THOMASTOWN PARISH NEWSLETTER
18th March 2018

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CHURCH SERVICES BEGINNING SUNDAY 18th March

Parish Church  Sunday morning Mass  11.00am
Monday Mass  10.00am
Tuesday The Sacrament of Reconciliation  07.30pm
Wednesday, Friday Mass  09.30am
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  17th March, 07th April at 5.45pm
Mass in Mong  24th March, 14th April at 5.45pm

Deaths/Anniversaries: Fr. Joe Delaney who died recently, Gobnait Murphy (5.45pm Mass Sat); Mary Cody, Bawnskea. (5.45pm Mass Sat); Colum Dack, 26 Castle Ave, (7pm Mass Sat); Tony (Anthony) Kehoe, Jopeoint West. (7pm Mass Sat); Patrick Kavanagh (Smr), Patrick Kavanagh (Jnr), Mary Kavanagh. Lena Kavanagh, Ballyconway; Patrick Lannon, Station Road; Joan & James O’Neill, Grennan; Nora Morrissey, Coolromore; Teddy Cassin, Boher; Jim Challoner, Dangan; Patrick & Bridie O’Neill, Smithstown; John & Bridie, Barron, Clossaggret; Katie Connolly, Fr. Peter Orr, Edinburgh, Scotland; Michael O’Reilly, Bridge Brook Arms; T. J McCarron, Low Street; Annie & Bridie Cahill, Smithstown. May they rest in peace.

Mass Intentions Next Weekend: Norah Sheehy & Bridie Aylward (5.30pm Mass); Neddie Hogan, 3, Newtown Terrace (7pm Mass); Billy Woods, 43, Cloughabyrody Heights (7pm Mass); Jack Cahill, Smithstown and his daughter Ann Grey (7pm Mass); Cha Whelan (Smr) Jerpoint Church (11am Mass); Padraig Kirwan, Jerpoint Church (Months Mind Mass 11am). May they rest in peace.

Thomastown Lenten Pilgrimages, thinking of Family. You are invited to visit the Churches during Lent - the Parish Church on Tuesday 20th March at 7.30pm. this week we focus on reconciliation, with the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Church Gate Collection this weekend for the young people from Grennan College in our Parish going as helpers to Lourdes with the Ossory Pilgrimage 22nd - 27th May 2018.

Protection of Life & Renewal of Faith Rosary Rally: In conjunction with the All-Ireland Rosary Rally, there will be Rosary and Divine Mercy Prayers at 2.30 pm this Sunday, March 18th, in the Parish Church, with a renewal of Ireland’s consecration to the Sacred Heart which took place on this day 145 years ago.

Kilkenny Knights of St Columbanus, founded in 1927, are seeking new members to help us continue the work of “Restoring all things in Christ.” If you would like to attend an Information Evening on 19th March, please email Paul at Area9KSC@outlook.ie or telephone 087 9043071.

Did You Ever think of being a Priest?  Not sure who you can talk to, or what to do next? Need more information & space to think things over?
Come along to St Mary’s Cathedral on Saturday 24th March (11 am - 7pm) for a time of quiet reflection and prayer.  It will be an opportunity to learn more about diocesan priesthood and how to discover the path God is inviting you to follow in your life.  For more Information and to book a place contact: Fr Kieran O’ Shea, Vocations Director 086 8272828 vocations@ossory.ie

St. Mary’s Cathedral Restoration Fund Draw
This is year 4 of the Draw, raising funds to restore the Cathedral. Please support this good cause. The twelve-month Draw takes place on the last Wednesday of each month, so the first of the current Draws will be held 28th March, and cost €10 each. Thanks to all who have supported the Draw in other years. Join the Draw at Reddys Gift Shop, Murphy Victualler at Market Street, the Parish Office, or Fr. Dan.

Community Centre:  Works are soon to start to reinstate the balcony in the 1910 Concert Halls a total of forty cinema type seats will be needed at a cost of €250 each. Your sponsorship will help to complete phase 3 and continue to develop the facility for the good of everyone. To sponsor a seat contact 087 7728170 or email seamusquigley@gmail.com

“Family Carers Ireland” are currently recruiting for Home Care Workers in the Carlow/Kilkenny area. The ideal candidate will have at least one-year experience providing care in a professional setting, up to date Patient, Moving & Handling cert & hold at least two QQI Healthcare modules (Care Skills & Care of the Older Person) & working towards achieving the full award. Interested candidates are invited to contact us at kilkenny2@familycarers.ie with an up to date CV.”

All Church personnel have a responsibility to safeguard children through promoting their welfare, health and development in a safe land caring environment that supports their best interests and prevents abuse. The New Revised Safeguarding Children Policy & standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland 2016 is now available at www.safeguarding.ie.

If you are concerned about the welfare and safety of children contact:
Tusla – Child and Family Agency: Kilkenny area: tel 059 9136570
Garda National Protective Services Bureau 01 666 3430 / 01 666 3435
Diocesan Designated Liaison Person – Ms Geraldine Butler: 087 100 0232
Towards Healing Helpline: 1800 313 316 www.towardshealing.ie

World Meeting of Families: Parishioners who would like to attend all or part of the event can register now for the three-day Pastoral Congress on www.worldmeeting2018.ie. Places for the Congress are limited and guarantee a ticket for the Festival of Families and the Final Mass which are expected to be led by Pope Francis. Teacings, one each month, in preparation for the World meeting can be got on www.worldmeeting2018.ie.

Amoris Laetitia, The Joy of Love, is the letter written by Pope Francis on Love in the Family. Pope Francis writes: ‘the Gospel reminds us that children are not the property of a family, but have their own lives to lead. Jesus is a model of obedience to his earthly parents, placing himself under their charge, but he also shows that children’s life decisions and their Christian vocation may demand a parting for the sake of the Kingdom of God. Jesus himself, at 12 years of age, tells Mary and Joseph that he has a greater mission to accomplish apart from his earthly family. In this way, he shows the need for other, deeper bonds even within the family. All the same, in the concern he shows for children – whom the societies of the ancient Near East viewed as subjects without particular rights and even as family property – Jesus goes so far as to present them as teachers, on account of their simple trust and spontaneity towards others’. Section 19