

St. Colmcille Pastoral Area
comprising Thomstown and Inistioge
THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER
25th AUGUST 2024

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| 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 25th.

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| Parish Church | Sunday 25 th Mass | 10.30am |
| | Monday 26 th Mass | 09.20am |
| | Wednesday 28 th Eucharistic Service | 09.20am |
| | Wednesday Adoration | 10-11am |
| | Friday 30 th Mass | 09.20am |
| | Friday Wedding | 01.00pm |
| | Saturday Vigil Mass | 06.00pm |

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: Christopher Doyle, Friars Hill interred this week; **Josie Challoner**, Dangan Tce (6pm Mass); **Thomas & Margaret Begley**, Newtown Tce; **John & Ellen Wemyss**, Killarney; **Percy Ryan**, Bonnybrook: may they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses next weekend: Jonathan Hynes, Newtown (6pm Mass); **Michael Dunne**, Castle Ave (6pm Mass); **Bobby & Annie Power**, Grennan View (6pm Mass).

Parish Church renovations: Work has begun on the guttering on the north side of the Parish Church. Under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2024 Kilkenny County Council will give a grant of €10,000 towards the work, once we satisfy the terms and conditions outlined in BHIS 2024 Circular.

St. Mary's Cathedral Restoration Fund Draw: Over the past nine years you have contributed €750,000 to the Fund, and now the Draw is launched for the tenth year. This coming year attention is being turned to the outside space between the Cathedral and the Chapter House, and consideration of how best to attend to this area. Please support the Draw, €10 per month for twelve months or whatever number of months you wish. Call to the Parish Office to enroll.

Adult Literacy for Life (ALL) Do you know that in Ireland, 1 in 6 adults struggle with reading and writing, 1 in 4 adults struggle with maths and 1 in 2 adults struggle with digital skills? Do you or a family member need to improve your reading, writing, maths or digital skills? We can help. All courses are free. Contact Kilkenny Adult Learning Service (KCETB) 056 776 3149 or freephone 1800 20 20 65 or email allinnovation@solas.ie

Leaving Certificate results: So the results have arrived, after eight years education in National School, and six years in Post Primary education. We wish the young people well, and remember them in our prayers, as they make decisions for the future.

Saint Fiacre was born in Ireland at the end of the sixth century. He was raised in a monastery where he became a monk and imbibed knowledge of herbal medicine. In time he had his own hermitage and perhaps a monastery, possibly near St. Fiachra's Well at Cill Fiachra (Kilferagh), Sheastown. As crowds flocked to him because of his reputation for his holiness and cures, he sailed to France in search of greater solitude.

When he arrived at Meaux in 628, the Bishop St Faro, granted him a site. Fiacre cleared the ground of trees and briars, made a cell for himself, a garden for herbs and vegetables, a chapel and a hospice for travellers. All this developed into the village of Saint-Fiacre. Again, in time the crowds flocked to him in search of cures. He died around 670.

He has become the patron saint of gardeners. In 1999 a garden in his honour was made at the National Stud in Kildare. It has become a major tourist attraction.

Fiacre is also the patron of taxi-drivers.

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.

O God, you search me and you know me. All my thoughts lie open to your gaze,
When I walk or lie down you are before me: Ever the maker and keeper of my days.

You know my resting and my rising, You discern my purpose from afar,
And with love everlasting you besiege me: In ev'ry moment of life or death you are.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord, You have known its meaning through and through,
You are with me beyond my understanding: God of my present, my past and future too.

Although your spirit is upon me, Still I search for shelter from your light,
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you: Even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

For you created me and shaped me, Gave me life within my mother's womb,
For the wonder of who I am I praise you: Safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

AS I KNEEL BEFORE YOU, As I bow my head in prayer
Take this day, make it yours, And fill me with your love.

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum, benedicta tu.

All I have I give you, Ev'ry dream and wish are yours
Mother of Christ, Mother of mine, Present them to my Lord.

As I kneel before you, And I see your smiling face,
Ev'ry thought, ev'ry word, is lost in your embrace.