

**St. Colmcille Pastoral Area**  
**comprising Thomstown and Inistioge**  
**THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER**  
**12<sup>th</sup> MAY 2024**

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**THOMASTOWN CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 12th.**

<b>Parish Church</b>	Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> Mass	10.30am
	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> Mass	09.20am
	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> Mass	09.20am
	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> Mass	07.00pm
	Wednesday Adoration	10-11am
	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> Mass	09.20am
	Saturday Wedding	03.00pm
	Baptism	05.00pm
	Saturday Vigil Mass	06.00pm.
<b>St. Columba's</b>	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> 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: Kay Walsh(nee O'Reilly)** Month's Mind (6pm Mass); **Marie Woods**, Cloghabrody (6pm Mass); **Niall Walsh & his father Billy**, Jerpoint West (10.30am Mass); **Daniel McPherson**, Maudlin St (10.30am Mass); **Paddy Kennedy, Abbey View & deceased members of the Kennedy Family; Joe Maher**, Ladywell; **Harry O'Reilly**, Dangan & **his daughter Bridie O'Mahony; Eamonn Farrell**, Smithstown: may they and all our dead rest in peace.

**Anniversary Masses next weekend: Breda Delaney**, Newtown Tce Month's Mind (6pm Mass); **Joe Murray**, Castle Ave (6pm Mass); **Jack Lanigan**, Badgerrock (6pm Mass); **Tom & Bríd Skehan**, Newtown (6pm Mass); **Breda Burke**, Newtown (6pm Mass); **Stephen Behan**, Cloghabrody Month's Mind (10.30am Mass). **Jim Blanchfield**, Jerpoint Abbey (10.30am Mass);

An invitation to everyone to join in a public **Rosary** in honour of our Lady of Fatima on Monday, May 13th, at the Square in Inistioge. Our Lady of Fatima said "Pray the Rosary every day in order to obtain peace for the world and an end to war".

**'As a souvenir of Spike Island'** – The Tom Ryan War of Independence internment diary and archive, written by William Murphy will be launched by Dúchas – Tullaherin Heritage Society at Thomastown Community Centre on Wednesday 15 May 2024. This is the story of Tom Ryan, from Bonnybrook near Thomastown, who was interned at Spike Island for ten months during the War of Independence in 1921.

**CHOIRS FOR PEACE:** On Sunday, May 19th at 3 pm in St. John's Catholic Church Kilkenny, choirs from Kilkenny City and County will join with the Kilkenny Ukrainian Choir and the Kilkenny Gospel Choir for a free concert of Peace Songs.

**List of First Communicants:** Conor Ryan, Rory Ryan, Leon Smolinski, Ellie Tallent, Paige Wallace, Alan Dhas Rajesh ,Taylor Caufield, Lilly – Rose Devlin, Lillianna Walsh, Ben Higginbotham, Ruby Begley, Ollie Brennan, Chloe Cahill, T.J. Cash, Phoebe Coleman, Louis Conway, Kelly Cuddihy, Hannah Culverhouse, Hazel Dalton, Seán Donnelly, Sarah Davis, Harry Dempsey, Emelia Roche, Evan Falsey ,Lauren Gumley, Andrew Hickey, Laoise Reade, Charlie Meegan, Ruth Holden, Cathal Hosey, Jayden Jino John, Jamie Kavanagh, Willow Kavanagh, Noah Kelly, Hazel Kirby, Ellie Moran, Cathal Morrissey, Anthony Murphy, Zara Murray Barcoe, Martha Nugent, Fáinche O' Carroll, Daire Reddy, Annie Ridout, Maddie Walsh, Cathlyn Walsh, Robyn Walsh, Stephen Walsh Glennon, Dan Wemyss, Alice Witkowska, Ethan Corrigan, Seán Leadbetter, Aily Murphy, Robyn Smyth, Bailey Redmond, Alannah – Rose Byrne, Danusia Grabarz, Millie Dempsey, Louis Tomal.

The **Ossory Pilgrimage to Lourdes** takes place from May 22nd - 27th. While on pilgrimage the intentions of the people of the diocese and the needs of our diocese will be remembered during all liturgies. The pilgrimage will include 23 assisted pilgrims and 40 young people from secondary schools in the diocese. Our sincere thanks to all who assisted funding the pilgrimage costs in anyway especially those who contributed to the church collections for this purpose. Bishop Niall Coll will be chief celebrant at the Grotto Mass on May 23 at 9 am Irish time and it can be viewed live by logging into [www.lourdes-france.org](http://www.lourdes-france.org)

***Ascension** is not about Jesus going away. It is about Jesus staying around, truly visible, audible, touchable and reachable in the lives of ordinary women and men who profess the Christian faith. Ascension is a solemn commissioning for an important task. Jesus is 'taken up' into heaven. The Eleven 'go out proclaiming the 'Good News' but they are not on their own. The Lord is 'working with them', confirming the message with signs.*

**BRING FLOWERS OF THE RAREST**

Bring flowers of the rarest,  
 Bring blossoms the fairest,  
 From garden and woodland and hillside and dale,  
 Our full hearts are swelling,  
 Our glad voices telling  
 The praise of the loveliest flower of the vale.

**Chorus:**

***O Mary we crown thee with blossoms today,  
 Queen of the angels and Queen of the May,  
 O Mary we crown thee with blossoms today,  
 Queen of the angels and Queen of the May.***

Their lady they name thee  
 Their mistress proclaim thee,  
 O grant that thy children on earth be as true,  
 As long as the bowers,  
 Are radiant with flowers,  
 As long as the azure shall keep its bright hue.