

St. Colmcille Pastoral Area
comprising Thomstown and Inistioge
THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER
26th February 2023

Parish Priest: Fr. Dan Bollard 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, Thursday, Friday 10 - 1pm Email: thomastown@ossory.ie Facebook: Thomastown Parish
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THOMASTOWN CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 5th

Parish Church	Sunday 26 th Mass	10.30 am
	Monday 27 th Eucharistic Service	09.20 am
	Wednesday 1 st Eucharistic Service	09.20 am
	Wednesday Adoration	10-11 am
	Friday 3 rd Eucharistic Service	09.20 am
	Saturday Vigil Mass	06.00 pm.

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.

Parish of Inistioge

Fr. Francis Purcell is the Parish Priest of Inistioge.

WEEKEND MASSES Vigil: The Rower 7.30 p.m.

Sunday: Clodiagh 9.30 a.m.; Inistioge 11.00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES (weekday Masses may occasionally change due to circumstances)

The Rower: Tuesday & Thursday 9.30 a.m. Inistioge: Wed & Friday 9.30 a.m.

Weekday Masses may be altered due to circumstances.

Deaths and anniversaries: Bridget & Patrick Dunphy & Family, 24 Newtown Tce & England (6pm Mass); **Jim & Rita Caulfield**, Monteen (6pm Mass); **Billy Woods**, Cloghabrody (6pm Mass); **Catherine O'Byrne**, Jerpoint West (6pm Mass); **Margaret & Jamie Minogue**, Ballydonnell (6pm Mass); **William Savage**, Friarhill (10.30am Mass); **Joe O'Hara**, Kiljames (10.30am Mass); **Padraig Kirwan**, Jerpoint Church (10.30am Mass); **Toddy Kelly**, Kilfane East; **Gregory Hoban**, Clossgregg; **Margaret Fennelly**, Boher; **Michael Dempsey**, Newtown Tce: May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses next weekend: Rory Collier & Alice Collier, Friarhill (6pm Mass).

Penance is an exercise in saying 'no' to ourselves. It is intended to show that we are capable of better things and that we sincerely want those things. We want to reform our lives but we know we cannot do so without the grace of God. Its purpose is to acquaint us with our better side – 'I'm not a bad person: I can do better.' It means taking a step in the right direction.

Flor McCarthy

The First Friday of March: 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 Holy Communion at home, please contact the Office on Tuesday - 7793191.

Syria / Turkey Earthquake Relief: thank you for the very generous response to the request for a collection at last weekend Masses. You contributed €4,170. 00

St Mary's Cathedral Chapter House Bookshop is now open Monday to Friday 9:30am to 5pm and has a large selection of Confirmation and Holy Communion Gifts, Prayer and Mass Books, also Rosaries, Crosses and Confirmation and Communion Cards.

Ossory Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023: Dates 23 -28 May 2023.

Accommodation will be in the Hotel Agena- €879 per person sharing, and in Hotel Solitude / Padoue - €899 per person sharing

Return bus journey to/from Dublin airport from Loughboy shopping centre car park
Contact niamh@jwtravel.ie or 01-6852244 www.joewalstours.ie

St. Patrick's Day Celebrations in the Community Centre on 17th March at 1 p.m.: Dinner followed by Ceoil, Caint agus Rince – Lots of spot prizes. Please leave your name into the Senior Citizens Shop, Community Centre, Thursday or Friday 10 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.

Resources for Lent are available on the Ossory website. Download them at www.ossory.ie for use at home. Follow **@OssoryDiocese** for a simple thought each day during Lent.

Online Lenten Retreat. The Priory Institute is delighted to offer a FREE OF CHARGE online retreat 'Reflecting on the Sunday Gospels of Lent as Stepping Stones on our Journey to Easter'. Visit our website prioryinstitute.com or click on this link <https://bit.ly/3DWrTkx> to register/find out more.

"In the natural world, nothing is more dead than ash, a substance produced by the perishing of other substances. Job, the upright and blameless man, sat among the ashes when he lost his sons and daughters, his health and dignity. On Ash Wednesday, we are signed with ashes. We are reminded that 'you are dust, and to dust you shall return'. Also, we are signed with ashes as a sign of a 'battle', as a sign of our commitment to fight. In communion with Christ, to whose Passion and Rising we look forward, we set out to fight death and all that is of death. This may seem an outrageous claim, and yet it is the heart of our Christian call, duty and privilege. The death we focus on these days is the spiritual death we inflict on ourselves when we snuff out the divine light of grace by compromises with darkness. We confess and ask forgiveness for our half-heartedness, for our betrayals small and great. Together, as a people, we own our tendency to follow the paths of self-destruction and empty promises. The ashes make a bond among us. They make it easier for us to help each other choose the right way, to offer a word of support, an arm to lean on, when we see each other falter". Bishop Erik Varden OCSO is Bishop of Trondheim in Norway.