

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

28th November 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
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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 28th November 2021.

Parish Church	Sunday 28 th November Mass	10.00 hours
	Sunday 28 th November Mass	11.00 hours
	Sunday 28 th November Baptism	12.30 hours
	Monday 29 th November Mass	09.20 hours
	Wednesday 1 st December Mass	09.20 hours
	Friday 2 nd December Mass	19.00 hours
	Saturday 3 rd December Vigil Mass	18.00 hours

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

Deaths and anniversaries: Willie Kavanagh, Cloghabrody (6pm Mass); **Unie Kelly & Peggy Murphy**, Maudlin St (6pm Mass); **Frances White**, Knocknaboola (6pm Mass); **Patrick & Margaret Cullen**, Clossgregg & **all deceased members of the Cullen Family** (11.30am Mass); **Cha & John Whelan**, Jerpoint Church; **Kathleen Walsh**, Jerpoint Abbey; **Sheila O’Hanrahan**, Kiljames House; **Peter O’Hanrahan**, Ashbourne & Kiljames; May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses next weekend: Martin Roche, Months Mind (Friday 2nd 7pm Mass); **Sean O’Sullivan**, Burrellspark, (6pm Mass; **Maura Collins**, Knocknaboola (6pm Mass); **Eileen O’Mahony**, Carrickmourne (11.30am Mass).

November Masses: a word of thanks to all who provided photographs to help us recall those who died since last November. Do collect your photograph, and candle also, from 1st Dec.

Advent in Thomastown: an evening prayer will be held each Sunday at 5pm. A Service of Reconciliation will be held at the 6pm Mass on Saturday 11th December. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available 17.20 – 17.50 each Saturday before Mass and at other times by request. A triduum in preparation for Christmas will be held 20/21/22nd December.

Thomastown Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Wednesday at 7.30pm at the Parish Office.

The First Friday 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.

Thomastown Country Market Christmas Craft Fair takes place on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th December from 11am to 5pm Please shop local.

Online Theology Open Evening, is this for you? The Priory Institute provides online Theology courses to degree level. Attend Saturday lectures in Tallaght or from the comfort of your own home. Email enquiries@prioryinstitute.com to find out more about our Online Open Evening on Thursday 2 December 7pm.

Do join in a **9 Day Rosary Novena** for Ireland beginning 9pm Tuesday 30th November and ending on Wednesday 8th December. People all over Ireland will pray the Rosary.

By the numbers we hear each day, we appreciate that **COVID-19** hasn’t gone away. 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.

A message for young people

Beginning on Saturday 5th December Vocations Ossory are holding a series of Zoom Meetings for young people who wish to explore questions about life and faith on three Saturdays in December from 10 am - 11 am. On Saturday 4th December the topic will be: 'Your Life: God's vision & your dreams'. For further information & a link to these meetings simply drop an email to vocations@ossory.ie giving your name and name of your parish. See our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Vocations-Ossory-109568687936204> or follow us on twitter @vocossory

Data Protection Officer – DPO This will be a 3 Year Part-Time Fixed Term Contract (16 hours). The purpose of this role is to assist the three Dioceses of Ferns, Kildare & Leighlin and Ossory and their constituent parishes and agencies to ensure continued compliance with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The Catholic Church recognises that good pastoral care and respect for the dignity of every person requires that personal data should be sourced, stored, processed, and eventually disposed of in an appropriate manner and welcomes the essential principles underlying the GDPR. Further information and application procedure available at ferns.ie and kandle.ie or ossory.ie Closing date for applications by post on or before 10th December 2021.

The purpose of Advent is to help us prepare for Christmas. One can’t understand the message of Christmas unless we are familiar with at least the broad outlines of the history of salvation.

The Advent Liturgy relives in a microcosmic way the history of Israel, viewing it through the eyes of Christian faith. It shows that all of that history was pointing and leading toward Jesus. He was the one who fulfilled the messianic prophecies.

Advent takes us back in time so that we may appreciate the greatness of what we are heirs to: We are the heirs to the promises God made to the prophets. Advent helps us to appreciate the great blessings God has given us in Christ.