

## THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

18<sup>th</sup> December 2022

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### CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>

<b>Parish Church</b>	Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> Mass	10.30 hours
	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> Mass	09.20 hours
	Monday Adoration	14.00-16.00 hours
	Tuesday Carols	19.00 hours
	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> Mass	09.20 hours
	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Mass	09.20 hours
	Saturday Christmas Eve Vigil Masses	17.00 and 20.00 hours
	Sunday Christmas Day Masses	09.00 and 11.00 hours
	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> Mass	10.30 hours
	Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> Mass	10.30 hours
	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Mass	13.00 hours
	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> Mass	10.30 hours
	Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> Mass	18.00 hours
	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> January Mass	10.30 hours
	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mass	10.30 hours
	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> Mass	10.30 hours
	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> Vigil Mass for Epiphany	19.00 hours
	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> Epiphany Mass	10.30 hours
	Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> Vigil Mass	18.00 hours
<b>Mong</b>	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> Mass	19.00 hours

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

Masses celebrated at the Parish Church are available on webcam and 108fm.

**Deaths and anniversaries: Kathleen Cahill, Smithstown and Frank Byrne, Dublin & Ballinamona interred during the week; Tom Dack, Cloghabrody Month's Mind (10.30am Mass); Julia O'Keeffe, Cloghabrody (6pm Mass); Maggie Morrissey, Clossgregg (6pm Mass); May Delaney, Pipe St (10.30am Mass); Dan Shanahan, Nore View Crescent (10.30am Mass); Patrick Doyle, Kilfane; Seán Doyle, Michael Doyle & Family, Columcille; Michael & Margaret Madigan, Friarshill; Mary & Larry Costelloe, Knockanroe; Christian Friel, 55 Cloghabrody Heights; Mary Kelly, 42 Newtown Tce; Geraldine Cullinane, Clonakilly; Kathleen Holden, Knockbrack; Mary & Tommy O'Brien, Friarshill; Nora & Jackie Dunphy, Dangan Tce; John Challoner, Bray & Newtown Tce; Lenny & May Fennelly, Nore View Crescent; John & Lucy Fennelly, Knock & Boher;**

**Canice & Mary Fennelly, London & Boher; Jimmy, Betty & Seamus Byrne, 32 Dangan Tce; Ellen & Richard Moran, Bennettsbridge; Margaret Bookle, Bawnskeha;** May they and all our dead rest in peace.

**Anniversary Masses next weekend: Jacqui Doyle, Carrickmourne (11am Mass Dec 25<sup>th</sup>; Teresa Lee, Newtown Tce; John Maher, Ladywell (10.30am Mass Dec 26<sup>th</sup>); Trevor & Gerry Minogue, 15 Newtown Tce & Bridie Minogue, Cloghabrody & Christine Bergin, Waterford (6pm Mass Dec 31<sup>st</sup>); Matthew & Michael Kearney, Ballydonnell (6pm Mass Dec 31<sup>st</sup>) John Butler, Pleberstown.**

**Community Centre:** Don't be alone this Christmas Day. Now in its 6<sup>th</sup> year, Thomastown Community Centre will be serving **Christmas Dinner** with all the trimmings at 12.30pm. It is mainly for people living alone in the locality who would like to share in the festivities on this special Day. It is very important to let us know if you will be attending. All donations welcome. Contact Seamus at 087-7728170

**Carol Service:** Join us on Tuesday at 7pm for Carols at the Parish Church. All are very welcome. There's nothing like Carols to awaken in us something of the spirit of Christmas. On the occasion we will hold a Collection for the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Mass on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> will be offered for **our Civil War Dead**. We recall John Phelan and John Murphy, executed on 29<sup>th</sup> December 1922 in Kilkenny and buried in the Belfry Cemetery, and Patrick Francis Carney. He was a Revenue Commissioner who worked for a time in Thomastown, married local woman Constance Grace and died on 27<sup>th</sup> February after injuries when the Customs and Excise office in Beresford Place was burned on 21<sup>st</sup> February. He was buried in the Belfry Cemetery also, with his wife's people.

**The Parish Office** will shut from Tuesday afternoon 20<sup>th</sup> December for the Christmas holiday and will re-open on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January. Please leave any messages in the Office letterbox or send an email. Contact Fr. Dan on 087 6644858 when urgent. Our next Newsletter will be on 7th/8<sup>th</sup> January.

**Handel's Messiah** has been described as "a commentary on Jesus Christ's Nativity, Passion, Resurrection and Ascension" (Lockett) beginning with God's promises as spoken by the prophets and ending with Christ's glorification in heaven. It was first performed in Dublin on 13<sup>th</sup> April 1742. We hope that all who come to Thomastown this weekend will enjoy the event.

Children - but adults too! – often love to add to the nativity scene other figures that have no apparent connection with the Gospel accounts. Yet, each in its own way, these fanciful additions show that in the new world inaugurated by Jesus there is room for whatever is truly human and for all God's creatures. From the shepherd to the blacksmith, from the baker to the musicians, from the women carrying jugs of water to the children at play: all this speaks of the everyday holiness, the joy of doing ordinary things in an extraordinary way, born whenever Jesus shares His divine life with us. Pope Francis.

*Happy Christmas!! Nollaig shona dhaoibh!! Christmas Ashamsakal! Joyeux Noël!  
Frohe Weihnachten! Feliz Navidad! Buon Natale! Feliz  
Natal! Vrolijk kerstfeest! Wesolych Swiqt Bozego Narodzenia!*