

St. Colmcille Pastoral Area
comprising Thomstown and Inistioge
THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER
24th December 2023

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THOMASTOWN CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 24th.

Parish Church	Sunday 24 th Mass	10.30 am
	Sunday 24 th Childrens Mass	05.00pm
	Sunday 24 th Midnight Mass	08.00pm
	Monday 25 th Christmas Day Mass	09.00 am
	Monday 25 th Christmas Day Mass	11.00am
	Tuesday 26 th St Stephen's Day Mass	10.00am
	Wednesday 27 th Mass feast of St. John	10.00am
	Friday 29 th Mass	10.00am
	Saturday 30 th Wedding	01.00pm
	Saturday Vigil Mass	06.00 pm.
	Sunday 31 st Mass	10.30am
	Monday 1 st January Mass for 2024	10.00am
St. Columba's	Tuesday 26 th Mass	11.00am
	Sunday 31 st Mass	11.00am
	Tuesday 2 nd January Mass	11.00am

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: Julia O'Keefe, Cloghabrody (6pm Mass); **Bridie and Bob Prendergast**, Ballydonnell (6pm Mass); **Teresa and Jim Lee**, Newtown Terrace (10.30am Mass); **Jacqui Doyle**, Carrickmourne (11am Mass, Monday); **Mary Kelly**, Newtown Terrace; **Seamus and Tom Kavanagh**, Jerpont Church; **Kathleen Holden**, Knockbrack; **Kristian Friel**, Cloghabrody Heights; **Patrick Doyle** and deceased members of the Doyle Family, Kilfane; **Sean and Michael Doyle**, Colmcille and deceased members of the Doyle family, Colmcille; **Lenny and May Fennelly**, Noreview Crescent; **Canice and Mary Fennelly**, London and Thomastown; **John and Lucy Fennelly**, Knock and Thomastown; **Conor Doyle**, Jerpont West.

Anniversary Masses next weekend: Trevor and Gerry Minogue, Newtown Terrace (6pm); **Bridie Minogue**, Cloghabrody (6pm); **Christine Bergin**, Waterford (6pm); **Matthew Kearney and Michael Kearney**, Ballydonnell; (6pm); **Margaret and Thomas Tyrrell**, Newtown(6pm); **Breda Burke (nee Skehan)** (10.30am).

2024 Calendar, with many photographs. It is available after Mass or at the Office. A wonderful gift for Christmas and 2024.

South Kilkenny Historical Society **Lá an Dreoilín** (Wren Day) event on Tuesday, December 26th at Mullinavat Parish Hall and Church Car Park, at 11am.

The Parish Office shuts from Thursday 21st December for the Christmas holiday and will re-open on Tuesday 2nd 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 6th /7th January.

Station envelopes and weekly envelopes will be available for distribution in January. We'd greatly appreciate if distributors would please collect them at the Parish Office on Tuesday 2nd for distribution.

O COME; O COME EMMANUEL

O come; O come Emmanuel, To ransom captive Israel.
That mourns in lowly exile here, Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice, rejoice O Israel, to you shall come Emmanuel.

O Come thou rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny.
From depths from hell thy people save And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

Rejoice, rejoice O Israel; to you shall come Emmanuel.

HOW GREAT THOU ART.

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder, Consider all the works thy hand has made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee; How great thou art, how great thou art.
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee; How great thou art, how great thou art.

And when I think: that God his Son not sparing Sent Him to die – I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died, to take away my sin.

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee; How great thou art, how great thou art.
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee; How great thou art, how great thou art.

When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation And take me home – what joy shall fill my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration, And there proclaim: My God, how great thou art.

Lord, **in this holy season** of prayer and song and laughter, we praise you for the great wonders you have sent us: for shining star and angel's song, for infant's cry in lowly manger. We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child. We behold his glory and are bathed in its radiance. Be with us as we sing the ironies of Christmas, the incomprehensible comprehended, the poetry made hard fact, the helpless Babe who cracks the world asunder. We kneel before you shepherds, innkeepers, wise men. Help us to rise bigger than we are. Amen. - *Author Unknown*

Happy Christmas!! Nollaig shona dhaoibh!! Christmas Ashamsakal! Joyeux Noël!
Frohe Weihnachten! Feliz Navidad! Buon Natale! Feliz
Natal! Vrolijk kerstfeest! Wesołych świąt Bożego Narodzenia!