare for the ‘big day’ as people return to Church services, visit the Church, and continue to create time for prayer at home.

**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. A thank you to our undertakers and gravedigger, who have given sterling service while working in difficult and varying circumstances.

**Accord** Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG is seeking registration of interest from those who have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church and the enthusiasm to be part of a team supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally in accordance with best practice. Contact Aisling on 01 505 3112 or by email to [info@accord.ie](mailto:info@accord.ie). The closing date for receipt of registration of interest forms to be included in Selections for this year is Friday 27 August. Additional information is available on [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie)

Be sure to view the YouTube video **fleadhfest kilkenny episode 1** from Mullinavat Comhaltas showing stunning scenery of Thomastown, Dysart, Jerpont Abbey, Inistioge, Ballyhale, Graiguenamanagh, Mullinavat, Bigwood, Kilmacow and Grannagh Castle with music, song, dance and poetry from "Tusa" and featuring Michael Flatley and Henry Shefflin. Please share far and wide with relations and friends.

**Thomastown Creative Arts Festival 2021** offers a wonderful exhibition of art from 6<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> August in the Community Hall and the Men’s Shed. Be sure to visit it.

**The Youth 2000 Summer Festival** for 16–35-year-olds will take place online from 13–15<sup>th</sup> August at [youth2000.ie](http://youth2000.ie). The weekends Masses will be celebrated in person in St. Paul’s Church, Waterford on Friday at 8pm, Saturday at 4pm and 8:30pm (reconciliation and healing service) with the closing Mass Sunday at 2:30pm with Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan. You will not want to miss this! Register now to hear inspiring workshops, moving testimonies and excellent talks from our keynote speaker Fr. Aelred Magee OSCO. For more details visit [youth2000.ie](http://youth2000.ie) and keep an eye on our social media pages.

*"Our prayer has had a beginning because we have had a beginning.*

*But it will have no end. It will accompany us into eternity*

*and will be completed in our contemplation of God."* (Carlo Carretto)

*‘Judge each day not by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant’.*

*‘There is a religion of devotion, and a religion of commitment. Faith can be a crutch or a pair of wings.*

*The Christian life is not about evasions, escapism, soft options, comfort. It is about the very opposite of these. The God who loves us, expects the best of us, nothing less.*

*God gives us a special food to nourish us. The food that Elijah received enabled him to walk to the mountain of God. The food that Jesus gives us in the Eucharist enables us to walk all the way to his eternal kingdom. (Flor McCarthy SDB)*

*‘The Eucharist, although it is the fullness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.’ (Pope Francis, in ‘The Joy of the Gospel’)*