

**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 – Patricia Dwane: Phone: 025-84062. **Open 9am-12pm**

**Fr. Burke is on Sick Call this week;  
Phone Number: 087 – 2524979**

**PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

**[mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com](mailto:mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com)**

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS 10AM WEDNESDAY**

- **Celebration for Grandparents:** Grandparents will participate in the **11.30am Mass in the Parish Church, Mitchelstown on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September** Grandparents are invited to hand in family photos for the event by **next Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September.**
- **Carmelite Lourdes Group** will participate in 7.30pm Mass next Saturday evening as part of their preparation for their Annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes.
- **Friday next is 1<sup>st</sup> First Friday, Masses & Confessions in all three Churches** as per list below.

**Church of Our Lady Conceived Without Sin, Mitchelstown:**

**MASS TIMES:** Saturday & Eve of Holy Day: 7.30pm  
Sunday & Holy Day: 8.30am, 11.30am & 7.30pm.  
Weekdays: 8.30am & 10.00am

**FIRST FRIDAYS:** 8.30am, 10.00am & 7.30pm.

**Bank Holidays:** 11am

**MORNING PRAYER:** Monday – Friday: 8.00am

**ROSARY:** Monday – Saturday: 9.45am

**CONFESSIONS:** Saturday: 12.00-1.00pm & 7.00-7.30pm  
Eve of First Fridays & Eve of Holy Days: 12.00-1.00pm & 7.00-7.30pm

**We encourage families to practice monthly Confession**

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

**EUCHARISTIC HEALING HOUR:** Thursday evening at **8.00pm – 9.00pm** with special prayers for Pope Francis and World Meeting of Families and Eucharistic Healing Blessing.

**Church of the Holy Family, Ballygiblin**

**MASS TIMES:** Sunday & Holy Day: **9.30am.** First Friday: **7.30pm.**

**CONFESSIONS:** First Friday: **7.00pm.**

**St. Joseph’s Church, Killaclaug**

**MASS TIMES:** Sunday & Holy Day: **10.30am.** First Friday: **6.30pm.**

**CONFESSIONS:** First Friday: **6.00pm.**

**Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter**

**Volume: 10 Issue: 8 Date: Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018**

**Pope Benedict’s Church Prediction - In a 1969 radio broadcast, Professor Josef Ratzinger’s concluding remarks:**

“From the crisis of today the Church of tomorrow will emerge — a Church that has lost much. She will become small and will have to start afresh more or less from the beginning. She will no longer be able to inhabit many of the edifices she built in prosperity. As the number of her adherents diminishes, so it will lose many of her social privileges. In contrast to an earlier age, it will be seen much more as a voluntary society, entered only by free decision. As a small society, it will make much bigger demands on the initiative of her individual members. Undoubtedly it will discover new forms of ministry and will ordain to the priesthood approved Christians who pursue some profession. In many smaller congregations or in self-contained social groups, pastoral care will normally be provided in this fashion. Along-side this, the full-time ministry of the priesthood will be indispensable as formerly. But in all of the changes at which one might guess, the Church will find her essence afresh and with full conviction in that which was always at her center: faith in the triune God, in Jesus Christ, the Son of God made man, in the presence of the Spirit until the end of the world. In faith and prayer she will again recognize the sacraments as the worship of God and not as a subject for liturgical scholarship.

“The Church will be a more spiritual Church, not presuming upon a political mandate, flirting as little with the Left as with the Right. It will be hard going for the Church, for the process of crystallization and clarification will cost her much valuable energy. It will make her poor and cause her to become the Church of the meek. The process will be all the more arduous, for sectarian narrow-mindedness as well as pompous self-will will have to be shed. One may predict that all of this will take time. The process will be long and wearisome as was the road from the false progressivism on the eve of the French Revolution — when a bishop might be thought smart if he made fun of dogmas and even insinuated that the existence of God was by no means certain — to the renewal of the nineteenth century. But when the trial of this sifting is past, a great power will flow from a more spiritualized and simplified Church. Men in a totally planned world will find themselves unspeakably lonely. If they have completely lost sight of God, they will feel the whole horror of their poverty. Then they will discover the little flock of believers as something wholly new. They will discover it as a hope that is meant for them, an answer for which they have always been searching in secret.

“And so it seems certain to me that the Church is facing very hard times. The real crisis has scarcely begun. We will have to count on terrific upheavals. But I am equally certain about what will remain at the end: not the Church of the political cult, which is dead already, but the Church of faith. It may well no longer be the dominant social power to the extent that she was until recently; but it will enjoy a fresh blossoming and be seen as man’s home, where he will find life and hope beyond death.”

