

THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER

13th May 2018

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CHURCH SERVICES BEGINNING SUNDAY 13th May

Parish Church	Sunday morning Mass	11.00am
	Monday, Wednesday & Friday Mass	09.30am
	Monday Adoration in Mercy Chapel	10.00am
	Monday Adoration in Mercy Chapel	07/08pm
	Wednesday morning Lectio Divina	10.00am
	Saturday Vigil Mass	07.00pm
St. Columba's Hospital	Sunday Morning Mass	09.30am
	Tuesday & Thursday Mass	10.00am
Confessions	After 7pm Mass when requested.	

Mass times in Chapel Hill & Mong for the coming weeks.

Mass in Chapel Hill	19 th May at 5.45pm & 2 nd June at 5.45pm.
Mass in Mong	12 th May at 5.45pm

Deaths/Anniversaries: **Pat Whitty**, Mong (5.45pm Mass); **Patrick Lennon**, Legan (5.45pm Mass); **James O'Brien**, Mong (5.45pm Mass); **Daniel (Danny) McPherson**, Maudlin Street (7pm Mass); **Joe Murray**, 41, Castle Avenue (9.30am Mass); **Marie Woods**, 43, Cloughabrody Heights, (11am Mass); **Tom & Breda Skehan**, Newtown (11am Mass); **Brigid & William Heafey**, Newtown Terrace. May they rest in peace.

Mass Intentions Next Weekend: **John (Jack) Lanigan**, Badgerock (7pm Mass); **Terry Beck & Anne Lannon**, (9.30am Mass); **Months Mind Mass:** **Ned Holohan**, Oldtown, (11am Mass); **Michael Roche**, Derah, Farranfore, Co. Kerry (11am Mass).

Children of St. Mary's National School receiving First Holy Communion 2018

Congratulations to all the boys and girls of Second Class, who made their First Holy Communion this weekend in the Parish Church. Please keep the children, and their families in your prayers. Christopher Abbott, Jade Barcoe-Davis, Ruby Bay-Hammond, Zoe Beck, Katie Begley, Keena Begley, Timmy Bookle, Diarmuid Bourke, Katie Butler, Sean Butler, John Clifford, Keisha Conway, Kayleigh Conway, Max Corrway, Ella Daly, Tara Doyle O'Neill, Brian Dunne, Aoibhinn Farrell, Conor Frommann, Andrew Forristal, Clodagh Galway, Taylor Greene, Leah Gillespie, Xavier Grogan, Eileen Hanton, Violet Hargreaves, Grace Hickey, Ryan Jackman, Archie Kavanagh, Lilah Kiely, Ronan Loughman, Eoghan Lynch, Daragh McGuinness, Thomas Madigan, Aoife Manning, Órla Murphy, Emer Murphy, Ben Murphy, Cian Murphy, Michael Murphy, Kayleigh Murray-Barcoe, Brigid Murray, Ajay Nolan, Nathan Noonan-O'Hara, Mikey O'Brien, Danny O'Neill, Ryan Phelan, Kaya Redmond, Fionn Ryan, Eoin Ryan, Conor Scanlon, Isaac Sheridan, Darragh Sinnott, Ray Van Rooyen, Hannah Walpole, Stacie Walsh, Amber Walsh, Carly Walshe-Murray, Jack Walsh, Rosa Wemyss, Ross Wilson.

Thomastown Parish Finance Committee will meet on Monday at 7.30pm.

The Finance Committee arranged for an engineer to carry out a survey of Chapel Hill and Mong churches. **Church goers of Chapel Hill** are invited to a meeting on Monday 21st at the Church at 7.30pm to consider the findings. The report will be available on the parish website next week. If unable to access that, please call to the Parish Office for a copy of the report.

Bishop Farrell will offer Mass at St. Columba's Hospital on Tuesday at 10am and meet the residents and staff. You will be welcome to meet Bishop Farrell too.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society will take up a collection for the support of the education of Irish & Foreign Students for Priesthood next weekend 19th/20th May. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Ossory Lourdes Pilgrimage: The youth Pilgrims from the Parish travelling in two weeks time to Lourdes have left petition slips at the back of the church. Please write your prayers on the slips and put them into the box provided. The students will take your prayers and place them in the petition box at the Grotto in Lourdes. Please do not put any donations into the box.

Exams: These days many second and third level students have exams. To include them in parish prayer put the names in the book in the Parish Church.

The Forthcoming Referendum: The eight Amendment to the Constitution, established in a Referendum in 1983, states 'The State acknowledges the right to the life of the unborn and, with due regard to the equal right to life of the mother, guarantees in its laws to respect, and as far as practicable, by its laws to defend and vindicate that right. To repeal the eighth amendment means that the above text will be replaced 'that provision may be made by law for the regulation of termination of pregnancy'. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states 'Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his/her existence, a human being must be recognised as having the rights of a person – among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life' (Section 2270).

Parish Prayer Initiative for the Right to Life: Bishop Farrell requests prayer in each parish, so a Holy Hour will be held this coming Thursday at the Parish Church beginning at 7.30pm.

Prayer Initiative for protection of the 8th Amendment. There will be a penitential Fast of bread and water on Friday May 18th, following the example of Queen Esther in the Bible, when the Jewish people were going to be destroyed, killed and annihilated by King Ahasuerus. Queen Esther asked the people to fast for 3 days and the Jews were saved.

Invitation! "Walking Together as Families Today": Gathering in Preparation for the World Meeting of Families. St Patrick's College, Maynooth, 19-20 June 2018. Speakers, workshops, conversations, prayer, and much more, on a variety of topics relating to family life. Registration: €15 (incl. lunch & teas/coffees). Tickets available on www.eventbrite.ie (under "Walking Together as Families Today"). Further info: contact Aoife at specialevents@spcm.ie *Be part of it!*

Amoris Laetitia, The Joy of Love. Quoting Vatican II, its Pastoral Constitution Gaudium et Spes,, Pope Francis reminds us, 'was concerned to promote the dignity of marriage and the family. It defined marriage as *a community of life and love, placing love at the centre of the family*. True love between husband and wife involves mutual self-giving, and includes and integrates the sexual and affective dimensions, in accordance with God's plan. Christ the Lord makes himself present to the Christian spouses in the sacrament of marriage and remains with them. Pope Benedict stressed that marriage based on an exclusive and definitive love becomes an icon of the relationship between God and his people.' (Sections 67 and 70)