

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

24th April 2022

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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 24th April

Parish Church	Sunday 24 th Mass	10.00 hours
	Sunday 24 th Mass	11.30 hours
	Monday 25 th Mass	09.20 hours
	Monday Adoration	15.00-17.00 hours
	Wednesday 27 th Mass	09.20 hours
	Friday 29 th Mass	09.20 hours
	Friday 29 th Wedding	15.00 hours
	Saturday Vigil Mass	18.00 hours

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

Chapel Hill Thursday 28th Mass 19.00 hours

Deaths and anniversaries: Mary Hayes Gibbons, Baunskeha and Kathleen Grace Newtown Tce recently deceased; Patsy Bolger (6pm Mass); Margaret O'Carroll, Jerpoint Church (6pm Mass); David O'Neill, Kilkenny & Castle Ave (11.30am Mass); Billy Stapleton, Ladywell (11.30am Mass); John Dalton, Dangan Tce (11.30am Mass); Edward Holohan, Oldtown (11.30am Mass); Deceased Members of Thomastown Senior Citizens Association (11.30am Mass); Hannah Cotterell, Brownsbarn; John Dempsey, Chapel Hill; Angela O'Reilly, Kilkenny Road: May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversaries next weekend: Matthew Lawlor, Maudlin St (6pm Mass); Jim Kearney, Oldtown (10am Mass).

St. Vincent de Paul Collection takes place next weekend.

Thomastown Parish Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday at 7.30pm.

Foreign coins, and sometimes notes, turn up on our **collection** plates, and we all have them from our visits to the US or UK or other places where they don't use the Euro. We will place a special box in Church again next weekend in case you have them at home and forgot to bring them to Church. We will get them to Unicef, where they will welcome them for Ukraine.

St Luke's Hospital will be holding it's the **annual remembrance ceremony for families who have been bereaved by the death of their child through miscarriage, still-birth, in early infancy or childhood years**. This ceremony will take place on Tuesday, April 26th in St Fiacre's Church, Loughboy, Kilkenny at 7.30pm. While we issue a special invitation to families who have been bereaved during the past year, this ceremony is for all families who have been bereaved, regardless of how long ago. Refreshments will be available for everyone after the ceremony in the parish centre adjacent to St Fiacre's Church.

Trocaire: Don't forget to return your contributions to Trocaire asap, please. Bring them to Mass, outside Mass put them into the letter box at the Sacristy, leave them to the Parish Office, or send them directly to Trocaire.

Schools re-open after the Easter break. This is like the last lap of a race. Having started well in September, and continued after Christmas, we wish the girls and boys, and the staff of our schools, all the very best for the next few weeks. Girls and boys in second class will receive First Communion on Saturday 14th May. The girls and boys who will come forward for Confirmation will receive the Sacrament on Friday 17th June. By then many of the older scholars will be doing the Junior Cert and Leaving Cert exams. During May our young people in third level education will be doing tests also. So, the next few weeks will be important times for all in education. We wish you all the best and hope you will have all the support you need.

Inistioge will host a **'Darkness into Light'** walk on Saturday May 7th, 2022. Each year the walk provides an opportunity for people to connect with their local community and to bring hope to people who have been impacted by suicide. In 2022, we are delighted to be welcoming back our in-person walk to Inistioge. Please join us. Register at darknessintolight.ie.

A Spirituality of our Times: Sisters of St. John of God. This Conference will be on 14th May 2022. Venue: St. Patricks Parish Centre, Loughboy, Kilkenny. The speaker is Jane Mellett. Times: 10.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m. Costing €10 (bring your own lunch, tea/coffee provided) pay on the door. Booking essential: Contact Sara or Catherina @ 056 7722870 9.00 am – 5.00 pm or e-mail sara.bulfin@ssjg.ie before May 6th.

Affordable Live-in Homecare provides live-in carers for the elderly in your area. If you are looking for a live-in carer for your relative, please call Eileen or Tom today on 087 991 6791 or 087 744 0729. Our website is www.alhomecare.ie

Rosary at the Grottos The Rosary will be prayed each day during the month of May at hundreds of grottos around the Island of Ireland. To see a list of locations, or to register a grotto (or other suitable location) simply visit www.coastalrosaryireland.ie You can also register by texting 087 278 6552. We are praying for Ireland and for peace in the world.

The natural thing to do when we feel anxious or threatened is to hunker down and lock the doors, to become focused on our own security rather than the risky mission to which we are called. The promise of this text is that Jesus cannot be stopped by our locked doors. Jesus comes to us as he came to the first disciples, right during our fear, pain, doubt and confusion. He comes speaking peace, breathing into our anxious lives the breath of the Holy Spirit. What is more, He keeps showing up. As he came back a week later for Thomas, Jesus keeps coming back week after week among His gathered disciples – in the word, the water, the bread and the wine – not wanting any to miss out on the life and peace He gives. And He keeps sending us out of our safe, locked rooms into a world that, like us, so desperately needs His gifts of life and peace. Elizabeth Johnson