

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 7 Issue: 37 Date: Sunday 6th March 2016

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**

N.B. - NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS: mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS 10AM WEDNESDAY

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

Parish Website: www.mitchelstownparish.ie

E-mail address for Parish Pastoral Council is mitchelstownppc@gmail.com

Also on Facebook – Mitchelstown Parish Pastoral Council

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Stations of the Cross in the Parish Church at **3.00pm**.
We encourage you and your family to attend.

MASSES DURING THE WEEK: Parish Church: 8.30am & 10.00am

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

MORNING PRAYER: Monday – Friday: 8.00am

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

EUCARISTIC HEALING HOUR: Thursday evening **8.00pm – 9.00pm**, with
special prayers for our Country and Eucharistic Healing Blessing.

SPRING STATIONS:

Mon.	7 th	Derrylahan	PARISH CHURCH
Wed.	9 th	Knocknamuck, Ballygiblin & Parknakilla	BALLYGIBLIN SCHOOL
Thur.	10 th	Knockagarry	Pat & Helena Norris
Thur.	10 th	Derrynanool, Killee & Drough	Vincent & Mary O'Brien
Fri.	11 th	Ballinabrook & Ardglare	Anthony & Maureen O'Brien
Fri.	11 th	Pollardstown & Killicane	John Finn
Fri.	18 th	Corracunna & Cooleregan	Olive Flynn
Fri.	18 th	Croughevoe	John Lonergan

All Station Masses are at 7.30pm, unless otherwise stated. We encourage you all to participate. **A reminder to return Mass times survey.**

“Bag a Bargain in Brú Columbanus”

Hundreds of donated handbags and dresses of all shapes, sizes, colours and brands will go on sale on Saturday 12th March, in Brú Columbanus, Cardinal Way, Wilton, Cork. (Between 10am and 4pm). “We are also looking for donations of handbags and dresses. It doesn't matter what kind of handbag you have, all are accepted, although top-end brands will be warmly welcomed,” Those wishing to donate can call Anne-Maria on 021-4345754, email her info@brucolumbanus, or make a delivery to the Brú Columbanus office at Cardinal Way, Wilton before Wednesday 9th March, 2016.

Brú Columbanus is a charity that provides accommodation to the relatives of seriously ill patients in Cork Hospitals and the hospice, in particular relatives of sick children”

The Wonder of Conception: Medical science has made incredible advances in recent years, but those advances have also brought great challenges. Pregnancy tests and scans can now show us the wonder of a newly conceived baby after a very few weeks. But those same tests can also tell us a great deal about the well-being of the unborn baby. One of those tests can reveal what is now popularly called fatal foetal abnormality. This diagnosis may reveal that the baby's condition could cause death before birth or shortly after. This news is very traumatic for any parents and most especially the mother. The last item on the R.T.E. Late Late Show on Friday, February 26th had an interview with a young couple who found themselves in this difficult situation. They said they were faced with two options: terminate the pregnancy or let the pregnancy take its natural course. They decided to cherish every moment of the life of their unborn baby. The mother gave birth and their baby lived for three hours. It was very touching to hear the couple's account of their love for their child, despite the very difficult circumstances and the short times they had with their child. The interview would encourage any couple who may find themselves in that situation of the healing value of cherishing life, even though it may be only for a short while. The couple were not Catholics because they said they had a humanist ceremony for their baby.

The Irish Constitution in the 1983, 8th Amendment protects the equal right to life of mother and child and supports the life of both. All life is precious, human society has a duty to protect it, even in very difficult circumstances. A society that supports parents in cherishing life is a good society.

Prayer for the Child in the Womb

Lord Jesus, you are the source and lover of life. Reawaken in us respect for every human life. Help us to see in each child the marvellous work of our Creator. Open our hearts to welcome every child as a unique and wonderful gift. Guide the work of doctors, nurses and midwives. May the life of a mother and her baby in the womb be equally cherished and respected. Help those who make our laws to uphold the uniqueness and sacredness of every human life, from the first moment of conception to natural death. Give us wisdom and generosity to build a society that cares for all. Together with Mary, your Mother, in whose womb you took on our human nature, Help us to choose life in every decision we take. We ask this in the joyful hope of eternal life with you, and in the communion of the Blessed Trinity. Amen.

The Heart of God: The story of the Prodigal Son reveals the Heart of God and the Heart of the Bible. God loves us so much, that He has given us free will, even the free will to reject Him. But no matter what our response, be it that of the prodigal son or of his older brother, our God waits in love for our free return to Him.

He loves us. He loves us. He loves us.

Let us not be afraid of Confession or postpone the opportunity of receiving the love and forgiveness of God.

