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.

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

PARISH OFFICE E-MAIL: <u>mitchelstownparishoffice@eircom.net</u> <u>DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS 10AM WEDNESDAY</u>

Office Open: 9 am to 12 noon – Monday to Friday. Parish Website: <u>www.mitchelstownparish.ie</u> E-mail address for Parish Pastoral Council is <u>mitchelstownppc@gmail.com</u> Also on Facebook – Mitchelstown Parish Pastoral Council

Little Christmas:

Wednesday, 6th January, is the FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE

LORD. It's a Holyday of Obligation. Vigil Mass Tuesday Evening 7.30pm.

Masses on Wednesday in the Parish Church, as on Sunday: 8.30am,

10.30am, 12.00noon & 7.30pm.

Ballygiblin: 9.30am

Killacluig: 10.30am

<u>Weekday Masses:</u> Apart from Wednesday at usual times 8.30am & 10.00am <u>Morning Prayer:</u> 8.00am

CONFESSIONS: Saturday: 12.00-1.00pm & 7.00-7.30pm

Eucharistic Healing Hour: Thursday evening 8.00pm - 9.00pm, with Special Prayer for World Peace, Reflections on the life of St. Pio, Eucharistic Healing Blessing and blessing with the relic of St. Pio.

Baptism of the Lord: This Feast is celebrated next Sunday.

Envelope System: The 2016 Envelopes come into operation this weekend. We thank those who use the system. The tax refund is of great benefit to the parish. We strongly encourage you to continue the system. If you would like to join the system, please contact the Parish Office. All offerings, no matter how they are given, are greatly appreciated.

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 7 *Issue*: 28 *Date*: Sunday 3rd January 2016

2016 Begins:

We look back at 2015 with gratitude, we look forward with hope to 2016. We face the future with utter confidence, because the Lord is with us every moment of everyday. We know we are getting older with every new year and, as we say, some of us are moving on. We remember the words of the Gospel of St. John: <u>"Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid, trust in God still, I have prepared a place for you."</u> No matter what our age, this is a key promise of Jesus. We are moving ahead on a journey to the Kingdom of Glory. Here, we have no lasting city, whatever good we can do, let us do it while we are able and we take nothing with us except our fulfilment of the will of God and our good deeds.

We are now entering the Centenary of the events of Fatima. The culmination of the centenary of these extra-ordinary events will take place on October, 13th 2017. But 2016 marks the centenary of the visitation of an Angel, three times, to the three children, Lucia, Jacinta & Francesco. He prepared the three children for the incredible apparitions of Our Lady in 1917 and the events associated with them. The children had to learn to pray much, make sacrifice and be devoted to the Holy Eucharist. Perhaps at the beginning of this year we could read and reflect on these inspiring events.

May God go with you all into this New Year, may He transform your life and fill you with His joy.

1916-2016:

For all Irish men and women this is also the centenary of the events of the 1916 Rising. For generations, Irish people longed for their independence. The events of the 1916 Easter Rising led to the shedding of much human blood and the loss of many lives. But out of the suffering and chaos was born Irish Independence. The events took place in the Dublin G.P.O. on April 26th 1916 and continued for several days. Many Irish people at that time aspired to independence from English Rule and it led to a painful conflict and a lot of suffering. Many historians will analyse the events, but we can rejoice in the benefits received. The leaders for the drive for independence were Catholics and they aspired to freedom for Catholic believers. Catholic believers had long been persecuted and lived their faith with great courage, despite the opposition. As we reflect on the centenary of these life changing events in our country, maybe it is time again to take hold of our right as Catholics to proclaim what we believe while respecting those who view things differently to us. We remember this year those who died and suffered for the freedoms we now enjoy. Let no one take those freedoms from us.

Pope Francis: "I am a sinner, I feel sinful, I am sure of it. I am a forgiven man, God has looked on me with mercy and forgiven me." Pope Francis recently added to these words "I still sin and I go to Confession every 15 or 20 days, because I need to feel that God's mercy is still upon me."

ST. JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY Meeting this Monday, 11th January 2016, at 7 p.m. In Marian Hall, Convent Hill. New Members always welcome

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Bunscoil na Toirbhirte & C.B.S. Primary Schools will re-open on Thursday 7th January 2016 at 9 a.m.

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Mitchelstown Citizens Information Centre will reopen on Monday, 4th January.

The **Parish Office** will reopen on **Thursday**, 7th **January 2016**.

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Physiotherapy-led Pilates classes in the Ozanam Centre commencing Wednesday

6th January at 6.30pm and 7.30pm and Thursday 7th January at 7pm all levels catered for. Please contact Catherine on 085-7076585 to pre book.

