

St. Colmcille Pastoral Area
comprising Thomstown and Inistioge
THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER
09th February 2025

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 09th.

Parish Church	Sunday 09 th Mass	10.30am
	Monday 10 th Mass	09.20am
	Wednesday 12 th Mass	09.20am
	Wednesday Adoration	10-11am
	Friday 14 th Mass	09.20am
	Saturday Vigil Mass	06.00pm
St. Columba's	Tuesday 11 th Mass	11.00am
Chapel Hill	Thursday 13 th Mass	07.00pm

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: **Jim Quinn**, Castlecomer: Month's Mind (6pm Mass); **Kitty Bookle**, Newtown: Month's Mind (6pm Mass); **Cáit Doyle**, Smithstown (6pm Mass); **Jim & Rita Caulfield**, Monteen (6pm Mass); **Bee Bee & Neddy Hogan**, Newtown Tce (6pm Mass); **Joe Minogue**, Newtown Tce (6pm Mass); **Joe & Tom Stapleton**, Maudlin St (6pm Mass); **Maura Roche Minogue & deceased members of the Roche family**, Cloughsgregg (6pm Mass); **Jim Stapleton**, Legan & New Zealand recently deceased (10.30am Mass); **Kathleen Delahunty**, Mill St & **John Delahunty**, Newtown Tce (10.30am Mass); **Harry Beck**, Dangan Tce (10.30am Mass); **Anne McFadden (nee Beck)** Dangan Tce & Singapore (10.30am Mass); **Tommy Beck**, Kilmuckridge (10.30am Mass); **Tom Lannon**, Dangan Tce (10.30am Mass); **Denis Cassin**, Coolroebeeg (10.30am Mass); **Teresa Walsh**, Low St; **Richard Gaule**, Columcille; **Lillian Lee**, The Belfry; **Edward Whelan**, Mong: may they and all our dead rest in peace.

Anniversary Masses next weekend: **Margaret Davis**, Logan St: Month's Mind (6pm Mass); **Esther Mullins**, Market St (6pm Mass); **Sheila Maher**, Smithstown (6pm Mass); **John Dalton & Sandra Brett**, Cloghabrody (6pm Mass); **Seán Finan**, Kilmurry (6pm Mass); **Michael & Barbara Barcoe**, Thomastown & London (6pm Mass); **William Savage**, Friarshill (10.30am Mass) **Andrew & Kathleen Barron**, Ballyconway, (10.30am Mass).

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society holds its monthly collection this weekend. Thank you for your support. To contact the Society members, call 087 4830988.

Do This in Memory: This Sunday we are joined with the children and their families as we, and they, prepare for First Communion in the parish.

Safeguarding Sunday is when we call to mind the responsibility we each have to care for children and vulnerable adults, and to acknowledge the many people, in Church, school and the many sporting activities that undertake this responsibility.

World Day of the Sick falls on Tuesday, the Feast of our Lady of Lourdes. Bishop Coll will come to St. Columba's for Mass with the residents. You are welcome too.

Grandparents Day falls on Wednesday, when the grandparents of third class will join them at Mass at 9.20 and visit the School afterwards.

Collection for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will be held next weekend.

Planning for greater lay involvement in the life of the Church

The greater involvement of laity in the life of the Church in Ossory at parish, pastoral area and diocesan level is the main theme of our new Constitution.

The *Forum* consists of Parish Pastoral Councils, thirteen Pastoral Area Councils, an Ossory Diocesan Pastoral Council and a Plenary Body consisting of all members of these three groups.

The *Parish Pastoral Council* is a consultative leadership group through which priests and lay people work together as co-responsible partners in furthering the mission of Christ in their own parish. As a group, they think, discern and plan for the parish on an ongoing basis to identify and respond to present and future pastoral needs.

The *Pastoral Area Councils* will enable member parishes to both discern and work collaboratively and form a basis for the co-responsibility of priests, religious and lay people for the faith life of the pastoral area.

A revised *Constitution for the Ossory Diocesan Forum* has been approved by the Council of Priests and The Ossory Diocesan Pastoral Council (ODPC) and has just been published.

The *ODPC* is the Executive Body of the Diocesan Forum, which works in liaison with the Parish Pastoral and Pastoral Area Councils. It is a consultative group with whom the Bishop can promote, support and coordinate the work of these Councils. This is achieved through modelling synodality, collaboration and co-responsibility for the life of the diocese / Bishop, priests and laity working together.

Through its monthly meetings, the ODPC considers issues from various areas of life in which the diocese is engaged. Currently its focus is on the establishment of the Pastoral Area Councils.

Membership of the ODPC: Bishop Niall Coll, President, Ms Sarah Rice, Chairperson, Mr John Shortall, Secretary, Mgr. Dan Carroll, Vicar General, Fr Martin Delaney, Fr Dan Bollard, Sr Helen Maher, Forum Coordinator, Ms Gemma Mulligan, Pastoral Coordinator, Ms Ann Daly, Ms Brid Duffy, Mr Diarmuid Healy.

The King of Love my shepherd is, whose goodness fails me never
I nothing lack if I am His, and He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow, with gentle care He leads me
And where the verdant pastures grow, with heav'nly food He feeds me.

An so through all the length of days, Your goodness fails me never
Good Shepherd may I sing Your praise, within Your house forever.

Taste and see, Taste and see the goodness of the Lord
O taste and see, Taste and see the goodness of the Lord, Of the Lord

How Great Thou Art
Oh Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee
How great thou art, how great thou art (x2)

When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration
And then proclaim, my God how great Thou art.

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