

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

5th December 2021

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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 5th December 2021.

Parish Church	Sunday 5 th Mass	10.00 hours
	Sunday 5 th Mass	11.30 hours
	Monday 6 th Mass	09.20 hours
	Monday 6 th Adoration	15.00-17.00 hours
	Tuesday 7 th Vigil Mass for Immaculate Conception	19.00 hours
	Wednesday 8 th Mass for the Immaculate Conception	09.20 hours
	Friday 10 th Mass	19.00 hours
	Saturday 11 th Vigil Mass	18.00 hours

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

Deaths and anniversaries: Sean O’Sullivan, Burrellspark, (6pm Mass); **Maura Collins**, Knocknaboola (6pm Mass); **Eileen O’Mahony**, Carrickmourne (11.30am Mass); **Josie Butler**, Pleberstown; **Patrick Butler**, Cloughsgregg; **John & Lily Mackey**, Cloughsgregg; **Billy McMahan**, Newtown; **Alice & William Mackey**, Logan St. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses next weekend: Dick Forristal, Columcille (6pm Mass); **Ben Hennessy**, Low St (11.30am Mass).

Advent in Thomastown: an evening prayer will be held each Sunday at 5pm.

A triduum in preparation for Christmas will be held 20/21/22nd December.

A Service of Reconciliation will be held at the 6pm Mass on Saturday 11th December.

On that day Fr. Frank Purcell will be available 11.30 – 12.30 at the Parish Church for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This will facilitate people who would wish to talk with a priest in the context of the Sacrament. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at other times by request.

Carol Service: The Parish Pastoral Council decided last night to cancel the Christmas Carol Service for this year. An occasion for bringing people together, and bringing choirs together, it is considered safer not to create an occasion which might cause the spread of Covid 19. The PPC is considering plan B. We’ll see how that unfolds and keep you posted.

St. Vincent de Paul Collection takes place next weekend: The local contact telephone number is **086-2664669** for anyone who wishes to contact the Society.

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

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 11th December the topic will be: ‘Openness to God’s mission: what am I made for?’. 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 the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Vocations-Ossory-109568687936204> or follow Vocations Ossory on twitter @vocossory

YOUNG PERSONS PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE

Lord may I work with you in a spirit of trust, together building a vision for my life .

Open the doors of my heart to allow you to come & speak to me.

My I take time to connect with you, my self, and others so that the road ahead becomes clearer

Help me to be amazed by you & know that you are amazed by me.

May I find time to think and explore the bigger questions, always willing to learn about you and how I relate myself and to others.

No matter what happens may I imitate you and be an instrument of your Love and Compassion.

Give me the generosity of spirit to offer all that I am in the service of my sisters and brothers.

Guide me along the right path, showing me how to navigate the course of life and discover my true destination, my true identity, my mission on this earth. Amen

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.

St Mary’s Cathedral Book and Gift Shop specialises in products that stress the celebration of the religious beliefs of Christmas. Christmas cards, mass cards, Christmas decorations, books and gifts are all available. The Shop also provides a wide range of spiritual books, children’s books, and bibles. Open 9.00am to 5.00pm on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

County Champions!! Congratulations to Thomastown Senior footballers on the victory over Mullinavat in the Final last weekend. The first victory since 1985. Best of luck against Trim this weekend.

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