

St Colmcille's Pastoral Area – Thomastown & Inistioge Parishes

THOMASTOWN PARISH

Thomastown Parish Mass Times

Vigil: 6.00pm
Sunday: 10.00am
St Columba's: 11.00am

Inistioge Parish Mass Times

Vigil: The Rower: 7.30pm
Sunday: Clodiagh: 9.30am

Inistioge: 11.00am
Tuesday: The Rower: 9.30am
Thursday: Inistioge: 9.30am
webcam: inistiogeparish.ie

webcam: thomastownparish.ie

THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Letter to the Priests, Religious and Lay Faithful of the Diocese of Ossory on my appointment as Bishop of Raphoe, 13th November 2025. (abridged)

The news of my appointment as Bishop of Raphoe, my home diocese, means that my time as Bishop of Ossory has been all too brief. My heart is filled with gratitude to God for the gift of these past three years, and gratitude to you, the priests, Religious and lay faithful of this diocese. Ossory is blessed with a remarkable sense of community - a faith that is lived in parishes, schools, families and countless works of service. I have seen that faith in the celebration of the Eucharist, in parish gatherings, in the care of the vulnerable, sick and elderly, in the commitment of our Catholic schools, in the welcome extended to newcomers, and in the tireless service of priests who give of themselves day in and day out.

I want to thank the priests of Ossory most especially. Your dedication, often in demanding circumstances, has been a source of deep inspiration to me. I wish to acknowledge the many lay people who have contributed their professionalism, time and talent to the various diocesan bodies, councils and committees. Your insight and generosity have enriched the life of the diocese. To the religious sisters, priests and brothers who have contributed so much, often quietly and unseen, I offer my heartfelt thanks. And to the lay faithful I express my sincere appreciation. I want especially to acknowledge all who serve their parishes and pastoral areas so generously with their time and talent. The questions being asked at national level about the future shape and structure of our dioceses are not merely administrative - they are pastoral and spiritual. The work of reorganising the diocese into pastoral areas has been carried forward with generosity, realism and faith I pray that the first steps that the Diocese is now making in terms introducing the Ministry of Catechist may be supported and that the project in time will prove to be a great blessing. I am hopeful that what is emerging in Ossory can be a model of how the Church in Ireland might respond creatively and faithfully to the needs of our time. As I return now to the Diocese of Raphoe, I do so carrying with me a deep affection for the people, priests and religious of Ossory. You have taught me much about what it means to be Church – about patience, perseverance and the quiet fidelity that keeps the flame of faith alive. For all of this and more, I thank you.

May the Lord who began the good work in us bring it to completion

Go raibh míle maith agaibh, agus go mbeannaí Dia daoibh go léir.

With every blessing,

+Miall Coll, Bishop of Ossory.

BEREAVEMENTS

Recently deceased: Kitty O'Reilly, Newtown; Josie Lannon, Dangan Tce; Joe Daly, Jerpoint Church.

Anniversaries: John Grace, Mallfield: Month's Mind; Pat Stapleton, Dangan Tce; Sheila Kirby, Danqan Tce; Alice O'Keeffe, Smithstown; Jim Grace, Castle Ave; Patrick & Margaret Cullen, Clossgregg & deceased members of the Cullen Family; Mary O'Neill, Station Rd: (6.00pm). Bessie Delaney, Pipe St; Michael Furlong, Cloughabrody Heights; Maureen Croke, Castle Ave: (10.00am).

Anniversaries next w/e: Frances Roche, Grennan: Month's Mind; Unie Kelly (nee Stapleton), Maudlin St; Peggie Murphy, (nee Stapleton), Oldtown: (6.00pm). Stephen & Margaret Behan, Charles Behan, Phyllis Behan & deceased members of the Behan Family: (10.00am).

Apology: We are very sorry to hear that the livestreaming of Church services is 'patchy' and inconsistent. As far as we understand, this is through no fault of parish personnel. Sometimes, and in some areas where the WiFi Signal is weak from the Provider, there can obviously cause reception difficulties with your particular device. We are currently making every effort to establish whether there is an installation issue at the Church end that is causing problems. It can be difficult to get the qualified technicians who can fix these issues to come on site when we need them. In the meantime, apologies for the disruption – wherever it's coming from – but we keep on trying to resolve the problem.

Vocations Society of St. Joseph will hold Adoration of the Blessed sacrament on Monday from 6.30pm in the Mercy Chapel for Vocations to Priesthood. All welcome.

Catechist Ministry: As recently promoted, our parish is still seeking male and female volunteers to explore the Ministry of Catechist. All necessary information is contained in the bishop's recent Pastoral Letter which is available at the back of the church and on the Diocesan Website. Interested candidates who wish to further explore this ministry should give their names to the Parish Office, Parish Priest, or any member of the Parish Pastoral Council.

Address: Chapel Lane, Thomastown, County Kilkenny R95 T6N7

Email: thomastown@ossory.ie **Website:** thomastownparish.ie **Radio:** fm108

Parish Office: 056 779 3191 **Open:** Tues, Thur, Fri: 10.00 am – 1.00 pm

Parish Priest: Fr Frank Purcell – 086 601 0001

SAFEGUARDING:

If you have a safeguarding concern contact:

Deputy DLPs: Rose Brophy, 087 331 4331 & Cathal Cullen, 056 775 2448

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: TBA

Full Safeguarding policies & details: ossory.ie

Roman Catholic Diocese and Parishes of Ossory – Reg. Charity No: 20015831