

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

31st October 2021

Parish Priest: Fr. Dan Bollard Mobile 087 6644858 Email: bollarddan@gmail.com Website www.thomastownparish.ie Radio: fm108 Diocese of Ossory Reg. Charity No. 20015831.	Parish Office: Tel No 056 7793191 Opening Tuesday, Friday 10 – 13.00 hours Email: thomastown@ossory.ie Facebook: Thomastown Parish
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 31st October 2021.

Parish Church	Sunday 31 st October Mass	10.00 hours
	Sunday 31 st October Mass	11.30 hours
	Monday 1 st November Mass for All Saints Day	10.00 hours
	Monday 1 st Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	15-17.00 hours
	Wednesday 3 rd November Mass	09.20 hours
	Friday 5 th November Mass for the Dead	19.00 hours
	Saturday 6 th November Vigil Mass	18.00 hours

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

Deaths and anniversaries: Martin Langton, Kilcullen, Month's Mind (6pm Mass); **Molly Lawlor**, Maudlin St, (6pm Mass); **Tom, Mary and Maggie Barron**, Ballyconway (6pm Mass). **Rita Teesdale**, Jerpoint Church. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses next weekend: Bessie Delaney, Pipe St (10am Mass); **Hannah Dunne**, Cherrymount (11.30am Mass).

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 Friday - 7793191.

November Masses for those who died since last November and for all the dead: we will call them to mind at our four Friday Masses in November, three months at a time. Bernie Dempsey and Sister Bernadette will be looking for photographs which we will put up in Church, so it will help greatly if you have a photograph ready for them – or leave it into the Parish Office. If you've lost a loved one who is buried elsewhere, feel free to provide a photograph, and we will be very happy to remember them also. Next Friday, 5th November, while we remember all the Dead, we will call to mind those who died last November, December and January.

Thomastown **Parish Pastoral Council** will meet on Wednesday at 7.30pm at the Parish Office. The Council seeks to promote the Church's mission to live and communicate the love, values and teaching of Christ in our world, addressing the issues which affect the lives of the people.

Thank you to all who, last weekend, took home an envelope for donations for the Missions. Please return the envelopes. Thanks to all who are making the contribution. Don't forget the letterbox in the Sacristy door, where envelopes can be left.

Government advises that **COVID-19** infection rates are once again increasing along with hospitalisation and ICU admissions. However, we can continue our careful and gradual approach to re-opening. We will need to continue to monitor the ongoing risk from the disease and, including through testing and contact tracing as appropriate. We will all need to take steps individually and collectively in our everyday lives to keep this risk under control, in particular by - acting fast, isolating and getting tested if we have symptoms;
- wearing our face coverings where appropriate;
- making sure that indoor spaces are well ventilated;
- maintaining adequate social distancing whenever appropriate; and
- covering our coughs and sneezes and keeping our hands clean by using sanitizers. .
From October 22 Religious services and weddings can proceed without capacity limits but with all other protective measures remaining in place.

Clothes Collection supporting **Friends of Calcutta** (CHY No: 13218) on Thursday November 4th. All items of clothing, footwear, curtains etc most welcome and can be left at any stage that day in the Church Car Park up to end of collection at 3pm. All enquiries to Michael Hopkins 087-9073074.

St. Elizabeth Convent is situated in Minsk in the country of Belarus – next door to Russia. The Russian Orthodox community there looks after two hundred children in an orphanage, and also has a centre for people who have fallen on hard times. Next weekend the sisters will visit Thomastown and will invite you to buy some of the icons, ceramics and decorations produced in their workshops. This will support the ongoing work of care for the least fortunate. .

A youth trip to Taizé in France organised by Ossory Youth will take place from Sunday 26th June to Sunday 3rd July 2022. A week in the Taizé Community is an opportunity for reflection and contemplation and a little step back from daily life. But bringing people together is also the essence of Taize and it is a week of meeting young people from different countries and cultures where new friendships are made. Tens of thousands of young people from around the world, including 25 from Kilkenny, will make the trip to Taizé next year. The programme, which runs from December 2021 to July 2022 is open to Transition year, 5th year and Leaving Cert students. Closing date is Friday 19th November. For additional information, including cost and application forms, contact Patrick Bookle, Ossory Youth at (056) 7761200, (087) 2129006 or pbookle@ossoryyouth.com

Lord God, whose days are without end

And whose mercies beyond counting,

Keep us mindful that life is short and the hour of death unknown,

Let your spirit guide our days on earth in the ways of holiness and justice,

That we may serve you in union with the whole Church,

Sure in faith, strong in hope, perfect in love.

And when our earthly journey is ended, lead us rejoicing into your kingdom,

Where you live for ever and ever . Amen.