

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

The Bishops of the Munster Province have decided to reopen our churches in a responsible manner for a minimum time each day for private prayer. 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. A **confined section of the Cathedral of the Assumption** is open **daily from 12 - 2.00p.m.** A section of the church of **St. Joseph & St. Brigid in Bóthar na Naomh** is open **daily from 9.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.**

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 and Bóthar na Naomh Church 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.**
- **Alcohol-based hand sanitiser - Please ensure hands are rubbed completely dry to allow flammable vapours to evaporate safely prior to the lighting of candles.**
- **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 and Bóthar na Naomh Church 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 Bóthar na Naomh Church and invite you to take this time to enjoy the peace and ease of prayer and reflection.

In the past few days, the **Irish Bishop's Conference has published a framework Document for a return to the public celebration of Mass and the Sacraments. In the coming week this document will be discussed by our Parish Pastoral Council and we will keep you informed on any developments that are to take place. Thank you for your attention and co-operation.**

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** → **thurles parish live** - this link will bring you directly to the live stream. **Radio transmission also at 11.00 a.m.** Please tune in to local radio and our website for updates.

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.*

We would love to hear your thoughts on what wisdom you are acquiring from living through this current pandemic. Please write down a sentence or two on your reflections and email them to the Parish Office at parishcentre@thurlesparish.ie or put them through the letterbox of the Parish Centre.

LIVE STREAM & DAILY RADIO TRANSMISSION

DAILY MASS: 11.00 a.m.

SUNDAY EVENING DEVOTIONS: 7.00 p.m.

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.

ASCEND DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICE, NORTH TIPPERARY: If you or someone you know is experiencing Domestic Abuse, help is available. Please call 0505 23999 or 087 950 1299 (Mon- Fri 9am - 5pm).

WEEKLY ENVELOPE CONTRIBUTION: In this trying time for everyone, we are very grateful for your Weekly Envelope Contributions - **€2,520.00** 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.

JUNE CLERGY COLLECTION: Sincere thanks to all who contributed to this collection. **€9,200.00** was received. Jim, Joe and Vincent say **'thank you'** for your continued support on behalf of the Priests of the Archdiocese. We greatly appreciate your generosity, but we understand during these times, if you are unable to contribute towards the Clergy Collection.

TRÓCAIRE: A big thanks to all our parishioners who supported the Trócaire campaign this year. Thurles Parish has collected **€16,873.00** to date – **Míle Buíochas!**

RECENTLY DECEASED: †Francis (Frankie) Medley, Sarsfield Street & Monakeeba. †Sr. Annunciata Hayes, Presentation Convent, Parnell Street, Kilkenny, formerly Leigh, Two Mile Borris. †John Gleeson, Baldoyle, Dublin, formerly Drombane. †Tom Molony, Holycross.

May they Rest in Peace.

Summertime:

May you seek and find spaces of repose during these summer months.

May these moments refresh and restore the tired places within you.

May the God of summer give us rest.