

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

17th July 2022

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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 17th

Parish Church	Sunday 17 th Mass	10.00 hours
	Monday 18 th Mass	09.20 hours
	Monday Adoration	15.00-17.00 hours
	Wednesday 20 th Mass	09.20 hours
	Friday 22 nd Mass	09.20 hours
	Saturday Vigil Mass	18.00 hours

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available after Saturday evening Mass or any other time on request.

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

Mong Thursday 21st Mass 19.30 hours

Deaths and anniversaries: Linda Doyle, Berkley Lawns Month's Mind (6pm Mass); Vanessa McGarry (6pm Mass); Catherine Walsh, Newtown (10am Mass); Ann Donnelly, Jerpoint Church; Maria Hoban, Baunskaha; Joseph Challoner, Cloghabrody; James, Mary & deceased Members of the Cassin Family, Coolroemore. May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses next weekend:

Our **Cemetery Mass** at St. Mary's Cemetery will be held on Friday 29th July at 8pm. Meanwhile the gates into the Cemetery are repaired in time for the Mass. New paths are being laid down.

St. Vincent de Paul Society Collection takes place this weekend. Your support is greatly appreciated. The contact number for the Society is 086 266 4669.

This is the schedule of weekend Masses in our neighbouring Parishes:

Inistioge: 7.30pm Saturday in The Rower, 9.30am in Clodiagh and 11am in Inistioge.
Tullaherin: 8pm Saturday in Tullaherin and 10.30am in Bennettsbridge.
Graignamanagh: 7.30pm Saturday and 11am; Skeaghvasteen at 9.30am.
Ballyhale: 7.30pm Saturday in Ballyhale, 9am in Knockmoylan, 11am in Knocktopher.
Aghavillar: 6.30pm Saturday in Stoneyford, 8pm Saturday and 10am in Hugginstown

All-Ireland Sunday comes about once more, with Kilkenny hoping for victory over a very impressive Limerick team. If you're travelling, take care. **Up the Cats!**

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society will hold Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Mercy Chapel on Thursday 21st for vocations to Priesthood and religious life from 6.30pm ending with rosary at 7.30pm.

Our **Pilgrimage to Our Lady's Island** takes place on Sunday 24th July led by Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan. Bus leaving Quay car park at 12.00 noon. To book contact Marian on 086-0693510.

Moving On Programme For Mothers: St. Catherine's Community Services Centre, Carlow. Achieve an Employment Skills Level 4 Major Award. Places available on our 1 year programme starting in September 2022. Limited free childcare spaces available. Contact: 059 9138700 / 0851628570. Email: tonyd@catherines.ie Web: www.catherines.ie

Please remember Diocese of Ossory Priests in your Will : The Ossory Priests Society is a registered charity within the Diocese of Ossory structure. It is responsible for supporting Priests in their retirement and ensuring that the Priests of the Diocese are adequately provided for in relation to illness and healthcare costs.

A gift/bequest is a wonderful way to express your gratitude to the Priests of the Diocese for their lifetime of service. The gift you give to the Ossory Priests Society will establish a legacy of love and thanks to the Priests.

If you have any questions or wish to consider a gift/bequest, your solicitor can advise you, or alternatively you can phone Declan McCann, Chairman, Ossory Priests Society at 086/7722201.

Sunday 24th July, next Sunday, is designated as **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly**. Pope Francis expresses beautiful sentiments for the occasion. Perhaps he looks at the elderly from the vantage point of an 85-year-old. See what you think, whatever your age. What bells does it ring for you?

"In old age they will still bear fruit" (Ps 92:15). These words of the Psalmist are glad tidings, a true "gospel" that we can proclaim to all on this second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. They run counter to what the world thinks about this stage of life, but also to the attitude of grim resignation shown by some of us elderly people, who harbour few expectations for the future.

Retirement and grown children make many of the things that used to occupy our time and energy no longer so pressing. The recognition that our strength is ebbing or the onset of sickness can undermine our certainties. The fast pace of the world – with which we struggle to keep up – seems to leave us no alternative but to implicitly accept the idea that we are useless. We can resonate with the heartfelt prayer of the Psalmist: "Do not cast me off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength is spent" (71:9).

We grandparents and elderly people have a great responsibility: to teach the women and men of our time to regard others with the same understanding and loving gaze with which we regard our own grandchildren. We ourselves have grown in humanity by caring for others, and now we can be teachers of a way of life that is peaceful and attentive to those in greatest need. This attitude may be mistaken for weakness or resignation, yet it will be the meek, not the aggressive and the abusive, who will inherit the earth (cf. Mt 5:5).