

St. Colmcille Pastoral Area
comprising Thomstown and Inistioge
THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER
27th October 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
---	---

THOMASTOWN CHURCH SERVICES beginning Sunday 27th.

Parish Church	Sunday 27 th Mass	10.30am
	Monday 28 th Bank holiday Mass	10.00am
	Wednesday 30 th Mass	09.20am
	Wednesday Adoration	10-11am
	Thursday 31 st Vigil Mass	07.00pm
	Friday All Saints Day Mass	10.30am
	Saturday Baptism	04.00pm
	Saturday All Souls Day Mass	06.00pm
St. Columba's	Tuesday 29 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: Dominique Bell & Eamon Price interred this week; **Vincent Walsh**, Powerswood (6pm Mass); **Joe & Ann Challoner**, Newtown Tce & Cavan (6pm Mass); **Molly Lawlor**, Maudlin St (6pm Mass); **Mick Conlon**, Legan (10.30am Mass); **Stephen, Margaret, Charlie & Phyllis Behan**, Cloghbrody (10.30am Mass): may they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses next weekend: Martin Roche, Grennan (10.30am Mass).

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

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society has a new contact number - 087 4830988.

Sean O'Sullivan, Principal of Grennan College, is retiring from his post. Thanks to Sean for his generous service, and we wish him all the best as he opens a new chapter in his life.

Thomastown v O'Loughlins: What an adventure our hurlers have brought us on from this time last year, travelling through and winning the Intermediate County championship and then on to and winning the the All-Ireland Championship. 2024 has followed the trajectory, and we now come to the Senior County Final. Thank you all, and 'Ar aghaidh linn le cheile' this weekend.

All Saints Day and All Souls Day From the early centuries of Christianity, Nov. 1 and 2 have been observed as days to remember the dead. This remembrance most likely originated in Celtic lands where this time of year marks the beginning of death in nature. By the 5th century CE in Rome, there was a festival for all the saints celebrated in the Pantheon, a Roman temple dedicated to all the gods.

Eventually Nov. 1 was marked as a day to remind the Christian faithful that they are in communion with all who have gone before them especially those who have lived holy lives but who are not canonized as saints. From this, Nov. 2 became a day more focused on all the dead, hence called All Souls Day.

All over Europe and in South America these two days are celebrated with visits to the cemeteries and by special commemorations in church to remember the dead. All Saints Day is marked by the Catholic Church as a special feast day. In many churches, it is customary to have a "book of remembrance" in which people write the names of their loved ones to be prayed for especially all during November.

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.

HOW GREAT THOU ART.

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder, Consider all the works thy hand has made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee; How great thou art, how great thou art.
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee; How great thou art, how great thou art.

And when I think: that God his Son not sparing Sent Him to die – I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died, to take away my sin.

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee; How great thou art, how great thou art.
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee; How great thou art, how great thou art.

When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation And take me home – what joy shall fill
my heart!

Then shall I bow in humble adoration, And there proclaim: My God, how great thou art.