

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

31st July 2022

Parish Priest: Fr. Dan Bolland 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 and Friday 10 - 1pm Email: thomastown@ossory.ie Facebook: Thomastown Parish
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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 31st

Parish Church	Sunday 31 st Mass	10.00 hours
	Monday 1 st Mass	10.00 hours
	Wednesday 3 rd Mass	09.20 hours
	Friday 5 th Eucharistic Service	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.

Deaths and anniversaries: **Peter Meegan**, Cloghabrody 1st Anniversary (6pm Mass); **Anne Cassin**, Boher (6pm Mass); **Anne O'Hanrahan**, The Quay & Kiljames; **Alice Bolger**, Norelands; **Peggy Dack**, Castle Ave; **Mary Grace**, Grennan; **Edward O'Reilly**, Powerswood: May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversaries next weekend: **Mary Pelcot (nee Challoner)** Month's Mind (10am Mass); **Catherine Burke**, Castle Ave (10am Mass); **Paul Stapleton**, Legan (10am Mass).

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.

It is not the amount of money we have but our capacity for enjoyment that makes us rich. To seek wealth while having no capacity for enjoyment is to be like a blind person who collects videos. We can become possessed by things. Many are so busy adding to their possessions that they have no time to enjoy life. Money and power can imprison and inhibit just as effectively as barred windows and iron chains. 'Set a bird's wings with gold and it will never fly.' (Tagore)

Earthly things can never satisfy the human heart. Only God can give us the kind of happiness our hearts long for. St. Paul says, 'Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth.' And Jesus urges us not to store up treasures on earth but to make ourselves rich in the sight of God. What makes us rich in the sight of God is not what we own, or even what we've done, but what we are.
Flor McCarthy

Covid isn't the only reason why this is a strange time. The All-Ireland Championship is over for 2022, and August hasn't arrived yet. However, two events unfold still. The **Intermediate hurling league** beckons this weekend, with Thomastown v Dunamaggin on Saturday evening. Next weekend the **All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship 2022** comes to a highpoint with Kilkenny v Cork. This is Kilkenny's fourth All-Ireland in five years. The best of luck to all concerned. Enjoy.

Safeguarding Concerns If you have a child safeguarding concern or wish to raise a matter from the past you may contact any of the following:
Diocesan Designated Persons
Ms. Kathleen Sherry 085 8021633
safeguarding@ossory.ie
Mr. Cathal Cullen 087 100 0232 or
Ms. Rose Brophy 087 331 4330
Garda National Protective Services

01 6663430/35. Civil Authorities: Tusla Child & Family Agency Carlow/Kilkenny area 052 617 7302 Safeguarding Reps. for this Parish are:

Brigid Cassin Begley and Nellie Doherty. Contact them through the Parish Office.

This week we call to mind the life of **St. John Vianney**. St. John was born in France in 1786 at the height of the Anticlerical "Reign of Terror". At a time when religion was being rejected by much of the public, St. John saw them as heroes. St. John received his Communion and Confirmation in secret. His education suffered as a result of the French Revolution, and he struggled with Latin in particular. In 1809, John was drafted into the armies of Napoleon Bonaparte as Napoleon had withdrawn the exemption of Ecclesiastical students to avoid service. He soon left the army. In 1815, John Vianney was ordained as a priest and quickly became Parish Priest. He was concerned with the lack of attention lay people paid to the Church because of the revolution, with many drinking and dancing and working on Sundays. He spent 11 to 12 hours daily helping people connect with God. Eventually, up to 20,000 pilgrims would travel to meet him. St. John Vianney is remembered as a champion of the poor. We can all draw inspiration from the devotion of St. John Vianney. His relentless drive to connect with God, at a time when it would threaten his life, is truly awe inspiring. St. John Vianney would often say: "Private prayer is like straw scattered here and there: If you set it on fire, it makes a lot of little flames. But gather these straws into a bundle and light them, and you get a mighty fire, rising like a column into the sky; public prayer is like that."

Counselling Services

Towards Healing Confidential Helpline

1800 313 316

www.towardshealing.ie

Towards Peace Spiritual Support Service

01 505 3028

www.towardspeace.ie