

**CLERGY:**

V. Rev. Canon Fitzgerald P.P., V.F. Phone: 025-84090.  
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**DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS 10AM WEDNESDAY**

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

**Parish Website: [www.mitchelstownparish.ie](http://www.mitchelstownparish.ie)**

**Canon Fitzgerald is on Sick Call this week - Phone Number: 087 - 2524979**

**Heritage Society Lecture on Galtee Castle Woods**

**"Revealing Galtee Castle Wood".**

Mitchelstown Heritage Society is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. Its **Spring/Summer Programme of Lectures and Outings** begin on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 8pm in the Town Hall.** Fittingly Bill Power is giving the talk on local amenity and historic site; Galtee Castle Woods, Bill gave the first ever talk to Mitchelstown Heritage Society, way back in 1995. Bill first visited Galtee Wood over thirty years ago. Since then he has been fascinated by the history and beauty of the locality. Over the past five years he has captured images in the wood which have won international photography awards. This lecture will combine Bill's unique knowledge of the history of Galtee Castle with his passion for photography to reveal hidden aspects of the woodland, past and present. If you'd like to know more about the area or if you simply enjoy Galtee Wood as a place to walk, then this lecture will shed new light on a very special corner of the Galtee Mountains. This lecture is open to the public, there is a small cover charge of €3 for members, €5 for non-members. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

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Dear Community Representative, The next **Galtee District forum meeting** is open to all community, voluntary, environmental and sporting groups operating in County Cork and is an opportunity for groups to gain information on the new Cork County Public Participation Network (PPN). Cork County Council is now inviting registrations for the establishment of the proposed Cork County PPN, which will replace the current Community & Voluntary Forum, and the closing date for receipt of initial registrations is 4<sup>th</sup> February 2015. To register and for further information, go to the Community & Enterprise section of Cork County Council's website at [www.corkcoco.ie](http://www.corkcoco.ie). The details of the next meeting of the Galtee District Forum are as follows: **Date: Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015. Time: 8.00 pm sharp. Venue: Shanballymore Community Hall, Co. Cork.** This meeting will also have an update on the Local Development Alignment process to date from Carmel Fox, CEO, Ballyhoura Development Ltd. As representatives of community organisations, we would ask you to inform as many people as possible from your local community to attend the upcoming District Forum meeting. Your attendance is appreciated and we look forward to meeting with you on the night. If you have any queries please contact Sadie Allen, Community Development Officer with Ballyhoura Development Ltd. at tel. 025-85213 / email: [sallen@ballyhoura.org](mailto:sallen@ballyhoura.org).

**Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter**

**Volume: 6 Issue: 32 Date: Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2015**

**What's the next step?** The Parish working group preparing to form a Parish Pastoral Council met in the parish office during the week. During the coming weeks a lot of work has to be done to decide a constitution and other basic groundwork. It is envisaged then to have a mini parish retreat around Pentecost, to prepare for the process of inviting nominations from the parish. Nominees will have to be consulted and then the process of formation of the Council will take place. It is thought best to confine the number of the Council to 12 / 13 persons. The time frame of all this work is that the Council will be formed by June and ready to commence its work by September. We will keep you informed by Newsletter and ask you all to reflect and pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, as we go through the process of forming a Council.

**Call to Repentance:** The call to repentance and conversion is an urgent one. The future of our world will be decided on whether or not mankind answers this call. We all need to look seriously at our lives before God everyday and examine the way we live in the light of God's Commandments. We are surrounded by a secular and selfish culture, which is leading our world and our country to collapse. A world or a country that makes decisions against God is heading for ruin. Everybody is proclaiming their rights, but let us not forget the rights of God. Repentance means to acknowledge our sins and to realise when we have failed and what obligations we have not fulfilled. We cannot see all there is at once. Some become visible only as we go higher. So let us begin with the most obvious. Let us ask ourselves the question. If I were to come before God right now, if I were to die today and face His judgement, what would I have wanted to change? Let us just answer that question. Let us keep asking this question until it is as clear as the noonday sun. If I were to die right now, what would I repent of most? Let us keep asking this question until the answer comes. When the answer comes, begin and make a resolution to act and ask what help I need. Heaven is waiting for us to open the door to repentance.

**Conclusion of Church Unity Week:** We had a very prayerful gathering on Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup> with Rev. Eileen Cremin, St. George's and Canon Tom Sherlock, Kingston College oratory. Representatives of both congregations were present. Thanks to everybody for their participation and help in preparing for the ceremony. After the celebration we enjoyed refreshments at the Clongibbon. It was good and supportive to be together as Christian believers.

**Bunscoil na Toirbhirte (Presentation Primary School), Mitchelstown.**

**Enrolments** will take place in the above school for children starting school in the Autumn 2015, from **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February**. Enrolment forms will be available at the school office and you will get an opportunity to meet with the Principal on an individual basis from 9.00-12.30 and 1.00-2.30 Monday to Friday. Also Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 6.45-7.30 for people unable to call to the school during the day.

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**ART CLASSES** - 8 week course in Acrylic and Oil painting. Commencing on Tuesday nights from 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 7.30pm- 10pm OR Wednesday mornings from 4<sup>th</sup> February at 10am - 12.30pm in Carrigeen, Kilbehenny. Contact Deirdre Dunne 085 7844305

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**Bright Sparks: EDUCATIONAL COMPUTER TRAINING CLASSES** for 4 to 7 year olds.

