

St. Colmcille Pastoral Area
comprising Thomstown and Inistioge
THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER
24th MARCH 2024

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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THOMASTOWN CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 24th.

Parish Church	Sunday 24 th Mass	10.30am
	Monday 25 th Mass	09.20am
	Wednesday 27 th Mass	09.20am
	Wednesday Adoration	10-11am
	Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper	07.00pm
	Good Friday Celebration of the Lord's Passion	03.00pm
	Good Friday Stations of the Cross	06.30pm
	Saturday Easter Vigil Mass	08.00pm.
	Sunday 31 st Mass	10.30am
	Monday 1 st Mass	10.00am
	Wednesday 3 rd Mass	09.20am
	Adoration	10-11am
	Friday 5 th Mass	09.20am
St. Columba's	Tuesday 26 th Mass	11.00am
	Tuesday 2 nd Mass	11.00am
	Thursday 4 th 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: **Esther Mullins**, Market St: Month's Mind (6pm Mass); **Jack Cahill**, Smithstown & his daughter **Anne Grey** (6pm Mass); **Mary & Pat Hanrahan**, Powerswood (6pm Mass); **Kathleen (Kit) Behan**, Cloghabrody (10.30am Mass); **May Behan**, Cloghabrody (10.30am Mass); **Jimmy Walsh** Cappagh (10.30am Mass); **Johnny Walsh**, Cappagh & UK (10.30am Mass); **Mary O'Leary**, Pleberstown & UK (10.30am Mass); **Bridget Ryan**, Stoneyford; **Fern & Christy Lanigan**, Cloghabrody; **Tommy Hayes**, Dangan; **Tommy Hayes & son Thomas Hayes**, Kilkenny; **Daniel Challoner**, Newtown Tce; **Bridie Roche**, Grennan; **Pat & Mary Kavanagh & Patrick & Lena Kavanagh**, Ballyconway; **Edmund Forristal**, Jerpoint Church; **Daniel Carroll**, Castle Ave; **Daphne Dempsey**, Cloughsgregg: may they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses next weekend: **Gobnait Murphy**, Kilkenny.

Do this in Memory; this Sunday we hold our parish Mass for the children preparing for First Communion.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society: Adoration for Vocations Monday from 6.30pm.

The Parish Finance Committee will meet on Monday at 7.30pm.

Calling all **Ministers of the Eucharist:** we ask you to come together on Tuesday at 7pm at the Parish Church. Fr. Tom Norris will speak to us about the ministry, and we will have time to look at some practical things about this work of service. At the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday we will commission the people undertaking this service for the first time and those renewing their commitment.

The annual **Chrism Mass** will take place at St. Mary's Cathedral on Wednesday at 7.30pm. Bishop Coll will bless the oils which will be used throughout the Diocese for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Anointing of the Sick.

Easter Ceremonies on RTE: RTE will broadcast the Easter Ceremonies from St Mary's Cathedral in Kilkenny. These ceremonies will be live on Good Friday at 3pm and for the Easter Vigil at 11pm on Holy Saturday night.

The **Parish Office** will close on Thursday 1pm and remain closed on Good Friday and on the Tuesday of Easter week. The office will re-open on Thursday 4th April.

Holy Communion will be brought to the homebound on Thursday or Friday of Holy Week and won't be brought on the first Friday of April.

Cake Sale: The young people from the parish who will travel on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourde to look after assisted pilgrims will hold a Cake Sale after the Easter Sunday Mass.

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

The Chapter House Bookshop – at the Cathedral - is now Open 5 days a week Monday to Friday from 9:30 am until 5:00 pm. You can find religious gifts, for any occasion including Confirmation and Communion, selection of Parish supplies, and religious books. We have a large variety of Candles, Holy water fonts, Crosses, pictures, and statues of the saints. Also now in stock, a large selection of Bibles."

An ancient tradition says that Jerusalem means City of Peace. Through the centuries Jerusalem has been anything but a city of peace. It has been attacked, destroyed, and plundered on numerous occasions. Today it is the eye of a storm that is causing death and destruction.

Jesus rode into Jerusalem to become its messiah. He came not at the head of a conquering army but riding on a donkey, the animal we refer to as an ass. He came not to play God but to "empty himself and take the form of a slave." He came to face rejection: "with that, all deserted him and fled." Mark's picture of Jesus' rejection is bleak. There are no disciples around at the end, no relatives, not even God: "Why have you forsaken me?"

What will it take for us to understand the meaning of the cross, how Jesus made peace possible by his own suffering and dying? We keep thinking that we will bring peace by killing others in war; Jesus showed us that we bring peace by dying for others.