

St. Colmcille Pastoral Area
comprising Thomstown and Inistioge
THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

14th January 2024

Parish Priest: Fr. Dan Bollard Mobile 087 6644858 Email: bollarddan@gmail.com Website www.thomastownparish.ie Radio: fm108	Parish Office: Tel No 056 7793191 Opening Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10 - 1pm Email: thomastown@ossory.ie Facebook: Thomastown Parish
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Diocese of Ossory Reg. Charity No. 20015831.

THOMASTOWN CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 14th.

Parish Church	Sunday 14 th Mass	10.30 am
	Monday 15 th Mass	09.20 am
	Wednesday 17 th Mass	09.20 am
	Wednesday Adoration	10-11 am
	Friday 19 th Mass	09.20 am
	Saturday 20 th Vigil Mass	06.00 pm
St. Columba's	Tuesday 16 th Mass	11.00am
Chapel Hill	Thursday 18 th Mass	07.00pm

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.

Deaths and Anniversaries: **Breda Murray**, Castle Avenue; **Gerard O'Shea**, Noreview Crescent; **Alice Minogue**, (6pm Months Mind Mass) and **Joe Minogue**, Newtown Terrace (6pm Mass); **Catherine (Kitty) Begley**, Castle Avenue; (6pm Mass); **Frances and Patrick Lannon**, Station Road (6pm Mass); **Deirdre Ryan**, The Belfry (6pm Mass); **John Roche**, Friars Hill (10.30am Mass); **Toby Cody**, Bawnskeha (7pm Mass, Thursday); **Andrew and Josephine Hoban**, Bawnskeha; **James O'Hara**, Jackstown; **Edward Cahill**, Smithstown; **Margaret (Peg) Culleton**, nee Cahill, Smithstown.

Anniversary Masses next weekend: **Noreen Walsh**, Dangan (6pm Mass); **Walter Walsh**, Grennan House (6pm Mass); **Julia Stapleton**, Dangan Terrace (6pm Mass); **Michael Walsh**, Friars Hill (10.30 Mass); **JP and Brigid Monahan**, Dangan Terrace (10.30am Mass); **Francis O'Neill and grandson Mark** (10.30am Mass); **Sister Sheila Sheehy**, Mong (2.30pm Mass in Mong).

"St. Ignatian Spiritual Exercises for Men - Led by Fr Stephen Kennedy, IVE, Fri Feb 2nd to Mon Feb 5th (bank holiday) in De La Salle retreat centre, Castletown, Laois, R32N6D8. Cost €200 - includes all meals and en-suite single rooms. Call Sr. Constancy 089 - 2152307 or c.puertadelaauroral@gmail.com"

The annual **Ossory Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024** is now available to book! The departure will take place on **22 May 2024** from Cork, with accommodation available in the hotels La Solitude, Padoue or Agena for 5 nights. Capacity is limited this year; it is advised that pilgrims wishing to travel to Lourdes book as soon as possible. For additional information on the pilgrimage, please contact us on **01-2410800** or info@joewalshstours.ie.

Assisted Pilgrims contact Fr. Anthony O'Connor 087-2517766 maoc50@me.com

Date with destiny: Thomastown, Intermediate County champions, undertake a giant leap this weekend when our boys take on Castlelyons from Cork in the All-Ireland Final in Croke Park. We're with you all the way.

Thomastown Parish Council will meet on Tuesday at 8pm.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is held each year 18-25th January. The theme this year is *'You shall love the Lord your God.... And your neighbour as yourself* (Luke 10:27). An ecumenical team from Burkina Faso guide the 2024 reflection. Burkina Faso, in the Sahel region of West Africa, is a country of 22 million people, with a Christian population of 26 per cent. Its political and social situation is unstable, with many threats to peace and social cohesion. The theme and material for the week's reflection helps us to recognise that the love of Christ unites all Christians and is stronger than their divisions.

Thomastown Parish Senior Citizens annual holiday to the Riverside Court Hotel, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford from Monday 3rd June to Friday 7th June 2024 (4 nights). Cost €400 per person sharing, €500 for single room. To book your place call to Senior Citizens Shop, Community Hall Thursday or Friday between 10 am and 1 p.m. €50 non-refundable deposit will secure your place.

GLORY AND PRAISE TO OUR GOD

*Glory and praise to our God, Who alone gives light to our days.
Many are the blessings he bears To those who trust in his ways.*

We, the daughters and sons of Him, who built the valleys and plains,
praise the wonders our God has done, In every heart that sings.

In his wisdom, He strengthens us, Like gold that's tested in fire.
Though the power of sin prevails, Our God is there to save.

MAKE ME A CHANNEL OF YOUR PEACE

Make me a channel of your peace, Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury your pardon, Lord, And where there's doubt true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness only light, And where there's sadness ever joy.
Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand, to be loved, as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving to all men that we receive,
and in dying that we are born to eternal life.

This is why we tell everyone: "Come and see!" In every human situation, marked by frailty, sin and death, the Good News is no mere matter of words, but a testimony to unconditional and faithful love: it is about leaving ourselves behind and encountering others, being close to those crushed by life's troubles, sharing with the needy, standing at the side of the sick, elderly and the outcast. ... "Come and see": Love is more powerful, love gives life, love makes hope blossom in the wilderness.
Pope Francis.