45 minute classes. ENGLISH and MATHS PROJECTS giving your child the best opportunities to develop their LANGUAGE PHONICS and a foundation for all subjects in school. Preschool, Junior Infants, Senior Infants, First Class. €8 per class places limited to 6 students per class. Bookings/enquires to 025 86799 or text 086 2653839

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**CORK CONFERENCE – THE IMPORTANCE OF MARRIAGE AND THE DEFENCE OF THE FAMILY.** Speakers: Rev. Fr. Gabriel Burke - a priest of the Cloyne Diocese, Catherine Whiley - founder of the Grandparents Association, Tom Finnegan PHD - Mother & Fathers Matter, Anthony Murphy – to chair meeting, Editor – Catholic Voice Newspaper. Venue: Conference Centre Silverspings Hotel Cork, Sunday February 8<sup>th</sup> at 2.45pm. Important to see you on that day.

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**Kilbehenny Cycling Club** are back cycling **this Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 10:00am, from Kilbehenny Community Centre**. We would like to welcome all members, especially the new members that recently joined the club. Kilbehenny Cycling Club can offer all cyclists the very best cycling experience. With a strong membership and a great year of cycling events planned there is every reason to become a member. The craic is mighty too. Do join us and let it be your operation transformation! Spinning classes are continuing on Tuesday evenings in B2A. For further details contact: Mary 086 6033239, Eileen 068 3180962, Tom 087 2683587. New members most welcome

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**Mitchelstown Community Council – Allotments Sod Turning Ceremony.** Mitchelstown Community Council Ltd cordially invite you to: The Sod Turning Ceremony for the Mitchelstown Community Allotments. Performed by Councillor Alan Coleman, Mayor of Cork County. Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 3pm, at Allotment Site, Church Road, Mitchelstown. This initiative is part of the World Health Organisation Mitchelstown Healthy Towns Initiative, supported by HSE, Ballyhoura Development Ltd, Cork County Council and Mitchelstown Community Forum Ltd.

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**NET Young Women's / Men's Groups**

Women meet every Monday night, men meet every Tuesday night!  
Both nights: 7.00 - 8.30 pm in the Town Hall, for 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> years.

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**GLENAHULLA NATIONAL SCHOOL ENROLMENT FOR SEPTEMBER 2015:**

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February. Please contact the school during these dates.

022 25476 [glenahullans.ias@eircom.net](mailto:glenahullans.ias@eircom.net)

Two workers required for the **Awbeg Funcheon Recreation Scheme Ltd.** Bus Driver wanted for the Day Care Centre (Garda Vetting Needed). Assistant for the Health Centre also wanted (Garda Vetting Needed). Please contact Aileen on 025-86956

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**TOWN HALL:** A new **Booking System** in place for all space at Town Hall. Ring Aileen Lane, Awbeg Office (DSP), Baldwin Street. Telephone No: (025) 86956 during office hours Monday to Friday, 9am – 1pm & 2pm to 5pm.

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**Ballindangan Community Hall: Progressive 45 Card Game:** The weekly card game is making a welcome return to Ballindangan Hall, but this time on Saturday nights. 1st night will be on February 7<sup>th</sup>. €10 game. Beginning at 8.30pm sharp. All Welcome.

**Monday Morning Club:** Monday February 2<sup>nd</sup>, we are delighted to have Deirdre from The Wardrobe Boutique in Mitchelstown will be our guest. Doors open at 10.30am.

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**PARENTING - A STRESS-FREE ZONE:** CBS Secondary School Mitchelstown will host a talk entitled "Parenting - a stress-free zone" in the school on **Tuesday February 3<sup>rd</sup>**, starting at 7.30pm. The main speaker will be Liam Doocey (Youth Health Services), and Liam will focus particularly on communication and on conflict resolution. Admission is free and this event is open to all parents.

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**St. Vincent de Paul Fermoy presents ‘An Evening of Song’** with Cara O’Sullivan – Soprano, The Cork Garda Male Voice Choir and The Wilcollane Singers at St. Patrick’s Church, Fermoy on **Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 8.00pm**. Tickets €20 available from Hickeys Fashions, Patrick Street Fermoy and Fermoy Parish Office. Proceeds in aid of St. Vincent de Paul Fermoy.

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**P.T.A.A. Private Members Draw Results Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize:** €1200 Paddy Lalor, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize:** €400 Marie Doorly, Galway Road, Roscommon.  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize:** €200 Paul & Kathleen Finn, Bantry, Co. Cork.  
**4<sup>th</sup> Prize:** €100 Barbara Donnelly, Newry, Co. Cork.

***Six Promoters Prizes of €40 each;***

1. Danny Gorman, Derry City.
2. U. Ward, Longwood, Co. Meath.
3. John Casey, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork.
4. Paddy Mulhall, Bray, Co Wicklow.
5. Michael Keane, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.
6. Geraldine Clarke, Longford.

***The next draw will be held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2015***

The private members monthly draw, which anyone may feel free to join, has been held over the last number of years, proved most successful as a national fundraising event. Membership is €7 per month. Those wishing to join, can do so by contacting any member of Mitchelstown Pioneer Council or local promoter John (087) 6477897. We thank you for your financial assistance in the past and look forward to your support in the future. Best of luck to all in the draw.

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**STAG PARK COMMUNITY HOUSE:** *Coffee morning* next Wednesday morning 4<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30a.m. to advise the community of upcoming courses and programmes. *‘A New Year, A New You’* will begin on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30a.m. **Stag Park Troopers:** A relaunch of this group will take place on Thursday evening, 5<sup>th</sup> February at 5.00p.m. New members welcome and we need volunteers! Please note that you can follow us on <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Stag-Park-Community-House/> for upcoming events and training. Please contact Geraldine Lyons, Ballyhoura Development, on 087 2194120 for more details.