

St. Colmcille Pastoral Area
comprising Thomstown and Inistioge
THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER
18th FEBRUARY 2024

Parish Priest:	Parish Office:
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Diocese of Ossory Reg. Charity No. 20015831.	

THOMASTOWN CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 18th.

Parish Church	Sunday 18 th Mass	10.30 am
	Monday 19 th Funeral Mass	11.00 am
	Wednesday 21 st Mass	09.20 am
	Wednesday Adoration	10-11 am
	Friday 23 rd Mass	09.20 am
	Saturday Vigil Mass	06.00 pm.
St. Columba's	Tuesday 20 th Mass	11.00 am
	Thursday 22 nd Mass	11.00 am
Mong	Thursday 22 nd Mass	07.00 pm

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: Sheila Maher, Smithstown; Esther Mullins, Market Street recently deceased; Stella O'Reilly, Newhouse Month's Mind (6pm Mass); Jim & Rita Caulfield, Monteen (6pm Mass); John Dalton & Sandra Brett, Cloghabrody (6pm Mass); Thomas & Michael Hogan, Coolroebeeg (10.30am Mass); Cáit Doyle, Smithstown (10.30am Mass); Nellie Delaney, Pipe St (10.30am Mass); Moll O'Brien, Mong (7pm Mass Mong: Thursday) James (Dottie) Power; Gregg Hoban, Cloghsregg; Doireann Murphy, Brownsford; Susie Wallace, Jerpoint Abbey; Elizabeth Challoner, Newtown Tce; Teresa Walsh, Low St; may they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses next weekend: Breda Murray, Castle Ave, Month's Mind (6pm Mass); Bridget & Patrick Dunphy & Family, Newtown Tce & England (6pm Mass); Billy Woods, Cloghabrody Heights (6pm Mass); William Savage, Friarshill (10.30am Mass); Catherine O'Byrne, Jerpoint West (10.30am Mass).

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society will hold its monthly collection this weekend. To contact the Society members, call 086 2664669.

Bishop Coll will celebrate Mass in St. Columba's on Tuesday at 11am and get the opportunity to greet the residents and staff. All are welcome.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society Adoration for Vocations to Priesthood takes place on Monday from 6.30pm in the Mercy Chapel. Please join us.

Are you caring for a loved one at home with additional needs? A spouse, partner, child, close relative or neighbour? Then you are a family carer! Become a member of **Family Carers Ireland**, the national charity supporting Ireland's 500,000+ family carers nationwide. Contact 057 93 70221 and hear how we can support you or for more info visit www.familycarers.ie.

Laois Open Door Theatre presents the hilarious comedy '**Flying Feathers**' at Thomastown Concert Hall on Saturday 24th February at 8pm. Tickets €12/10 available at the door on the night. Enquiries 087 7728170.

GOD OF MERCY & COMPASSION, look with pity upon me;
 Father, let me call thee Father, 'tis thy child returns to thee.

*Jesus Lord, I ask for mercy; let me not implore in vain;
 all my sins I now detest them, never will I sin again.*

By my sins I have abandoned Right and claim to heaven above,
 Where the saints rejoice for ever In a boundless sea of love.

IN BREAD WE BRING YOU Lord, our bodies' labour. In wine we offer you our spirits' grief.
 We do not ask you, Lord, who is my neighbour? But stand united now, one in belief.
 Oh we have gladly heard your Word, your holy Word,
 and now in answer, Lord, our gifts we bring.
 Our selfish hearts make true, our failing faith renew,
 Our lives belong to you, our Lord and King.

THE KING OF LOVE MY shepherd is, whose goodness fails me never.
 nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow, To rest my soul he leads me:
 Where fresh and fertile pastures grow, With heavenly food he feeds me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill, With you dear Lord, beside me;
 Your rod and staff my comfort still, Your cross will ever guide me.

And so through all my length of days, Your goodness fails me never;
 Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise Within your house forever.

NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD, With heart and hands and voices,
 Who wondrous things hath done, In whom the world rejoices;
 Who from our mother's arms Has blessed us on our way
 With countless gifts of love, And still is ours to-day.

O may this bounteous God Through all our lives be near us,
 With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us,
 And keep us in his grace, And guide us when perplexed,
 And free us from all ills In this world and the next.

'Eat what you want at Easter, the sacrifice is not in the stomach, but in the heart. They refrain from eating meat, but they do not talk to their relatives. They do not share their food with the needy. They criticise other people's lives, etc. A good roast or meat stew won't make you a bad person. Nor a fish fillet make you a saint. Better try to have a deeper relationship with God through better treatment with others. We are less superficial and humbler of heart'. Pope Francis.