

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

DAILY MASS: 11.00 a.m.

SUNDAY EVENING DEVOTIONS: 7.00 p.m.

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, e.g. you may wish to book an intention for the daily Mass that is lived streamed. (All until further notice). **Please note Parish Office Staff will not be working next Monday, May 4th – Bank Holiday.**

WEEKLY ENVELOPE CONTRIBUTION: In this trying time for everyone, we are very grateful for your Weekly Envelope Contributions - **€1,770.00** received, which benefits the upkeep and maintenance (e.g. heat and light for the streaming of our daily Mass) of our Churches. We appreciate your bigheartedness when you have so many demands on you and your families. Many thanks.

EASTER CLERGY COLLECTION: Sincere thanks to all who contributed to this Clergy Collection. Amount received: **€13,895.00**. We have received several enquiries regarding paying the Collections directly into the Parish Bank Account – this can be done by setting up a Standing Order or by Credit Transfer– if interested please contact the Parish Office for further details. We greatly appreciate your generosity, but we understand during these difficult times, if you are unable to contribute towards the Clergy Collection.

AGE ACTION GRANT: Due to the huge response received, this grant is no longer available. Please contact Citizens Information Centre on 0761076510 if you have any queries or need advice during these challenging times.

SACRAMENTS OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION 2020

Archbishop Kieran has received several requests for information about the Sacraments of **First Holy Communion and Confirmation**. It is now certain that all the plans and preparations we have made for the reception of the **Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation** will not be realised.

These ceremonies are big occasions and bring many people together to celebrate with those receiving the sacrament. However, following guidelines from the government, right now it is impossible to gather large numbers of people because of the risks involved for the spread of Covid-19. We realise this is a big disappointment for many people but during these challenging times this decision is unavoidable.

To all of you preparing for these sacraments this year Archbishop Kieran would like to state that your **First Holy Communion and Confirmation** will happen when we receive the assurance from the government that it is safe to hold these ceremonies.

"The Lord is my light and my help. Hope in the Lord, hold firm and take heart".
(Psalm 26)

TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL COVID RESPONSE CONTACT NO: 0761 065000.

COVID-19 SUPPORT LINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE: ALONE have a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open Monday to Friday, 8.00a.m.- 8.00p.m., by calling **0818 222 024**. Hours may be extended to meet the demand.

ACCORD: COVID-19 Couples and Relationships Support Line. If you need to speak to an experienced couples & relationships Counsellor during this time of unprecedented stress and pressure on family life contact **01 5313331** – 9.00a.m. – 8.00p.m. Mon. – Fri. All calls charged at local rate.

RADIO MARIA IRELAND: Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station. Prayer, Catechesis, Uplifting music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies – all commercial free - Listen via TV on [Saorview](#) - Channel 210 and [Freeview](#) - Channel 826; Download our FREE APP - "RADIO MARIA IRELAND", streaming on www.radiomaria.ie or via PHONE – get live radio feed by telephoning +353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply). Please join our growing faith family!

RECENTLY DECEASED: †Nancy Stakelum, 'Avondale', Clongour. Private Family Funeral Mass this Monday, Cathedral, 11.00 a.m. †Peggy (Margaret) Kennedy, née Moloney, White Park, Roscrea. †Peggy (Margaret) Walsh, née Ryan, Camblin, Roscrea. †Robert Smyth, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow. †Sr. Maria (Brid) Cormack, Sisters of Mercy, Leeds, England formerly Ballyknockane, Templetuohy.

May they Rest in Peace.

PRAYER TO OUR LADY IN DIFFICULT TIMES:

*Holy Virgin Mary, you are reigning in glory with Jesus, your Son.
Remember us in our sadness. Look on all who are suffering or facing any difficulty.
Help us, who are separated from someone we love.*

Help us, who are lonely in our hearts.

Help us in the weakness of our faith and love.

*Help us, who are weeping, who are praying and who are fearful.
Holy Mother, please obtain for all of us hope and peace with justice. Amen.*