

**PARISH CENTRE: 22229/22779; CATHEDRAL PRESBYTERY: 22505;**  
**BÓTHAR NA NAOMH PRESBYTERY: 22688**  
**PARISH CENTRE MOBILE NUMBER: 085 8819575**  
**WEBSITE: [www.thurlesparish.ie](http://www.thurlesparish.ie) email: [parishcentre@thurlesparish.ie](mailto:parishcentre@thurlesparish.ie)**

**THURLES PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL -Covid 19**

The Bishops of the Munster Province now believe it is time to reopen our churches in a responsible manner for a minimum time each day for private prayer. It is planned to do this beginning from May 18th. This important stage of re-opening responds to the deep need of our parishioners to visit their local church to pray. The journey ahead is uncertain and there is still so much that must be recommenced within our churches. Initially, a **confined section of the Cathedral of the Assumption** will re-open from **12-2pm daily**. In due course, the church of St. Joseph & St. Brigid in Bóthar na Naomh will reopen.

While it is a very welcome and uplifting step forward, there are a number of considerations to ensure a safe environment for all involved, going forward. These are in alignment with Covid-19 HSE and HSA regulations. We ask that during your visit to Cathedral for prayer please adhere to the following:

- **If present, follow the guidance of church personnel on duty, who are there to ensure your safety in these present times.**
- **Please avail of hand sanitisers in place for your safety. It is also recommended, if possible, to carry your own personal sanitiser.**
- **Please follow the directions outlined for ease of movement in and out of the Cathedral. Entry and exit points are clearly marked.**
- **Please ensure social distancing particularly when sitting/kneeling in pews. Please only sit on designated areas marked with 'X'**
- **When lighting candles at the candelabra, please ensure it is one person at a time.**
- **Minimum touching of surfaces is advised, e.g. door handles, pews, candelabras.**
- **In line with Covid-19 recommendations, and in the interest of public safety, not more than 15 minutes of stay in the Cathedral is advised. This also creates ample opportunity for all to avail of time in prayer and reflection within the two hours.**
- **Please read and take note of any notices displayed with Covid-19 information around the church. We will keep this updated.**

We welcome you back to Thurles Cathedral and invite you to take this time to enjoy the peace and ease of prayer and reflection in these uncertain times. For now, let us prepare well for this first stage so that the other stages will follow without any difficulty. *Thank you for your attention and co-operation.*

**'Wherever two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in their midst.'**  
(Mt. 18:20)

**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](http://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).

**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, **0818 222 024**, is open Monday to Friday, 8.00a.m.- 8.00p.m. Hours may be extended to meet the demand.

**TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL COVID RESPONSE CONTACT NO: 0761 065000**

**WEEKLY ENVELOPE CONTRIBUTION:** In this trying time for everyone, we are very grateful for your Weekly Envelope Contributions - **€1,995.00** 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: **€18,090.00**. 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.

**TROCAIRE:** A big thanks to all our parishioners who supported the Trócaire campaign this year. Thurles Parish has collected **€12,597.00** to date – **Míle Buíochas!**

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** †Very Rev. Fr. Liam Holmes, Murroe & Knockainey, Co. Limerick, formerly St. Patrick's College, Thurles. †Margaret (Peg) Ryan, née Gleeson, Killavalla, Templederry. †Jack Flynn, Blackrock, Cork.

**May they Rest in Peace.**