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**BÓTHAR NA NAOMH PRESBYTERY: 22688**  
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#### **REOPENING OF THE CATHEDRAL FOR WEEKDAY MASSES:**

To all our parishioners, in line with the Framework Document issued by the Catholic Bishops, guidance from Archbishop Kieran, and in adherence to the National Covid Guidelines, the Parish Pastoral Council have taken the decision to re-open the Cathedral for daily masses. Thank you for your commitment and patience to date. We appreciate that the past few months have been very difficult for all of you, and we now ask for your co-operation as we tentatively step forward into the next phase. The safety and health of all people attending the church, the staff, ministers and priests is paramount. We all have a part to play and a duty of care to comply with public health advice and associated regulations and obligations.

**From Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup> the Cathedral of the Assumption will open for two masses, 11.00 am and 7.00 p.m. The Cathedral will not be open for Saturday evening and Sunday masses for the moment, because of the restriction to 50 people.** This is a temporary measure which will be continually monitored. The provision of the two mass times allows for the sanitisation of the Cathedral to guarantee a safe environment.

**In due course Bóthar na Naomh Church will reopen for Mass.**

Vulnerable members of our community may have a preference to continue viewing Mass on-line, or listening to the radio, as the dispensation from the Sunday and Holyday obligation is extended for the foreseeable future. **We ask everyone to consider attending a maximum of one mass per week to dispel the possibility of larger crowds attending any given mass.**

For all ministries in the church, social distancing and hygiene measures are paramount. Eucharistic ministers and stewards attended Covid Protocol training during the week. We ask for your co-operation in facilitating their duties in a respectful manner, in the interest of safety for everybody. People will be guided by stewards to enter the Cathedral through the middle door and sit in the centre aisles only where the seats are clearly displayed by Yellow 'X'. Stewards will continue to guide people in an orderly manner to Communion, maintaining social distancing. Eucharistic ministers and priests will distribute Communion behind screens for everybody's safety.

**The Eucharist can be distributed on the hands only.** Once the maximum capacity of 50 has been reached, it will be indicated to the public, by a rope in front of the main door. The doors will be closed (not locked), and a notice indicating full capacity will be displayed. People are invited to socially distance outside, should they wish, as Mass will be aired through a speaker, and there will be an opportunity to receive Communion at the main door.

Regrettably for this phase, altar servers and choirs cannot return for the present. The use of collection bags and missalette is temporarily dispensed with due to Covid restrictions. Collection boxes are placed around the Cathedral for your convenience, to contribute to the weekly offertory collection.

**Bothar Na Naomh Church will continue to be available for private prayer and will be open from 9.00 a.m. until the extended time of 2.00 p.m. daily. The Cathedral will continue to open for private prayer, remaining open after 11.00 a.m. Mass until 5.00 p.m. (Please note extended hours). It will reopen for 7.00p.m. mass. The closure at 5.00 p.m. is to facilitate sanitising of the building prior to mass.** We respectfully appreciate your cooperation as we all ease forward into a new normal, bearing in mind that these are only temporary measures. We welcome everyone and together we can stay safe and well.

**BAPTISM: The Sacrament of Baptism will resume from the first weekend in July. Please contact the Parish Office for further information.**

**CONFESSIONS: Will resume in the Cathedral on Saturday July 11<sup>th</sup> (with social distancing in place).**

**VISITING OF THE SICK & FIRST FRIDAY CALLS:** First Friday house visits and other pastoral house visits have ceased except in the case of emergency.  
**FOR OUR STREAMING SERVICE ON-LINE** [www.thurlesparish.ie](http://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.

#### **LIVE STREAM & DAILY RADIO TRANSMISSION**

**WEEKDAY MASSES: 11.00 a.m. (Mon. – Sat.) & 7.00 p.m. (Mon. – Fri. ONLY).**

**SUNDAY EVENING DEVOTIONS: 7.00 p.m.**

**PALLOTTINE COLLEGE CHAPEL:** Mass will resume on Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 a.m. Maximum capacity: **36.**

**PARISH OFFICE:** The Parish Office will re-open to the public on Monday July 6<sup>th</sup> from 11.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m. & from 2.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.

**ALONE COVID-19 SUPPORT LINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE: 0818 222 024,** is open Monday to Friday, 8.00a.m.- 8.00p.m. Hours may be extended to meet the demand.

**TIPPERARY CO. 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:** We are very grateful for your Weekly Envelope Contributions - **€1,555.00** 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.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION OF PRIESTS COLLECTION:** A gentle reminder that this Collection takes place this weekend. We appreciate your generosity but understand if you are unable to contribute during these difficult times.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO FR. MARTIN HAYES, BISHOP ELECT OF KILMORE DIOCESE**

It is with great joy and pride that Thurles Parish Pastoral Council congratulate Fr. Martin Hayes on behalf of the people of Thurles upon his appointment as Bishop of Kilmore (which consists of almost all of County Cavan, roughly the northern half of County Leitrim, and parts of County Fermanagh, County Meath and County Sligo). The news was greeted around our Parish and Archdiocese with delight for Fr. Martin and pride in one of our own being elevated to the office of Bishop.

Fr. Martin, a native of New Hill, Two-Mile-Borris, served for many years in Thurles. Fr. Martin served in Bóthar na Naomh, and later as Administrator of the Cathedral. These were years of great change in the Parish and Martin led the way with vision and compassion. Some of his lasting legacies include the development of Lámh Chunta and establishing the Parish Pastoral Council after many years of consultation and preparation. He left the Parish well placed to face the challenges and opportunities that lay ahead. For this and much more we thank Martin.

Having left the parish Martin was appointed the Director of Diocesan Pastoral Planning, developing and delivering the Listening process over the past three years, continuing Pastoral Development across the Diocese. This has been vital work in preparing our Parishes to better meet the needs and challenges of the future.

There is no doubt that Fr. Martin will be a big loss to Cashel & Emly, but our loss is Kilmore's gain. We pray for all God's blessings on him as he continues the Pilgrim path in his new role as Bishop of Kilmore. May he be guided and strengthened by God's grace as he leads the faithful of his new Diocese. Martin, you will always have friends here in Thurles. Best Wishes and God go with you for the future.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** †Ann Gleeson, Thomond Road. †Breda Ronayne, Dublin Road.

**May they rest in Peace.**