

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

26th 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 26th

Parish Church	Sunday 26 th Mass	10.30 am
	Monday 27 th Mass	9.20 am
	Wednesday 29 th Mass	9.20 am
	Wednesday Adoration	10-11am
	Friday 31 st Mass	9.20 am
	Saturday Baptism	4.00 pm
	Saturday 1st Vigil Mass of Palm Sunday	6.00pm
Mong	Thursday 30 th Mass	7.00pm

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: Mary Byrne, Carrickmournie (6pm Mass); Rene Kelly & Michael Kelly, Kilfane West (6pm Mass); Cha Whelan, Jerpoint Church; Edmond Forristal, Jerpoint Church; Danny Challoner, Newtown Tce; Bridie Roche, Grennan; Larry & Mark Butler, Castle Ave; Dick Brennan, Powerswood; Christy Lanigan, Cloughabrody Heights; Denis O'Brien, Mong & Skeoughvosteen (7pm Mass, Mong Thursday 30th) : May they and all our dead rest in peace.

New time begins this Sunday at 2am!! So, we're up an hour earlier.

Conversations with Women in the Bible. A day to explore insights from their stories and God's transforming presence in their lives. Speaker: Sr. **Therese Fitzgerald** SND. Venue: Ballyvaloo Centre, Blackwater, Co. Wexford - Friday May 12th or Pembroke Hotel, Kilkenny - Saturday May 13th. More details later/ check out www.ssja.org

The School of Prayer was launched on Tuesday 14th, beginning with the girls and boys of Sixth Class in the National School in the afternoon, and a workshop for all at 7.30pm in the Concert Hall. John of God Sister Sally Hyland led both sessions. We began with an introduction to relaxation and mindfulness, and as we go into ourselves we meet the Lord there. The School continued last Tuesday, 21st. Our third, and last, session of the School takes place this Tuesday at 7.30pm at the Concert Hall. You are very welcome to join us. Thanks to Sister Sally for her thoughtful presentations, and thanks to Seamus for the hospitality extended to us at the Hall.

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 - 7793191.

Do this in Memory, our Mass with children and their families as the children prepare for First Communion, will be held next Sunday, 2nd April, at the 10.30am Mass.

What does Pope Francis intend by calling us to be a Synodal Church?

We are hearing the words Synodal Church being used today. We know that Pope Francis has asked us to be a Synodal Church, but what does that mean?

A Synodal Church is the Church of our time. Please join Bishop Niall Coll on Monday, 27th March 2023, at 7.30 pm in St Kieran's College, as he leads us in a Reflection on what this means for each one of us as members of the Catholic Church today. Bishop Coll extends an invitation to all.

Dates of Passover and Easter: At the Council of Nicaea in 325 the dates for Easter was fixed as the Sunday after the full moon after the spring equinox. Sunday 9th April 2023 is the Feast of Easter. Eastern Christians calculate the date of Easter according to the Julian Calendar, the Calendar in general use before the Gregorian reform of 1582. One of the reforms was the removal of ten days from the Calendar and this discrepancy, now thirteen days, between the Julian and Gregorian Calendars results often in a difference in the date for Easter in East and West as they follow the two calendars. This happens in 2023 when the date of Easter for Eastern Christians is Sunday 16th April. The Feast of Passover is a seven-day feast, beginning at sundown on the evening of 5th April 2023 (14 Nisan 5783). Muslims celebrate Ramadan these days too, from Thursday 23rd March to Friday 21st April.

How does Pope Francis in this talk on the raising of Lazarus describe the beginning of our resurrection?

Jesus calls to us as he called to Lazarus in his tomb: "Come forth!" This call is addressed to every human person because we are all marked by death. Christ is not resigned to the sepulchres that we have constructed with our choices of evil and death, with our mistakes, our sins. Jesus invites us, almost orders us, to come out of the tombs into which our sins have plunged us. This is where our resurrection begins: when we decide to obey the command of Jesus to come into the light, to life; when the masks fall from our faces ... and we rediscover the courage of our original faces, created in the image and likeness of God.