

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

28th August 2022

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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 28th

Parish Church	Sunday 28 th Mass	10.00 hours
	Monday 29 th Mass	09.20 hours
	Monday Adoration	15.00-17.00 hours
	Wednesday 31 st Mass	09.20 hours
	Friday 02 nd Mass	09.20 hours
	Saturday 03 rd Baptism	16.00 hours
	Saturday Vigil Mass	18.00 hours
Mong	Thursday 1 st September Mass	19.00 hours

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

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

One of the joys of the Summer is having people come together on Sundays for Mass at 10am. Fr. Dan did say that we would do it for July and August. However, as the two Masses were to facilitate smaller congregations because of Covid, hopefully Covid is managed now, so we will continue with one Mass on Sundays, at 10.30am, beginning next weekend.

Deaths and anniversaries: Michael & Joan Kavanagh, Jerpoint Church (6pm Mass); **Elizabeth (Betty) Kiely**, Ballydonnell (6pm Mass); **Bill & Catherine O'Reilly**, Newtown (6pm Mass); **Catherine Minogue**, Jerpoint West (10am Mass); **Michael & Frances O'Shea**, Low St (Friday 9.20am Mass): May they and all our dead rest in peace.

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.

Camphill Open Day: We are holding a fundraising open day here at Camphill Jerpoint (Eircode R95 YY88) on Sunday 4th September from 12pm to 3pm. We will be having a mini market – face painting – bbq - raffle - art exhibition. All are welcome.

Study Theology Online, is this for you? The Priory Institute provides online Theology courses to degree level. Attend Saturday lectures in Tallaght or from the comfort of your own home. Register before September 13. Find out more on our website, prioryinstitute.com or to see a 2 minute introductory film.

'Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it is thinking of yourself less.' C.S. Lewis

1st September is the **World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation**. This offers to you and I and to the community a precious opportunity to renew our personal participation in this vocation as custodians of creation, raising to God our thanks for the marvellous works that He has entrusted to our care, invoking his help for the protection of creation and his mercy for the sins committed against the world in which we live. Let's be mindful of Creation this month.

Statement from Bishop Nulty on the death of Bishop Seamus Freeman:
Just after lunch today (Saturday, 20 August 2022) I received the call informing me that Bishop Seamus Freeman SAC, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Ossory, had died peacefully in the company of his family at Highfield Healthcare, Dublin. On hearing the news, I thought of the words that Bishop Freeman offered as he retired as Bishop of Ossory on the grounds of ill health in July 2016, when he spoke of the great privilege it had been to have served the people of the Diocese of Ossory. His only regret was that he was unable to stay as shepherd of the Diocese for longer. Bishop Freeman served the Church faithfully for many years including in his worldwide leadership of the Pallottine Order, as a parish priest in Rome and here in Ireland as Bishop of Ossory. His deep care for each person he encountered, his interest in the areas of pastoral renewal and faith formation were to the fore throughout his ministry. During his time here in Ossory he facilitated the realisation of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan and placed a great emphasis on the role of lay people responding to their baptismal call. He worked tirelessly for the restoration of our beautiful Cathedral Chapter House and surrounding campus. This work, which continues, has served to enhance the faith life of the Diocese, and remains as a fitting piece of the legacy that he leaves behind. All of us will remember Bishop Freeman as a kind and gentle pastor as we hold his family, friends, his Pallottine brothers and the priests of Ossory in our prayers in the days to come. May he rest now in the peace of the Lord.

As the summer draws to a close our children are preparing to return to school. Whether that is Primary, Secondary or Third level, we wish them, and the Staffs of all our educational institutions every blessing for the year ahead.

Let's all offer a prayer for them at this time:

Blessed are you, Lord God, Creator of body and mind and heart; you have sent the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge to guide your people in all their ways. At the beginning of this new school year, we implore your mercy: bless the students, teachers, and staff that together they may grow in faith, hope, and love as they learn from you and each other how to follow your Son Jesus. Expand the horizons of their minds, that they may grow in wisdom, understanding, and knowledge; deepen their commitment to seek the truth of your ways; and enliven their faith to reach out to those in need. Glory and praise to you, Lord God, in the Church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever. Amen.

Humility is being at ease in our own skin, being content and joyful with what the Lord has given. Our worth is God-given, something to be discovered rather than earned. Because it is a gift of God, nobody can take it away from us. Others can acknowledge it, confirm it, celebrate it, but they can't diminish it unless we allow them.