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BRIGHT SPARKS CHILDCARE CENTRE - CHRISTMAS SPECIAL PAMPER DAY FOR KIDS ... 4 years upwards. Pyjamas and movie / crazy hair /foot massage /nails and lots more. Check us out on Facebook for more details.

COMPUTER CLASSES FOR ENGLISH/MATHS PROJECTS back after the Christmas Holidays, January 12th extra classes added for new students age 4 upwards. **DROP IN SERVICE** available for the Christmas rush.... 025 86799 for bookings

Wishing all our wonderful children, families and friends a very Happy & Fun Christmas from all in Bright Sparks Childcare Centre.

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Enrolment for Evening Courses in Mallow College of Further Education will take place on Tuesday, 12th January 2016 from 7.30pm to 9.00pm in Mallow College of Further Education, Annabella, Mallow. Brochures with all details are available from local shops or at the college on 022-43030. For further information go to: evening.mallowcollege.ie

The Pioneer Magazine is published monthly and is full of interesting and informative articles and features. If you would like to get a copy each month,

please contact any council member. Price per copy €1.55.

CBS Primary Christmas Draw

Thanks to the Boys, their Parents and you the Public for your support of our Annual Christmas Draw.

The results of the Draw are as follows:-

1st *Prize* €300 - Kyle Browne, Ballybeg Road, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork 2nd *Prize* €200 - David O'Donoghue, Fairfield Court, Fairfield Road, Cork City. 3rd *Prize* €100 - Lisa Harte, Ballinwillin, Mitchelstown, Co Cork.

Best Wishes to everyone for 2016.

MITCHELSTOWN CONCERN GROUP

Mitchelstown Concern Group wish to sincerely thank all who supported the Annual 12 hour Fast in November and the Church Gate Collection last weekend. Sincere thanks to the many helpers who gave of their time. The amount collected for the Fast was \notin 3,918.47 while the Church Gate Collection in Mitchelstown, Ballygiblin, Kilacluig and Kilbehenny last weekend yielded \notin 2.447.00 making a total \notin 6,365.47 *Paddy Ryan*

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1916 Proclamation of the Republic: POBLACHT NA h-EIREANN THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE IRISH REPUBLIC TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND

IRISHMAN AND IRISHWOMEN: In the name of God and of the dead generations from which she receives her old tradition of nationhood, Ireland, through us, summons her children to her flag and strikes for her freedom.

Having organized and trained her manhood through her secret revolutionary organization, the Irish Republican Brotherhood, and through her open military organizations, the Irish Volunteers and the Irish Citizen Army, having patiently perfected her discipline, having resolutely waited for the right moment to reveal itself, she now seizes that moment, and, supported by her exiled children in America and by gallant allies in Europe, but relying in the first on her own strength, she strikes in full confidence of victory.

We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland, and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies, to be sovereign and indefeasible. The long usurpation of that right by a foreign people and government has not extinguished the right, nor can it ever be extinguished except by the destruction of the Irish people. In every generation the Irish people have asserted their right to national freedom and sovereignty; six times during the past three hundred years they have asserted it in arms. Standing on that fundamental right and again asserting it in arms in the face of the world, we hereby proclaim the Irish Republic as a Sovereign Independent State. And we pledge our lives and the lives of our comrades-in-arms to the cause of its freedom, of its welfare, and of its exaltation among the nations.

The Irish Republic is entitled to, and hereby claims, the allegiance of every Irishman and Irish woman. The Republic guarantees religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities of all its citizens, and declares its resolve to pursue the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation and of all its parts, cherishing all the children of the nation equally, and oblivious of the differences carefully fostered by an alien government, which have divided a minority in the past.

Until our arms have brought the opportune moment for the establishment of a permanent National Government, representative of the whole people of Ireland and elected by the suffrages of all her men and women, the Provision Government, hereby constituted, will administer the civil and military affairs of the Republic in trust for the people.

We place the cause of the Irish Republic under the protection of the Most High God, Whose blessing we invoke upon our arms, and we pray that no one who serves that cause will dishonour it by cowardice, inhumanity, or rapine. In this supreme hour the Irish nation must, by its valour and discipline and by the readiness of its children to sacrifice themselves for the common good, prove itself worthy of the august destiny to which it is called. Signed on behalf of the Provisional Government, THOMAS J. CLARKE. SEAN MAC DIERMADA. THOMAS MACDONAGH. P.H.PEARSE. EAMONN CEANNT. JAMES CONNOLLY. JOSEPH PLUNKETT