

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

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
First Thursday: 12.00-1.00pm & 7.00-7.30pm

We encourage families to practice monthly Confession

EUCCHARISTIC HEALING HOUR: Thursday evening at **8.00pm – 9.00pm** With reflections on the Passion of Christ and Eucharistic Healing Blessing.

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

Church of the Holy Family, Ballygiblin

MASS TIMES: Sunday & Holy Day: **9.30 a.m.**

First Friday: 7.30 p.m.

CONFESSIONS: First Friday: **7.00pm**

St. Joseph's Church, Killaclaug

MASS TIMES: Sunday & Holy Day: **10.30 a.m.**

First Friday: 6.30p.m.

CONFESSIONS: First Friday: **6.00pm**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Throughout the Sundays of Lent we will have the Stations of the Cross in the **Parish Church** at **3.00pm**, beginning this Sunday. This is a very important Lenten devotion and we encourage you to participate. **The Parish will lead the Stations of the Cross on Corrin Hill, Fermoy on Sunday next March 12th at 3.00pm.**

Evening Mass during the weekdays of Lent at **7.30pm**

Trócaire Boxes: Are available today, if you have not already got one. Remember that by denying ourselves a little during Lent, we can offer life to someone in poorer countries.

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 8

Issue: 36 Date: Sunday 6th March 2017

Let Nothing Break It: The Country experienced some high winds recently, more severe in some parts of the Country than in others. We were spared the loss of life, but it caused a certain amount of damage and loss of electricity in some parts. Unlike other parts of the world, severe storms and winds are relatively rare in Ireland. The weather forecasters alert us now, in good time, if a severe storm is coming. But our faith in God can be affected by “winds” and “storms” too. Death, disappointment, sickness and loss and many other things can weaken our faith in God. The weather forecasters alert us and prepare us well for a coming storm and its consequent dangers and risks. But are we prepared for the events that could greatly weaken and damage our faith in God? How prepared were we to deal with the “Celtic Tiger” and its consequent collapse? Was our faith in God strong enough to withstand that wind and storm? For many it was not. How prepared were we to deal with the failure of the Clergy? When trouble comes to our home and family, how prepared am I in terms of faith? The answer is: if my prayer life is weak, I'm not prepared and my faith in God may crack. If I get pre-occupied with the affairs of life and forget it is only of temporary value and if I lose sight of eternal life, my faith in God will collapse when the storm comes.

This is why the season of Lent is so important. It gives us a time to take stock, to recognise the weakness of my spiritual life. Lent helps me to examine my relationship with God and any bad habits that have crept into my life. Lent should help us to re-focus our life firmly on God and His promise of eternal life. Many have grown weak in the faith and some have lost it altogether because of the winds and storms that they were not strong enough to withstand. This is why we ought to really take Lent seriously from a Spiritual point of view. We need to get into our prayer anew, study the word of God and examine our personal and family priorities. The winds and storms are going to continue coming, we need to be prepared by a deep rooted prayers filled Spiritual life. We have to be strong enough to take our share of suffering, always persevering in the hope of eternal life.

What is needed from us all this Lent is genuine effort to give more attention to Spiritual things and to face life's challenges with God and prayer. Let us not forget it is a great time of grace, God is giving us the help and the opportunity to be stronger in Him. Let us listen carefully to the Bible Readings during Lent and take it more deeply into our hearts. God wants us to be stronger for possible winds and storms that are coming. Let us not miss the opportunity that is available to us now.

“Am I Being Unfair to You?” Wednesday next, March 8th is Women's World Day of Prayer. The theme this year is the above headline. A special service of prayer to coincide with the event will be held in **Kingston College Chapel on Wednesday Morning next at 10.30am**. All are welcome.

FATIMA 1917 – 2017 ONE HUNDRED YEARS: To celebrate 100 years since the apparitions of Our Lady in Fatima, Mitchelstown Parish Pastoral Council cordially invite you to Forrest Hall, New Square Mitchelstown on **THIS Monday March 6th** where we will show **“THE STORY OF FATIMA”**. Come and learn more about the apparitions, the three secrets and the children Blessed Francisco, Blessed Jacinta and Sr. Lucia. The evening will begin at **7.30pm** and light refreshments will be served afterwards. *“In the end my Immaculate Heart will triumph”*

MITCHELSTOWN P.T.A.A. FLAG DAY: A flag day will be held by **Mitchelstown Pioneer Total Abstinence Association on Saturday March 11th 2017 from 9am to 6pm.** The purpose of the collection is to raise funds to help the association in their efforts to promote temperance among young and old in our Parish and outlying areas. As we all know the excessive use of drink and drugs is causing great distress and breakdown in many families in Ireland today. **PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY**, and if any of you could help with the collection, please contact any council member.

