PARISH CENTRE: 22229/22779; CATHEDRAL PRESBYTERY: 22505; BÓTHAR-NA-NAOMH PRESBYTERY: 22688.

WEBSITE: www.thurlesparish.ie email: parishcentre@thurlesparish.ie WEFKEND MASS TIMES:

Bóthar na Naomh: Saturday 6.30 p.m.; Sunday: 9.30 a.m. & 11.30 a.m. Cathedral: Saturday 7.30 p.m.; Sunday 8.30 a.m., 10.30 a.m. & 12 noon.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION – BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL: WEEKDAYS: 11.30 A.M. – 7.30 P.M.; SUNDAYS: 1.00 P.M. – 7.00 P.M.

CHRISTMAS 2017:

CAROL SERVICE: Cathedral Sunday Dec. 17th, 7.00 p.m. We continue this century old tradition, started by St. Francis of Assisi, of expressing through carols, words and dance our joy at Christmas and the Birth of our Saviour.

CHRISTMAS CONFESSION TIMES

EVENING OF FORGIVENESS: Take time to "Come and make your Peace" in the **Cathedral Monday Dec. 18**th. **Confessions from 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.**

Cathedral: Saturday Dec. 23rd all day from 11.30 a.m. – 5.30 p.m. Please Note: There will be No Confessions on Friday Dec. 29th/Saturday Dec. 30th. From January 2018 Confessions will take place on Saturdays only from 2.30 – 3.30 p.m. in the Cathedral. This new schedule will commence on Saturday, January 13th.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

Cathedral: Christmas Eve: 8.30 p.m.; Christmas Day: 8.30 a.m.; 10.30 a.m. and 12 noon.

Bóthar na Naomh Church: *Christmas Eve*: Children's Mass: 6.30 p.m. *Christmas Day*: 9.30 a.m. & 11.30 a.m.

PALLOTTINE COLLEGE CHAPEL: MASS TIMES:

Christmas Eve – 8.00 p.m. Christmas Day: 10.00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS CLERGY COLLECTION: This weekend *December 16th/17th*. This Collection is for the support of priests, active & retired in the Archdiocese. This is the last clergy collection for 2017 and we would like to say a very big thanks to all who contributed during the year. Parish commitments, financial and otherwise continue to grow and thanks to the huge generosity of you, the parishioners, we met our target last year. If we are left with a shortfall it must be made up from parish funds. This year's Target: €154,140.00. Amount collected to date: €114,039.00. Please give as generously as you can and while we appreciate that this is a demanding time of the year for all, every little helps.

DECEMBER 2017: Each household will receive the Parish Calendar, Christmas Card, Letter to Parishioners and a package containing envelopes for all Church Collections 2018 including Weekly Offertory Collection Envelopes which begin Jan. 6/7 2018. A very big thank you to all the new volunteers and to all involved in the distribution of envelopes over the last few weeks.

BINGO: Premier Hall Wed. Dec. 20th @ 8.30p.m. Christmas Hamper Draw.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION December 9th & 10th 2017: Cathedral: €1,803.00; Bóthar na Naomh: €1,975.00.

UPCOMING PARISH MEETINGS: PARISH CENTRE:

Tues. Dec. 19th, 11.30 a.m.; After Mass Refreshments;

Tues. Dec. 19th, 4.00 p.m.: Parish Youth Choir;

Tues. Dec. 19th, 8.30 p.m.: Parents' Baptism Preparation Meeting.

CONGRATULATIONS: Sincere congratulations to Fr. Niall O'Riordan who was ordained to the Priesthood in Rome on Friday December 8th. Niall was ordained into the Order of the Family of Mary and our prayers go with him as he embarks on a new life of Ministry. **Niall will celebrate his First Mass in the Cathedral on Sunday January 14th at 12 noon.** On this very special occasion we look forward to you all joining in this wonderful celebration.

POLISH MASSES: Msza Sw Polska w piatek 22 grudnia o godzinie 18:30, Spowiedz Sw. od godziny 17-tej.oraz w drugi dzien Swiat 26 grudnia o godzinie 13-tej w Kaplicy Presentation Convent. Friday December 22nd at 6:30 p.m. with Confessions from 5.00 p.m. Mass also on St Stephen's Day, December 26th at 1.00 pm.

PRESENTATION ASSOCIATES/FRIENDS OF NANO MEETING: Monday Dec. 18th, 7.30 p.m.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL TOY APPEAL: Christmas is a cruel time if you are struggling or in need. We are keen to support the SVP in their Toy Collection this Christmas. To take part, simply drop off an unwrapped new toy in the collection box that will be provided at the back of both churches this weekend, **Saturday & Sunday December 16**th & 17th.

THE MONKS CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGERS in association with the Monks Golf Society will be Carol Singing in Thurles again this year in the lead up to Christmas in Aid of Local Charities in the Town. We would gratefully appreciate your support at this time of great need. All monies donated is given to the charities.

REELING IN THE SHOWBANDS: The Dome, Semple Stadium Friday December 29th. Tickets: €25 now available. Proceeds to Thurles Lion Club. Contact 086 8870755.

COLÁISTE ÉILE FULL TIME & PART TIME COURSES FOR ADULTS: Now enrolling for courses commencing in January. Details from Bernie at 0504 21166 between 10.00 a.m/ & 12.30 p.m. Mon – Thurs.

CLUB FOR DANCING: Premier Ballroom this Sunday, Dec. 17th, 8.30 p.m. – 11.30 p.m. Music by "Twice Shy".

AN EVENING WITH JAMES KILBANE: Sun. March 4th 2018, S.S. Joseph & Bridget's Church, Bóthar na Naomh. Tickets available in January.

TIPPERARY LIBRARIES host the lecture 'Michael Doheny of Fethard, Tipperary's First Fenian' by Dr Willie Nolan, The Source, Tues. Dec.19th @ 7.30 pm. Admission free. All are welcome beforehand for sweet festive fare to celebrate the season. Details: Mary/John at 0761 066 123 - studies@tipperarycoco.ie

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE: Ex Cork. May 31st – June 7th 2018. Details from Sean @ 086 2959 380 or visit medjugorjecork@icloud.com An interpreter will be accompanying this pilgrimage for members of the deaf community.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Daniel Gallagher, Hillview Drive. Richard Beehan, St. Mary's Avenue, Urlingford. Martin Drew, Dublin formerly Derheen. Betty Spillane, Two-Mile-Borris. John O'Donovan, Adamstown, Templemore. Anne Walsh, née Coleman, Dublin formerly Clongour. Tony Hayde, Birmingham, formerly Lacey Avenue, Templemore. Jimmy McAuliffe, Boston, formerly Newmarket, Co. Cork. William (Billy) Moloney, New York, formerly Fianna Road.