

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

12th March 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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CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 12th

Parish Church	Sunday 12 th Mass	10.30 am
	Monday 13 th Mass	09.20 am
	Wednesday 15 th Mass	09.20 am
	Wednesday Adoration	10-11 am
	Thursday 16 th Wedding	1.00pm
	Thursday 16 th Vigil of St. Patrick's Day Mass	7.00pm
	Friday 17 th St. Patrick's Day Mass	10.30am
	Saturday 18 th Wedding	1.00pm
	Saturday Vigil Mass	6.00pm.

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: Seamus Minogue recently deceased; **Jimmy O'Farrell**, The Rectory, Month's Mind (6pm Mass); **Tony Kehoe**, Edinburgh (6pm Mass); **Toddy Cassin**, Boher (6pm Mass); **Ned Nevin**, Dangan Tce (6pm Mass); **Stephanie Behan**, Cloghabrody, Month's Mind (10.30am Mass); **Kit Behan & May Behan**, Cloghabrody (10.30am Mass); **Rose Morrissey**, Station Road (10.30am Mass); **Bridget Ryan**, Stoneford; **John O'Rourke**, Kilkenny Road; **Michael O'Reilly**, Bridge Brook Arms; **T.J. McCarron**, Redhills, Co. Cavan; **Fr. Peter Orr**, Edinburgh; **Paddy Doyle**, Colmille & Noreview Crescent; **Mary & Paddy Greene**, Pleberstown : May they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses next weekend: Jack Cahill, Smithstown & daughter **Ann Grey** (6pm Mass); **Gobnait Murphy**, Kilkenny (6pm Mass).

The ÉIGSE Players from Slieverue will perform the comedy '**Widows Paradise**' in the Concert Hall, Thomastown on Saturday 18th @8pm. Admission €12 on the door.

Thomastown Parish Finance Committee will meet on Monday at 7.30pm.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society will hold their monthly Church door collection next weekend. To contact the Society call 086-2664669.

Please note the **Parish Office** will be closed on Friday 17th: St. Patrick's Day.

St Michael's Prayer Group for Thomastown/Inistioge meets every Tuesday night from 8.00 pm until 9.30 in the Mercy Chapel (side chapel, Thomastown Parish Church), starting with the Rosary followed by prayers of thanksgiving and intercession. All are welcome. Please bring a friend.

School of Prayer: Scripture tells us to pray constantly, and Jesus gives us a template for prayer in the Our Father. However, we may put all our eggs in one basket, and fail to appreciate that there are many ways of prayer – as there are ways of communication with a loved one. In the presence of a loved one we discover our own riches and can live with ourselves. Sister Sally Hyland is a John of God Sister who is very experienced in guiding people in prayer. For the next three Tuesdays, 14th, 21st and 28th March, she will work with the girls and boys in 6th class in the National School on Tuesday afternoons and introduce Mindfulness Meditation at the Community Centre at 7.30pm.

Bréag Scrúduithe don bhéaltriall- **Irish Oral Exam Practice Session** Fantastic opportunity for Leaving Cert students to practise for their upcoming Irish Oral Exam with experienced múinteoirí. Tobar na Gaeilge will be running their annual practice session in Johnswell Community Hall on Saturday March 25th. Each Session lasts one hour. Students will receive 3 Irish Oral Exams with comprehensive feedback. First Session Beginning at 9am. Tuilleadh Eolais/For more information contact: tobarnagaeilge@yahoo.com / 0876673302 (Maria)

What can we learn from St Patrick today?

- To entrust ourselves, our Church, our country to God's protective care.
- To have full confidence in the Lord's healing presence and power.
- To give thanks for God's special care and call to each of us, knowing that God took the initiative in our vocation and will sustain us day by day.
- To be devoted to reading the Gospels so that we take on the mind and heart of Christ Jesus and make decisions according to the mind of Christ.
- To be receptive to God's will in all our trials, to trust him unreservedly. God uses these trials to shape our hearts and conform us to Christ Jesus.
- To be alert to all the opportunities we are given each day to proclaim the Gospel, and to know that whatever good we do is through God's boundless grace.
- To believe in the importance of intercession for our people and all people currently. (Mother Marie Fahy, Abbess of St Mary's Abbey, Glencairn)

In response to recent reports of racism and xenophobia in Ireland, our bishops said, "racism is the opposite of encounter. It seeks to divide and to exploit anxieties by spreading fear, often through misinformation. There is no place for racism in Ireland. As a people with a long history of emigration, we know deeply within ourselves what it is like to have to leave one's homeland and seek shelter and a better life. May our response to people seeking refuge be: 'welcome, protect, promote and integrate' (cf Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti. 129)." Bishops continued, "together, let us continue to build a culture of welcome, encounter, and integration everywhere in Ireland. May we always see Jesus, who Himself was a refugee, in the face of others, especially those who seek shelter in our midst. May our communities be spaces of welcome for the flourishing of all."