

CLERGY:

V. Rev. Canon Fitzgerald P.P., V.F. Phone: 025-84090.
V. Rev. Canon O'Leary P.E., C.C. Phone: 025-84088.
Rev. Fr. Burke C.C. Phone: 025-84077.
Parish Office: Phone: 025-84062.

Fr. Burke is on Sick Call this week;

Phone Number: 087 – 2524979

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS:

mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS 10AM WEDNESDAY

Office Open: 9 am to 12 noon – Monday to Friday.

Parish Website: www.mitchelstownparish.ie

E-mail address for Parish Pastoral Council is

mitchelstownpnc@gmail.com

Today is world Day of Peace

Monday is a Bank Holiday, Mass at 11.00am only

MASSES FOR REMAINDER OF WEEK: 8.30am & 10.00am

MORNING PRAYER: Monday – Friday: 8.00am

The Epiphany of the Lord: Friday is the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. It is a Holy Day of obligation. Vigil Mass: Thursday Evening 7.30pm

Masses on Friday the Feast day, the same as Sunday in all three Churches, including Evening Mass in the Parish Church on Friday. It is also the 1st Friday.

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS: After 10.00am Mass next Saturday.

**CONFESSIONS: Saturday: 12.00-1.00pm & 7.00-7.30pm
First Thursday: 12.00-1.00pm & 7.00-7.30pm**

DIVINE MERCY PRAYERS: Friday at 3.00pm. All welcome.

A Word of Thanks: The Priests of the Parish wish to thank everybody for the Christmas Offerings received. We are grateful for your support throughout the year.

Envelope System: We thank everybody who used the envelope system of offering this year. As the Tax refund is of great benefit to the Parish, we encourage you to continue to use the system again the coming year. **Anyone who would like to join the system should contact the Parish Office. Every contribution is appreciated, no matter how it is given.**

THE PRIESTS OF THE PARISH WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR.

As today is 1st Sunday, the Diocesan Religious Purpose Collection will be taken up after Holy Communion.

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 8

Issue: 27 Date: Sunday 1st January 2017

Welcome Year 2017:

We are entering today the year that marks the centenary of the astounding prophetic apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima one hundred year ago. It's been a hundred years of violent turmoil for the world and stormy upheaval for the Church. We all long for the prophetic peace promised by Our Lady at Fatima on July 13th, 1917. She asked us then and she asks us now: **"Pray the Rosary Every Day"**. Today we celebrate the Divine Motherhood of Our Lady. At Fatima, Our Lady revealed that Divine Motherhood in an extraordinary way, through three small children, Lucia, Francesco & Jacinta. As a mother, she warned us to stop offending God, to pray and to make sacrifice. This was her recipe for peace in the world and the means of preventing the loss of many souls in Hell.

On this New Year's Day of 2017, let us consecrate ourselves and our families to the Compassionate Heart of our Divine Mother Mary. In that Heart we shall find comfort and protection. In His last dying breath, our beloved Saviour Jesus gave us the gift of His own Mother, through St. John the Apostle. Like St. John, let us take Her to our homes today.

1916-2016:

As we leave 2016, we remember the men, women and children, who suffered and died for our freedom. Let us never forget our ancestors were true to the Faith and died for it. As we leave the Centenary celebrations behind us, let us go forward with Jesus and Mary, they are the true source of our freedom and our future hope and security.

Confronting the Devil's Power:

The following is a quotation from the address of Pope Paul VI, to a general audience on November 15th, 1972: The Pope began his address with a simple question: "What are the Church's greatest needs at this present time?" Few would have anticipated what the Pope was to say next. "Don't be surprised at our answer and don't write it off as simplistic or even superstitious: One of the Church's greatest needs is to be defended against the evil we call the devil." Pope Paul VI went on to examine the evil in the world and to discuss something of the nature of evil, which led him to make a point about the devil, a point clear, unambiguous and unequivocal. He said, "Evil is not merely an absence of something, but an active force, a living spiritual being, that is perverted and that perverts others. It is a terrible reality, mysterious and frightening He is a malign, clever seducer, who knows how to make his way into us through the senses, the imagination and the libido, through Utopian logic, or through disordered social contact in the give and take of our activities, so that he can bring about in us deviations that are all the more harmful, because they seem to conform to our physical and mental make-up or to our profound and instinctive aspirations."

