

PARISH CENTRE: 22229/22779; CATHEDRAL PRESBYTERY: 22505;

BÓTHAR NA NAOMH PRESBYTERY: 22688

PARISH CENTRE MOBILE NUMBER: 085 8819575

WEBSITE: www.thurlesparish.ie email: parishcentre@thurlesparish.ie

THURLES PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL -Covid 19

WEEKEND MASSES & WEEKDAY MASSES ARE cancelled (Please note: our Bishops have dispensed the obligation to attend Sunday Mass during this time).

CONFESSIONS: The normal schedule of Confessions in our churches has ceased for the time being.

VISITING OF THE SICK & FIRST FRIDAY CALLS: First Friday house visits and other pastoral house visits have ceased except in the case of emergency.

FUNERALS: Due to the number of people now permitted to gather, numbers for funerals must be kept to an absolute minimum.

A **STREAMING SERVICE ON-LINE** has been set up to enable people to participate spiritually in the offering of the Mass from the safety of their homes at 11.00 a.m. daily – available on www.thurlesparish.ie or Google **twitch** and then search: **thurles parish live** – this link will bring you directly to the live stream. **radio transmission also at 11.00a.m.** Please tune in to local radio and our website for updates.

LIVE STREAM & DAILY RADIO TRANSMISSION

HOLY SATURDAY: EASTER VIGIL – 7.00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY: 11.00 a.m. NO DEVOTIONS EASTER SUNDAY EVENING

EASTER WEEK: 11.00 a.m. Mass Daily.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, APRIL 19th: DEVOTIONS AT 3.00 P.M

(Please note – NO 7.00 p.m. Devotions.

These measures are taken in the interest of the health and safety of all our parishioners and the people of the wider Thurles area. *We thank you for your co-operation, support and prayer.*

PARISH OFFICE: During the Coronavirus COVID 19 the Parish Office Staff will work behind closed doors. Please phone Parish Office @ 0504 -22229 or Parish Office Mobile @ 085 8819575 if you have any queries or requests. (All until further notice).

EASTER WEEK: Staff will be working in the Parish Office from **Wednesday April 15th**

TRÓCAIRE BOXES: You may wish to return your Trócaire Box – to do so please contact the Parish Office (0504 22229)

WEEKLY ENVELOPE CONTRIBUTION: Many thanks for your Weekly Envelope Offertory Contributions - **€885.00** received, which benefits the upkeep and maintenance of our Churches. We appreciate your continued generosity during this challenging time.

NEW BOILER APPEAL: Through your generosity **€65.00** was received during this past week bringing the total collected to date to **€54,739.10**. We are almost at our target of **€55,000**.

Míle Buíochas!

EASTER RAFFLE: Sincere thanks to all who supported our Easter Raffle. Total raised: **€875**.

EASTER CLERGY COLLECTION: Takes place this weekend. The money collected in each parish goes to a central diocesan fund from which all priests are paid. Jim, Joe and Vincent say “thank you” for your continued support on behalf of all the Priests of the Archdiocese. **During these difficult times we understand if you cannot contribute towards the Clergy Collection.** (Collection Envelope – 12-Apr-20)

COVID-19 ALONE SUPPORT LINE: For older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). The **Support line** is **0818 222 024** and open Monday to Friday, 8.00a.m.-8.00p.m.

TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL COVID RESPONSE CONTACT NO: 0761 065000.

NTH TIPP DEV. COMPANY, TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL & THURLES GARDAI will launch a helpful booklet outlining important contact numbers. Booklet will be distributed to all houses in the town.

Easter Greetings from Thurles Parish Pastoral Council

As we celebrate the passion and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, Thurles Parish Pastoral Council wish to take this time to send you all our heartfelt Easter Greetings and pray every blessing on you and your loved ones. We are indeed living through extraordinary times and are keenly aware of the changed reality as our usual celebration of the Easter mysteries cannot take place this year. The saying that “you don’t know what you’ve got ‘til it’s gone” has never rang so true. Our current reality has thrown light on just how much our communal celebration of our faith enriches our lives and nourishes us as people. We look forward with hope to when we can once again return to our churches and celebrate our faith together as one family in Christ.

In this difficult time we are delighted that it has been possible to stream a daily mass and the holy week ceremonies on www.thurlesparish.ie It has been such a joy each day to be able to feel part of the mass and the wider community of believers in our parish and beyond. Although we may be in isolation watching in our homes, the sense of connection with the familiar faces and voices has been uplifting each morning. We thank you all for your work in this.

Easter is a time of hope! After going through the dark and difficult days of Holy Week and Good Friday, when Jesus was left alone and isolated, the breaking open of the tomb and the joy of the resurrection changes everything. Fear and despair are replaced with joy and hope for the future. The disciples thought that all was lost and hid away in fear. All that changed when Jesus came back from the dead and gave them new hope. In that spirit of faith let us look forward to brighter days ahead, when we too will leave the darkness of these difficult times behind us and embrace each other in love once more.

We wish to extend a heartfelt gratitude to everybody working relentlessly on the frontline - our healthcare teams, ambulance and first responders, priests and all involved in pastoral care, the gardai, army and many more who are dealing first-hand with the crisis. Thank you to all our Parish and community volunteers who are reaching out and helping the most vulnerable in our society. The qualities of generosity, compassion and innovation are really to the fore.

We are very mindful of the bereaved in our community, and the palpable loss of familiar community and church support for funerals and services, which is unique to this time. Our heartfelt condolences and support are extended to you, and our gratitude to local undertakers who are compassionately supporting families.

We, the Thurles Parish Pastoral Council take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful and hope filled Easter. May all of you and your families remain safe and well.

‘The great gift of Easter is hope – Christian hope which makes us have that confidence in God, in his ultimate triumph, and in his goodness and love, which nothing can shake.’ (Cardinal Basil Hume)

RECENTLY DECEASED: †Mary Cleere, née O’Donoghue, Beechwood Grove. †Gertie Cooke, née Byrne, Iona Avenue. †Margaret (Peggy) Roche, née Kenny, Boheravoron. †Margaret Cantwell, née Maher, Noard, Two-Mile-Borris. †Paddy Heffernan, Clonoulty. †Kathleen O’Brien, Holycross. †Sr. Catherine Dunne, Religious of the Sacred of Mary, Huntstown Wood, Dublin formerly Conahy, Co. Kilkenny. †Dr. Bharat Upadhwaya, Barnes, London †Eileen Nolan Sullivan, New York. †Tada Ooch, Poland. **May they rest in Peace.**