Ballyhoura Development are delighted to offer a **free Upholstery and Upcycling Course** in Mitchelstown starting **Wednesday 8th March** 2-4pm, once a week over 6 weeks. Learn how to sand and paint old wooden furniture and reupholster material on furniture. People can bring their own pieces of furniture to work on. To book a place Tel 025-85213. **WE HAVE MOVED LOCATION- OUR MITCHELSTOWN OFFICE IS NOW LOCATED IN KINGS ARMS, KING SQUARE, MITCHELSTOWN.**

TIME FOR A NEW CHALLENGE: ACCORD, Diocese of Cloyne (Catholic Marriage Care Service) are recruiting Volunteers to train in presenting Marriage Preparation Courses, as part of a team. Benefits of this training include: ● The opportunity to work in a National Organisation. ● Excellent personal development. ● Develop presentation and group facilitation skills. ● Certificate in Marriage Education, Accredited. Interested persons, please contact 025-31899 Monday to Friday 10am 1pm.

OPEN NIGHT for ECCE intake at **BRIGHT SPARKS MONDAY 6th MARCH at 6pm.** Age 3 years for year 1. Age 4 years for year 2. Great evening for all information regarding preschool, getting your child settled and moving to a new learning environment. Enquires to Bright Sparks 025 86799 Or text 086-2653839 for more details

Mitchelstown Healthy Town hosts Operation Transformation 5 K walk / run on Saturday, March 11th at 11am in aid of Special Friends. Register at 10.30 am at Leisure Centre

NEWLY BAPTISED:

We welcome into our Catholic Community, through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Jayden Murphy-Mulcahy

LENTEN STATIONS 2017

The Stations begin on Thursday, March 2nd

Town & Country Stations: 7.30 p.m. Unless otherwise stated.

MARCH

Mon.	6 th	<i>Church St. Mitchelscourt, Kildorrery Rd., Ashfield Manor, Stagpark, Deerpark, Clonkilla, Carriganleigh, Cloonlough & Árd Na Gréine.</i>	PARISH CHURCH
Tues.	7 th	Derrynanool, Killee & Drough	Richard & Nora O’Sullivan
Tues.	7 th	<i>Upper Cork St. Lower Cork St. New Square, Arch Avenue, Railway Rd., Cross of the Groves, Brigown Rd Lower, Fermoy Rd. & Carraigroe</i>	PARISH CHURCH
Tues.	7 th	Kildrum & Garryleigh	Patrick Ryan
Wed.	8 th	<i>Clonmel Road, Baldwin Street, King Square & College, Castlefarm Road, Castle Lodge, Bank Place, & Castle Park.</i>	PARISH CHURCH
Wed.	8 th	Carrigane	BALLYGIBLIN SCHOOL
Wed.	8 th	<i>Robert St. Thomas St. George St. Kingston Close & Edward St.</i>	TOWN HALL
Thurs.	9 th	<i>Church Rd. Brigown Church Rd. Mulberry Flats, Mulberry Crest, Woodlawn, Kali Magdan, Brigown Cottages, Abbey Farm, Mulberry, Abbey View, The Meadow & Stonewell</i>	PARISH CHURCH
Thurs.	9 th	Kiltrislane & Cloonlough South	Angela Cooper
Thurs.	9 th	<i>King St. James St. & Tearnann Ui Chaoimh.</i>	TEARMANN UI CHAOIMH
Fri.	10 th	Ballyarthur	Con & Kathleen Harnedy
Fri.	10 th	Corrogurm & Tangresa	Dan & Ellen Hanley

We encourage you all to participate in the Station Masses.

Free SOCIAL MEDIA & INTERNET SAFETY - What parents need to know

The Mitchelstown/Fermoy Tusla Child and Family Support Network is hosting an information evening for parents on SOCIAL MEDIA & INTERNET SAFETY – What parents need to know on **Thursday 9th of March at 7.30pm in the Youth Centre, Fermoy.** Speakers on the night will include forensic psychologist Dr. Maureen Griffin, Director of MGMS Training and Irene Gueden, Digital Safety Programme Co-ordinator from Intel Security. Presentation will cover what is currently popular among Irish students; what the potential dangers are and offer practical advice on how to protect children online. Issues such as social networking sites; social messaging /chatting apps; video streaming sites; searching online; mobile device safety; sexting and cyberbullying will be addressed. Tel: Ballyhoura Development 025-85213

RECENTLY DECEASED:

The sympathy of the Parish Community is extended to the family and friends of –

John Roche, Mulberry

John Waldron, Georges Street

Patrick (Pakie) Myles, Church Street

Who died recently.

May They Rest In Peace