

**St. Colmcille Pastoral Area**  
**comprising Thomstown and Inistioge**  
**THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER**  
**26<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

<b>Parish Priest:</b> <b>Fr. Dan Bollard</b> <b>Mobile 087 6644858</b> <b>Email: <a href="mailto:bollarddan@gmail.com">bollarddan@gmail.com</a></b> <b>Website <a href="http://www.thomastownparish.ie">www.thomastownparish.ie</a></b> <b>Radio: fm108</b> <b>Diocese of Ossory Reg. Charity No. 20015831.</b>	<b>Parish Office:</b> <b>Tel No 056 7793191</b> <b>Opening Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10 - 1pm</b> <b>Email: <a href="mailto:thomastown@ossory.ie">thomastown@ossory.ie</a></b> <b>Facebook: Thomastown Parish</b>
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**THOMASTOWN CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 26th**

<b>Parish Church</b>	Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> Mass	10.30 am
	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> Mass	09.20 am
	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> Mass	09.20 am
	Wednesday Adoration	10-11 am
	Friday 01 <sup>st</sup> Mass	09.20 am
	Saturday Vigil Mass	06.00 pm

**St. Columba's Hospital** Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Mass 11.00 am

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

**Deaths:** **John Walsh**, Dangan & Luton recently deceased (6pm Mass); **Unie Kelly (nee Stapleton)**, Maudlin St (6pm Mass); **Peggy Murphy (nee Stapleton)**, Jerpoint Church (6pm Mass); **Frances White**, Knocknaboola (6pm Mass); **Josie & Joe Lannon**, Dangan Tce (6pm Mass); **Stephen Behan, Margaret Behan, Charles Behan, Phyllis Behan & all deceased members of the Behan Family** (10.30am Mass); **Pat Higginbotham**, Castle Ave (10.30am Mass); **John Challoner**, Bray & Newtown Tce; **Ida & Walter Hoyne**, Ballinamona: may they and all our dead rest in peace.

**Anniversary Masses next weekend:** **Dick Forristal**, Columcille (6pm Mass); **Annie, Paddy & Leo Holohan**, Ballylinch (10.30am Mass).

Advent begins next Sunday, a time to prepare for the coming of the Lord, a time too to repent of our sinfulness. Incorporated into Mass on Saturday we will hold a **Service of Reconciliation**, with a number of priests available to administer forgiveness. After Mass each Saturday up to Christmas Fr. Dan will be available for those who might wish to have the Sacrament, in the Confession Room at the back of the Church.

**Christmas Mass Cards**, with the recipient having a place in a triduum of Masses, are available after Mass or at the Parish Office.

**Online Advent Retreat.** The Priory Institute is delighted to offer a FREE OF CHARGE online retreat 'Reflecting on the Sunday Gospels of Advent'. Visit the [website \[prioryinstitute.com\]\(http://website.prioryinstitute.com\)](http://website.prioryinstitute.com) to register/find out more.

**Decade of Centenaries Conference** on Saturday, 2nd December 2023 at the Rhu Glenn Hotel, Slieverue. Official opening by Dr. Martin Mansergh at 10am, with Panel Discussions. All welcome - free admission.

Advent Retreat - *Following Jesus in the Footsteps of St Francis as a Lay Person* at the Capuchin Friary, Kilkenny, Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023, 3.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. Open to everyone – All welcome to come along.

A talk on '**Parenting Anxious Young People**' by internationally renowned consultant adolescent psychotherapist Bronagh Starr has been organised for Grennan College, Thomastown at 7 pm on Monday, December 11th. This is a free talk, and all are welcome. Limited places available.

**Thomastown Parish Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner** will be held on Sunday 17th December at the Community Centre at 1pm. Please leave your name to the shop in the Community Centre on Thursday or Friday between 9.30 am and 1 pm

**Totus Tuus Magazine** is a Catholic magazine, which aims to highlight the beauty and joy of our faith. It is going into its 7th year and is run by donations. If you would like a free copy, please contact Fiona Kiely on 086 8760058.

**1. HAIL REDEEMER KING DIVINE**, Priest and Lamb, the throne is thine, King, whose reign shall never cease, Prince of everlasting peace.

*Angels saints and nations sing; 'Praised be Jesus Christ, our King; Lord of life, earth, sky and sea, King of love on Calvary.'*

King whose name creation thrills, rule our minds our hearts our wills, till in peace each nation rings with thy praises, King of kings.

## **2. GIFTS OF BREAD AND WINE**

Gifts of bread and wine, gifts we've offered, fruits of labour, fruits of love; taken, offered, sanctified, blessed and broken; words of one who died:

*Refrain*

*Take my body, take my saving blood, Gifts of bread and wine: Christ our Lord.*

Christ our Saviour, living presence here, as he promised while on earth: 'I am with you for all time, I am with you in this bread and wine'. **R**

**3. O God, you search me** and you know me, all my thoughts lie open to your gaze, When I walk or lie down you are before me; ever the maker and keeper of my days.

You know my resting and my rising, You discern my purpose from afar; and with love everlasting you besiege me; in ev'ry moment of life or death, you are.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord, You have known its meaning through and through. You are with me beyond my understanding, God of my present, my past and future, too.

## **4. HYMN FOR THE HOLY SOULS**

Stretch out your loving hands, O Lord, to souls that are so dear. Take them O Lord to God on high, Release them from all fear.

*Grant mercy and love to the Holy Souls, O hear us, Lord, we pray! May they be prepared to meet you, Lord, On their great Judgement Day.*

Be gentle, Lord, with all dear souls, Protect them with your Love! Enfold your arms around them, Lord, 'till they reach Heaven above.

When my life's o'er and I depart, O listen to my prayer; Take me, O Lord, to thy Sacred Heart, And those I love so dear.