Coming to Mitchelstown – Safe Talk is an evening's training programme that prepares participants to identify persons with thoughts of suicide and connect them to suicide first aid resources. These specific skills are called suicide alertness and are taught with the expectation that the person learning them will use them to help reduce suicide risk in their communities. The Safe Talk takes place in the **on Thursday, March 10th, 7 – 10pm.** Whilst this training is suitable for everyone over 18 years of age who wants to help prevent suicide and is prepared to become suicide alert, it is not suited to someone who may be recently bereaved by suicide. The training is provided free by the HSE. One must first submit an application form that is available from Ballyhoura Development Ltd, Baldwin Street or email sallen@ballyhoura.org or Tel: 025 85213.

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TIME FOR A NEW CHALLENGE

ACCORD, Diocese of Cloyne (Catholic Marriage Care Service) is 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 – Friday 10am – 1pm

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Counselling: - Accord offers a safe, professional and confidential process facilitating couples and individuals to explore, reflect upon and resolve difficulties in their marriage & relationship. For appointment please ring Jean 025-31899.

Getting Married – for an approved Pre Marriage Course see www.accord.ie

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St. Joseph's Church, Killalug - Choir Notice: New members always welcome. To join, just meet us after 10.30am Mass on Sundays or contact Caitríona on 086-3760487. You do not have to come every Sunday to choir, just whenever it suits you and you don't have to know all the hymns as we will arrange practices.

There will be choir practices after Mass on Sunday 13th March for St Patrick's Day Hymns and on Sunday 20th March provisionally for the Easter Ceremonies. All welcome - musicians and singers.

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The **Cork Association for Autism** (CAA) will hold their Annual Light it up Blue Gala Ball on Friday April 1st at the Maryborough Hotel & Spa, Douglas. Tickets for this wonderful evening of fine food, entertainment and dance cost €75 with tables of 10 available for group bookings. If you would like to purchase tickets or get more information about this event contact the CAA on 021 4533642 email fundraising@corkautism.ie or log onto www.corkautism.ie.

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Peace Concert in Knock Basilica: Mayo International Choral Festival is hosting a Peace Concert with the RTÉ Concert Orchestra, in the beautiful surrounds of the fully refurbished Knock Basilica on Saturday, May 14th. This Peace Concert will commemorate the 1916 Rising and World War One. The RTÉ Concert Orchestra will be conducted by David Brophy. The orchestra will perform with a 120 member choir and soloists Anne Marie Gibbons and Owen Gilhooly. For information and tickets, visit www.mayochoiral.com.

MITCHELSTOWN P.T.A.A. FLAG DAY: A flag day will be held by **Mitchelstown Pioneer Total Abstinence Association on Saturday March 12th 2016 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.

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Mitchelstown Community Pre-School: Enrolments are now being taken for August/September 2016. Operating E.C.C.E. Scheme (*free school year*). Experienced and Fully Trained Staff. If you wish to enrol your child, please contact Mary at 086-883 2533 or home 025-24697, or Tina at 086-8454870.

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MITCHELSTOWN SENIORS TONE UP: Mitchelstown Seniors (60+) Tone Up classes at Tesco Training Room, 7pm, Wednesdays. 087.3589734 See Facebook.

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Ballyhoura Development in partnership with **Mitchelstown Network** are offering a six week programme called **WRAP** in Mitchelstown commencing the 1st March 10am-12 for 6 Tuesday Mornings. **Wellness Recovery Action Planning (WRAP)** is a self-designed prevention and wellness process that anyone can use to get well, stay well and make their life the way they want it to be. It was developed in 1997 by a group of people who were searching for ways to overcome their own mental health issues and move on to fulfilling their life dreams and goals. It is now used extensively by people in all kinds of circumstances, and by health care and mental health systems all over the world to address all kinds of physical, mental health and life issues. The course is free and open to everyone. To book a place contact Ballyhoura Development, Baldwin St 025-85213

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Computer Classes at Ozanam Centre Mitchelstown - 025 84733: Due to high demand, extra classes for On-line Collaborations – Cloud Computing will take place Wednesday morning 6th April and Thursday evening 7th April. Deposit of €30 will secure a place.

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Beginning Experience is a specially designed Support Programme for men and women who have suffered the loss of a spouse by death, separation or divorce to work through the grief process in a safe and confidential environment.

The next weekend is being held in the Ennismore Retreat Centre, Cork from Friday 8th April to Sunday 10th April 2016. For Application Forms and further details please contact 087 9886480 or email beginningexperience@gmail.com

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SUGRADH PRESCHOOL, Ballygiblin: Opening September 2016. Free places available for all children from the age of three years. Highly qualified staff. Structured Curriculum. Bright and Spacious Facility. Garden Area and Playground. Safe, Rural, Idyllic Location. Now Enrolling for September 2016 and 2017. Telephone: (087) 28 98 215 or (063) 86967. A meeting for all those who are interested will take place next Wednesday at 7pm in Ballygiblin Hall.

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Volunteer with Sage Support and Advocacy Service for Older People: Sage needs volunteers to help speak up for older people across all care settings. Sage will provide QQI accredited training and ongoing support. For more information call 086 183 1428, email michelle.rooney@sage.thirdageireland.ie or see www.sage.thirdageireland.ie