

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER
9th January 2022

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 9th January 2022.

Parish Church	Sunday 9 th Mass	10.00 hours
	Sunday 9 th Mass	11.30 hours
	Monday 10 th Mass	09.20 hours
	Monday 10 th Adoration	15.00-17-00 hours
	Wednesday 12 th Mass	09.20 hours
	Friday 14 th Mass	19.00 hours
	Saturday 15 th Vigil Mass	18.00 hours

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

Deaths and anniversaries: Seamus Cullen, Dangan Terrace, **and James Meyler**, Grennan, who died in the past week; **Patrick & Frances Lannon**, Station Road (6pm Mass); **Tess Donnelly**, Danesrath (10am Mass); **Dan Shanahan**, Month's Mind (11.30am Mass); **Mary Dunne**, Cherrymount (11.30am Mass); **Noel Dempsey**, Baunskeha (11.30am Mass); **Eileen O'Neill**, Dangan Tce; **Michael Walsh**, Friarshill; **Mary & Eddie Fenlon**; **Andrew Hoban**, Baunskeha; **Sandra Brett**, Cloghabrody. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses next weekend: Kitty Begley, (6pm Mass); **Noreen Walsh**, Dangan and **deceased members of the Walsh Family** (6pm Mass); **Walter Walsh**, Grennan House (6pm Mass); **Billy Walsh Bennettsbridge & Niall Walsh** (11.30am Mass).

We appreciate that **COVID-19** hasn't gone away and is particularly active with the Omicron strain. We will all need to take steps individually and collectively in our everyday lives to keep this risk under control, 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 word of thanks to colleagues Frs. Tom Norris, Richard Scriven, Frank Purcell, and Liam Cassin who willingly took care of Masses over the last ten days while Fr. Dan was out of circulation.

'The easiest thing to be in the world is you. The most difficult is to be what others want you to be. Don't let anyone put you in that position.' (Leo Buscaglia)

First Communion / Confirmation in Thomastown in 2022: As for 2020 and 2021, it is difficult to plan for anything. However, we propose that First Communions will be held in this parish Saturday May 14th, and Confirmation will be held on June 17th.

Other Dates for 2022: Ash Wednesday is on 2nd March, and Easter Sunday 17th April. Ascension will be celebrated on 29th May, and Pentecost on 5th June. The August Bank Holiday falls on 1st August, so the Cemetery Mass will be held Friday 29th July. Due to Covid we have had to cancel it for the past two years, so please God we will hold it this year.

Anam Cara Waterford is launching a monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Tuesday 11th January at 7:20pm in the Woodlands Hotel, Waterford. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. Please contact us on info@anamcara.ie or 085 2888 888 for any queries.

Synod 2021 – 2023 is going to be one of the most heralded events this year. While the Irish Bishops have requested that the Irish Church embark on a 'Synodal Journey' over the next few years, Pope Francis has requested a worldwide Synod, with the theme 'Towards a Synodal Church'. The Synod, and Synodal Way, is to establish a new style, a new approach, a new way of being Church. He wishes for us to rediscover the sense of the Church as 'The People of God', leading to a growth of 'communion, participation and mission'. For that reason, he has called for every parish in the world (!) to be engaged in this conversation. That includes Thomastown. When the findings from each parish are filtered through to Rome this year, next year will involve further consultations, leading to a Gathering in Rome in 2023. Hopefully the consultations in this Diocese will occur during Lent. In the meantime, keep an eye and ear and heart open to further developments. Have a look at the logo below. What does it say to you?

