

## THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

27<sup>th</sup> February 2022

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### CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

<b>Parish Church</b>	Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> Mass	10.00 hours
	Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> Mass	11.30 hours
	Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> Baptism	12.30 hours
	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> Mass	09.20 hours
	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> Adoration	15.00-17.00 hours
	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March Ash Wednesday Mass	<b>09.20 and 19.00 hours</b>
	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> Mass	09.20 hours
	Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> Vigil Mass	18.00 hours

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

**Deaths and anniversaries:** **Billy Woods**, Cloghabrody (6pm mass); **Mag & Jamie Minogue**, Ballydonnell (6pm Mass); **Catherine O’Byrne**, Jerpoint West (6pm Mass); **Patrick & Bridget Dunphy & family** 24 Newtown Tce (6pm Mass); **Nellie Delaney**, Pipe St ((10am Mass); **Toddy Kelly**, Kilfane East (10am Mass); **Joe O’Hara**, Kiljames (11.30am Mass); **Albert Townsend**, Friarhill; **Paddy O’Reilly**, Newtown; **Teresa Maher**, Ladywell; **Elizabeth Flynn**, Westmeath; **Mary Roche**, Logan St; **Margaret Fennelly**, Boher; **Michael Dempsey**, Newtown Tce; **Chrissie Fields**, Newtown Tce & Prosperous: May they and all our dead rest in peace.

**Anniversary Masses next weekend: Roly Collier & his mother Alice Collier**, Friarhill (6pm Mass).

**Thomastown Parish Pastoral Council** will meet on Tuesday 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.

Join in prayer for **Men’s Rosary** on Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 1.00 p.m. at the statue of Our Lady, James’s Green, Kilkenny. ‘Men’s Rosary’ is a movement which is growing, where men gather on the First Saturday of the Month and pray the Rosary, as a sign of witness, and as an act of repentance. Further information contact Ron at 086 6696632 or Paul at 087 3650492.

**Exploring Priesthood – Zoom with Seminarians and Priests:** On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March @ 8pm there will be an opportunity for young men to join in a Zoom meeting to find out more about priesthood and to hear directly from two young men who are currently studying for the priesthood in our National Seminary in Maynooth. The event is being run by the National Vocations Office. Further information and registration details can be obtained by emailing [info@vocations.ie](mailto:info@vocations.ie) alternatively by visiting [vocations.ie/zoom](http://vocations.ie/zoom)

**Thomastown Parish Senior Citizens Association** are organising a St. Patrick's Day celebration on 17th March, 2022 in the Concert Hall. Dinner at 1 p.m. followed by Music and Dancing. Lots of prizes. to be won. To book your place call to the Senior Citizens shop Thursday or Friday between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

**Lent** begins on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March. This time, until the celebration of the Easter Triduum, beginning this year on 13<sup>th</sup> April, is a time of great preparation for adults preparing for Baptism. It is a time for the rest of us to renew our faith, in solidarity with the new members. It is also a time when each of us, as part of that renewal, exercise some form of discipline in our lives, so that we can more readily say ‘yes’ to the call of the Gospel. We think of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

**Ashes** will be distributed at the two Masses on Ash Wednesday. On this day we are asked to show moderation in our food and drink, and the custom has been to abstain from meat.

**Ukraine is in crisis.** Pope Francis requests of all of us that Ash Wednesday – next Wednesday – be a day of prayer for peace in the region, a prayer supported by our fast and abstinence.

**Trocaire** begins its Lenten campaign with Ash Wednesday. Please take a Trocaire package, read the material. This year Trocaire focuses on Zimbabwe. Read about Thandekile and her family. As we live in a land of plenty do seriously consider supporting the campaign.

The **Sacrament of Forgiveness** and Reconciliation will be available each Saturday after the 6pm Mass.

Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ, chair of the Bishops’ Council for Justice and Peace, has published the following statement asking for **prayers for the people of Ukraine**: “We keep the people of Ukraine in our prayers at this time. We also hold in prayer all leaders who have a duty to return to the table of peacebuilding in this time of great anxiety and challenge for all of Europe and particularly the peoples of the countries involved. “This is the first invasion in Europe since 1945. Indeed, until a few weeks ago it seemed unthinkable that any country would be invaded by another. It makes us realise how much we take peace for granted.”

Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> March, is the feast of **Saint Kieran**, the first Bishop and patron of our Diocese of Ossory. Fr. Dan’s memory goes back to Bishop Collier. He became Bishop of Ossory in 1928. Upon his death Bishop Peter Birch became Bishop of the Diocese, having been coadjutor for a short time. He died suddenly in 1981, and was succeeded by Bishop Laurence Forristal, who at the time was an auxiliary Bishop in Dublin. In 2007 he was succeeded by Bishop Seamus Freeman, who resigned for health reasons in 2016. Bishop Dermot Farrell came to us in 2018, until he was transferred to Dublin as it’s Archbishop December 2020. We await the appointment of a new Bishop, soon, please God. Meanwhile, Bishop Denis Nulty is our Apostolic Administrator. Ask the Lord to send us a shepherd of the flock of Ossory, someone after his own heart.