Deferred Chapel Hill Lenten Pilgrimage, with its focus on Family, will take place on Tuesday at 7.30pm, with Canon Susan Greene as the presenter.

Grennan College thanks most sincerely all those who supported them in their recent Lourdes Fundraisers. The Church Gate Collection raised €418.05 & The Cake Sale raised €1053.29.

Ossory Times is available this weekend, with news from the Diocese. This costs €2.

Do This in Memory Programme next Sunday 11am Mass

Trocaire needs your help. Don’t forget to fill your Trocaire box, and return it soon.

Easter Offerings are for the financial support of the priests of each parish. Please return your envelope soon. If you haven’t received an envelope, please return in an ordinary envelope with name, address, etc. Contact the Office for envelopes. The Finance Committee suggests that you may find it more convenient to set up a Standing Order using the following information: Account Name: Thomastown Church Parochial Current Account. BIC: BOFIIE2D. IBAN: IE39BOFI9060911711780.

Thomastown Parish Golf Classic: Friday 20th and Sat 21st April in Gowran Park. €200 for 4 ball. All funds raised will go towards the restoration for the CYMS. Enquiries to Fionnula 087 7799848

Women’s ACTS Retreat – Adoration, Community, Theology, Service. will take place in the De La Salle Pastoral Centre, Castletown, Co. Laois from Thursday, 19th – Sunday, 22nd April 2018. A weekend of peace, prayer, tranquillity and camaraderie, among a group of likeminded women. To book or for information contact: Mairin McGrath 087 6211395 or Cathy Cunniffe: 087 9854506

Family Carers Ireland Mini-Marathon takes place on Bank Holiday Monday 7th May from the Aspect Hotel Waterford Rd. Kilkenny at 11.00am. Register online at www.runireland.com, or at our Centre at The Springfield Medical Centre Waterford Rd Kilkenny Monday to Friday up to 5.00pm. To raise sponsorship please contact the Centre and we will send you out sponsorship cards. Registration Fee is €15. You can also register on the day before 11.00am and registration is €20.

Amoris Laetitia, The Joy of Love. Pope Francis quotes the Spanish Bishops comment that families have come to enjoy greater freedom through an equitable distribution of duties, responsibilities and tasks; indeed, ‘a greater emphasis on personal communication between the spouses helps to make family life more humane. Change does lead individuals, in personal and family life, to receive less and less support from social structures than in the past’. On the other hand, ‘equal consideration needs to be given to the growing danger represented by an extreme individualism which weakens family bonds and ends up considering each member of the family as an isolated unit, leading in some cases to the idea that one’s personality is shaped by his or her desires, which are considered absolute. The tensions created by an overly individualistic culture, caught up with possessions and pleasures, leads to intolerance and hostility in families’. Today’s fast pace of life, stress and organisation of society and labour militate against permanent decisions. We rightly value a personalism that opts for authenticity as opposed to mere conformity. While this can favour spontaneity and a better use of people’s talents, if misdirected it can foster attitudes of constant suspicion, fear of commitment, and self-centredness and arrogance. Freedom of choice makes it possible to plan our lives and to make the most of ourselves. Yet if this freedom lacks noble goals or persona discipline, it degenerates into an inability to give oneself generously to others. (sections 32 and 33)