

### **Irish Cancer Society:**

The Irish Cancer Society sent a lovely letter during the week, thanking you the people of Mitchelstown for your generous support of their recent Church gate collection. The amount raised was €1594. This money will help advance their range of free patient care & support programmes, prevention & education initiatives & fund research to help find new ways to prevent, diagnose & treat cancer. The Irish Cancer Society is eternally grateful to you all for your generosity.

### **Gamcare Ireland**

Gambling in Ireland has now become more socially acceptable and like horse racing it has been integrated into our culture. Whilst for the majority of gamblers it remains an occasional social activity, some find that it may escalate out of control. The IBA is committed to creating an Irish Organisation for problem gamblers and their families, and to promote responsible attitudes to gambling by persons working in the industry and participants.

GamCare, a registered UK charity, has become the leading authority on the provision of counselling, advice and practical help in addressing the social impact of gambling. The Irish Bookmakers Association (IBA) has supported the work of GamCare since 2005 and we are currently facilitating the establishment of a dedicated, localised service for problem gamblers in Ireland. The Irish Bookmakers Association has had a freephone in operation for several years now. (1800 246 139) This offers free direct access to Gamcare counsellors by phone. We also have a nationwide network of registered Irish counsellors fully trained by Gamcare. They are all qualified practicing psychotherapists and they offer face to face counselling across Ireland since February 2009. Clients are referred to them via Gamcare & The Dunlewey Sunstance abuse and advice centre, in Northern Ireland. This service has been developed in conjunction with Gamcare and has been organised and funded by the Irish Bookmakers Association.

**Open 8am to Mid Night 7 days a week. Telephone: 1800 246 139**

Newsletter is printed & published in the **Parish Office, Parochial House, Convent Hill, Mitchelstown.**

E-mail: [mitchelstownparishoffice@eircom.net](mailto:mitchelstownparishoffice@eircom.net) ,

Phone or Fax: **025 / 84062** *Deadline is 12 p.m. Wednesday*

**Office Hours: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Monday to Friday**

# Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

*Volume: 1 Issue: 8*  
*Date: Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2009*



### **SPECIAL MASS FOR ALL THE DECEASED.**

The members of the Mitchelstown Community Council have kindly arranged a Mass in the **Parish Church** next **Tuesday night July 7<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 p.m.** The Mass will be offered for the deceased of the Parish and the surrounding catchment areas. It is a praiseworthy gesture to remember to pray and offer the Holy Sacrifice for all those gone before us. As we remember them I'm sure they'll remember us. Please do come along and participate in the Special Mass. Our thanks to the Community Council for this kind gesture and for all the good they do in the community.

### **School Holidays:**

All Secondary & National School teachers and children are now on their summer holidays. We are very blessed in the Parish with excellent Secondary & National schools. The Principals & Staffs of each school are very dedicated men & women. The needs of all the children of our community & surrounding catchment area are helped & supported in every way to develop themselves & their abilities. For each of the National & Secondary schools it has been a year packed with all kinds of work & activity. We wish everyone a good holiday & a good rest & come back for another year in September refreshed. To all the children & their families, May God keep you all safe throughout the summer & be careful when you go swimming.

Fr. Michael

**Clergy:**

Rev. Fr. Fitzgerald P.P.  
Phone: 025-84090  
Canon O’Leary  
Phone: 025-84088  
Fr. Greene  
Phone: 025-84077

**Priest on Sick call this week is:**

Fr. Fitzgerald P.P.  
***Emergency Contact Number:***  
**087 - 2524979**

**Prayers and Sympathy:**

We offer our Prayers and sincere sympathy to the families of those who died in our Parish this week.  
Mary Cotter *R.I.P.*  
Liam Lynch Park

**Confession Times:**

***Mitchelstown:***  
Sat, Eves of Holydays & Eves of 1<sup>st</sup> Fridays.  
12 p.m. to 1 p.m. & 7 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.  
***Ballygiblin:*** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 7 p.m.  
***Killacluig:*** before 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Mass.

**Mass Times: Church Of Our Lady**

***Conceived Without Sin, Mitchelstown:***  
Sat & Eve of Holyday: 7.30 p.m.  
Sunday & Holyday: 8.30 a.m. 10.30 a.m., 12 p.m. & 7.30 p.m.  
1<sup>st</sup> Friday: 7.30 p.m.  
Weekday: 8.30 a.m. & 10 a.m.

**Morning Prayer in Parish Church:**

Mon – Fri. at 8 a.m.

***Church of the Holy Family, Ballygiblin:***

Sunday & Holyday: 9.30 a.m.  
1<sup>st</sup> Friday: 7.30 p.m.

***St. Joseph’s Church, Killacluig:***

Sunday & Holyday: 10.30 a.m.  
1<sup>st</sup> Friday: 8.15 p.m.

**THE POPE’S INTENTIONS FOR JULY**

***General:*** That the Christians of the Middle East may live their faith in full freedom and be an instrument of peace and reconciliation.

***Mission:*** That the Church may be the seed and nucleus of a humanity reconciled and reunited in God’s one and only family, thanks to the testimony of all the faithful in every country in the world.

**Eucharistic Healing**

**Hour of Adoration:**

A public hour of Adoration will be held in the Parish Church.

**Every Thursday night**  
**From 9 p.m. to 10 p.m.**

**Do the Mini-Marathon For HOPE!**

The Cork Women’s Mini Marathon is on **27<sup>th</sup> September**, and the Street & Slum Children of Calcutta need your help. Call The Hope Foundation for a sponsorship card; it will change a child’s future.

Telephone: **021 – 4292990.**

**St. Maria Goretti**

***Virgin and Martyr- July 6<sup>th</sup> Patroness of Youth***

St. Maria Goretti, called by Pope Pius XII “the St. Agnes of the 20<sup>th</sup> century,” was born on a small farm near Ancona, Italy, in 1890. The third of seven children, she was, in the words of her mother, “happy, good, openhearted, without whim, but with a sense and seriousness beyond her years, and never disobedient.” Her father died when she was nine, and Maria helped out with the younger children and the housework while her mother ran the farm. She received First Communion at eleven and strove with all her strength to do better each day.

Six months later, this heroic maiden was severely tried for her Faith. The Goretti family shared a home with the partner of their father and his son, Alexander, a wicked-minded youth who began making sinful advances toward Maria. She repelled them immediately but said nothing about them for he threatened to kill her and her mother if she did. Finally, lust drove the tragic Alexander to attack outright, but again the saint resisted him with all her strength, crying out repeatedly: “No, it’s a sin! God does not want it!” Where upon, the attacker, overwhelmed by fear and anger, began to strike at her blindly with a long dagger, and several blows passed clear through her body.

St. Maria was rushed to the hospital at Nettuno and surgeons worked feverishly to save her life, but it soon became evident that nothing could be done. The next morning she was given Communion, but first queried about her attitude toward Alexander. She replied clearly that she forgave him, that she would pray for his repentance, and that she wished to see him in Heaven. On July 6, 1902, this saintly maiden died and went to meet her Heavenly Spouse for Whose love she had been willing to give her life. On July 25, 1950, she was raised to sainthood, with her mother, brothers, and her sisters present, a unique event in the history of the Church. By that time her prayers for her murderer had long since been heard and answered. After serving eight years of unrepentant imprisonment, Alexander had a complete change of heart; released for good behaviour after twenty-seven years, he hastened to beg forgiveness of the saint’s mother and then became a Capuchin lay brother, who gave evidence at the canonical enquiry about Blessed Maria and lived to see her canonized.