

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

Christmas Greetings from Thurles Parish Pastoral Council:

'There is a kindness that dwells deep down in things, it presides everywhere, often in the places we least expect. The world can be harsh and negative; but if we remain generous and patient, kindness inevitably reveals itself. Something deep in the human soul seems to depend on the presence of kindness, something instinctive in us expects it, and once we sense it we are able to trust and open ourselves.' (John O' Donohue)

This Christmas season we extend our best wishes and gratitude to you all. As we come to the end of 2021 Christmas offers a special message of hope, understanding and kindness as we transition into a new year. This Christmas Season is especially challenging for everyone as we are still in the midst of the pandemic. We are mindful that there are challenges being experienced by many through loneliness, isolation, illness, bereavement, and daily struggles. We acknowledge all of you who have lost loved ones in this past year and keep you in our thoughts and prayers. This Christmas and New Year of 2022, may you all experience the warmth of kindness and generosity in your lives. It is often in the darkest of times, that people discover that deep well of kindness, enabling light and hope to shine through the darkest hours. We thank all our parishioners, all the wonderful people and charitable organisations who give of their time and skills in providing help and comfort to all in need. We are especially grateful for all your tireless work this past year. The sense of community is palpable in the most challenging of times. Christmas brightens up the dark days of winter and carries us over to the promise of a new beginning in January. May the blessings and hope of this Christmas season be with you all and remain with you as we move into 2022.

Best wishes to you all...

Despite all the darkness, human hope is based on the instinct that at the deepest level of reality some intimate kindness holds sway. (John O' Donohue)

MASS TIMES FOLLOWING CHRISTMAS DAY:

St. Stephen's Day, Sunday December 26th:

Cathedral: 9.00 a.m. & 11.00 a.m. No 7.00 p.m. Mass.

Bóthar na Naomh Church: 10.00 a.m. Mass.

MASS TIMES WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY DECEMBER 27th:

Cathedral: Monday – Saturday: 11.00 a.m. daily –

please note No Evening Mass this week in the Cathedral.

Saturday January 1st: Vigil Mass 7.00 p.m.

Bóthar na Naomh Church: Tuesday & Thursday: 7.00 p.m. Mass

CONFESSIONS will resume on Saturday, January 8th, 2.30 – 3.30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS CLERGY COLLECTION: Sincere thanks to all who contributed to this Collection. The money collected in each parish goes to a central diocesan fund from which all the priests are paid. Jim, Joe & Vincent say *'thank you'* for your continued support on behalf of the Priests of the Archdiocese. We greatly appreciate your generosity – however we understand if you are unable to contribute during these difficult times.

PARISH OFFICE: Will re-open Thursday January 30th, 10.00 – 5.00 p.m. Lunch: 1.30 – 2.30 p.m. Friday January 31st: 10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: Sincere thanks to all who supported our Christmas Raffle and to all who so kindly donated prizes. **€2,665.00** was raised for the Cathedral "Raise the Roof" Fund!

WEEKLY ENVELOPE CONTRIBUTION: We are very grateful for your Weekly Offertory Contributions - **€3,947** received. Donation Boxes for the Weekly Offertory Collection are placed around the Cathedral & Bóthar na Naomh Church.

ENVELOPE DISTRIBUTORS: A big thanks to all who helped distribute Envelopes this year.

CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION "RAISE THE ROOF" LOTTO INITIATIVE

Weekly Lotto Draw Results: Winning Numbers: 1; 7; 8; 22.

The Jackpot was not won this week.

Cash Prize of €150 - Congratulations to the weekly lucky winner!

Next Draw – December 30th - Jackpot €2,125.00

If you haven't already joined the lotto we would be delighted if you choose to join as we strive to raise the necessary finance to fund the replacement of the roof of the Cathedral of the Assumption.

Coinciding with the launch of our 'Raise the Roof' Lotto our Direct Donations to the Cathedral Reroofing Project have increased. €22,535.00 - amount received in Direct Donations since June 2021. Your continued kindness and generosity is very much appreciated.

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS UPDATE:

WEEKEND MASSES: CATHEDRAL: SATURDAY: VIGIL MASS: 7.00 p.m.

SUNDAY: 9.00 a.m., 11.00 A.M. & 7.00 p.m.

BÓTHAR NA NAOMH CHURCH: SUNDAY: 10.00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES: CATHEDRAL: MONDAY – SATURDAY: 11.00 a.m.

EVENING MASS: NO EVENING MASS THE WEEK AFTER CHRISTMAS.

BÓTHAR NA NAOMH CHURCH EVENING MASS: TUESDAY & THURSDAY: 7.00 p.m.

Pallottine College Chapel is open for Mass at 10.00 a.m. each day. The capacity for the Pallottine College Chapel is 50 people.

- **CATHEDRAL OPENING HOURS:** 8.30 a.m. daily. The Cathedral will remain open until 6.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and on all other days until after 7.00 p.m. mass.
- **BÓTHAR NA NAOMH CHURCH OPENING HOURS:** 9.00.am each morning remaining open until 2.00 pm daily (Open for 7.00 p.m. mass Tuesdays & Thursdays).
- **IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES:** Religious Services, Weddings & Funerals can proceed without capacity limits but with all other protective measures remaining in place: We ask that all parishioners attending masses and services be mindful of wearing face coverings, (it is understood that for medical reasons some people may not be able to comply with this regulation); using hand sanitizer; keep social distance. The Eucharist will continue to be received on the hand only.
- **FOR THE PRESENT CURRENT MASS TIME SCHEDULE WILL REMAIN IN PLACE.**
- **BAPTISMS** may be booked through the Parish Centre. 20 people may attend each Baptism.
- **CONFESSIONS:** Cathedral Saturdays: 2.30 – 3.30 p.m.
- **FIRST FRIDAY CALLS:** Will not resume for November but hopefully, once easing of restrictions remains in place, First Friday Calls will resume in the near future. In the meantime, should you wish a priest to call to a family member please contact the Parish Office.
- **HOLY WATER:** If you need Holy Water please bring your container, filled with water to the Parish Centre for blessing.
- **PARISH CENTRE:** Please remember to wear your face coverings when visiting the Parish Centre.

FOR OUR STREAMING SERVICE ON-LINE please visit www.thurlesparish.ie.

NEWLY BAPTISED: *Millie Vera Apple, Childers Park, *Ava Jamilah Hayes, Sandymount Ave, Dublin.

RECENTLY DECEASED: †Tony Casey, Clongour. †Gerard Kennedy, Fana, Drombane.

†Martin Carey, Murrivaugh, Mulranny, Co. Mayo, formerly Moyne.

May They Rest In Peace