

V. Rev. Canon Fitzgerald P.P., V.F.
V. Rev. Canon O'Leary P.E., C.C.
Rev. Fr. Burke C.C.
Parish Office – Patricia Dwane:

CLERGY:
Phone: 025-84090.
Phone: 025-84088.
Phone: 025-84077.
Phone: 025-84062. *Open 9am-12pm*

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

PARISH 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

- **Mass for Volunteers: The 7.30pm Mass next Saturday Evening** will be offered for the intentions of all our volunteers. The Mass will be followed by a short social gathering in Forrest Hall. All welcome.
- **Boxes of Offering Envelopes:** If anyone did not receive their box of envelopes and wish to have one, please contact the Parish Office during the week.
- **World Day of Migrants and Refugees:** Sunday next is a special day of reflection and prayer on this theme.
- **The Diocesan Religious Purposes Collection** (1st Sunday) is being taken up today after Holy Communion.

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

EUCHARISTIC HEALING PRAYERS: Thursday Evening 8.00-9.00pm
with special prayers for guidance and protection for 2018 and Eucharistic Healing Blessing.

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

Church of the Holy Family, Ballygiblin

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

CONFESSIONS: First Friday: 7.00pm.

St. Joseph's Church, Killaclug

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

CONFESSIONS: First Friday: 6.00pm.

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 9

Issue: 27 Date: Sunday 7th January 2018

Thanks to all our Volunteers: Many people volunteer an enormous amount of their time every week to help the work of the Parish. We would like to express our appreciation to them. The **7.30pm Evening Mass next Saturday, January 13th**, will be offered for all your intentions. All are invited to a short social gathering in the Forrest Hall afterwards.

New Year's Resolutions: Pray Together Daily As A Family: Recently the great Irish promoter of Family Prayer, Fr. Patrick Peyton, was declared Venerable by Pope Francis (December 18th). As a young Clerical Student in his early 30's, he was miraculously cured of Tuberculosis. He was convinced that he received the Miracle through the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God. Following his Ordination, he was inspired to promote family prayer by means of the daily Recitation of the Five Mysteries of the Rosary. This slogan came to him with the help of his friends, "A World at prayer is a world at peace". As we prepare for the World Meeting of Families next August, a great practice to do, would be renew in our families devotion to Our Lady and to pray as a family Five Mysteries of the Rosary every day. The Joyful Mysteries on Mondays and Thursdays, the Sorrowful Mysteries on Tuesdays and Fridays and the Glorious Mysteries on Sundays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. It would be the greatest resolution a family could make for 2018. It would take 10-12 minutes every day. The Rosary always begins with the Apostles Creed and then as you pray the Our Fathers and Hail Marys you meditate on the Gospel events. Would everybody in the Parish think about it? Would some volunteer help to promote it? There is no greater blessing than daily family prayers.

The Morning After the Nightmare of Hiroshima: With Jesus in Japan: Pedro Arrupé was in Japan for one of the most ghastly events in human history. He recalls the terrible event, but even in the midst of all the horror he was aware of the healing and consoling power of Jesus at work in the Mass and the Eucharist. Fr. Pedro Arrupé, Superior General of the Jesuits, describes the scene at Mass on the morning after the explosion in 1945. "This Mass taught me how Jesus, who suffers and dies for us, can bring about His plan of salvation through the mysterious ways of sorrow and suffering" The atomic bomb had exploded at 8.10 on 6 August, destroying the whole of Hiroshima, reducing it to ashes and killing at one blow, eighty-thousand people. Our house was one of the few that remained standing, even though it was badly damaged. There were no windows or doors left; all had been torn away by the violent wind caused by the explosion. We turned our house into a hospital and assembled there around two hundred people who were injured in order to nurse and assist them. *Continued over the page.*

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society. Meeting Monday, 8th January, at 7 p.m. in Marian Hall, Convent Hill. *New Members always welcome*

Fundraising Event: C.B.S. Secondary School Parent Council – New & Used Clothes Collection. Thursday, 18th January. More details closer to the date. Any queries, please contact Noelle Luddy on 087-8158902. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

MITCHELSTOWN CHURCH FLOWER GROUP would be delighted to welcome new members to assist in decorating the Altar with flowers. No experience in flower arranging is required. Please contact the following numbers: 087 6364845 or 086 6077595.

Let's Celebrate Family: Six Sessions over six nights – Tuesday 6th February to Tuesday 13th March in Forrest Hall. These sessions are open to all families in the parish, and those involved in the supporting of families. Pope Francis has asked us in our parishes to promote his letter "The Joy Of Love". So gather together in the Forrest Hall on Tuesday, 6th February 2018. We will pause and reflect on what it means to be family and to celebrate it in the light of the World Meeting of Families in August 2018. Forrest Hall 7.30pm – 9pm starting on Tuesday 6th February. Contact Patricia at the Parish Office.

Mitchelstown Parish Summer Faith Camp: will take place from Monday 23rd July to Thursday, 26th July 2018. More details later.

Enrolments in Mitchelstown Second-level Schools - A gentle reminder to parents/guardians of 6th class students that the closing date for receipt of applications for places in First Year 2018/19 in the second level schools in Mitchelstown is **Monday January 15th**. Please contact the schools should you require any information.

CBS – 025 24104 / cbssecmtown@gmail.com

Presentation – 025 24394 / pressecmtown@gmail.com

Coláiste Fionnchua – 025 24314 / info@stfanahans.ie

Enrolment for Courses in the Ozanam Center, Thomas Street

Intermediate Computers Monday 15th January (6 Weeks)

ECDL Advanced spreadsheets (excel) Wed 17th January (14 weeks)

Beginners Typing Monday 26th January (6 weeks)

Please contact the Ozanam Center on 025 84733 for further information.

Mitchelstown Operation Transformation STARTS JANUARY 9th

MITCHELSTOWN LEISURE CENTRE. 2 km or 4 km WALK / RUN @ 7 pm.

TUESDAYS / THURSDAYS over 8 weeks. INCLUDES 2 FREE GYM CLASSES, 2

DIETARY TALKS FROM MLC. LEADERS INVITED TO ATTAIN PERSONAL

GOALS. ENTRY FORMS at MLC. €10 DONATIONS to MITCHELSTOWN

SPECIAL FRIENDS hosted by Mitchelstown Walking Group

Family History Classes - Starting Monday January 22nd Irish Clan Search ~ Aimerslei de Bhosc, Old Fermoy Road, Mitchelstown. Duration up 8 weeks for 2 hours per session. (Day 10 am and Night 7pm) Enrol: 087.3589734

Continued from front page. The Morning After the Nightmare of Hiroshima: God is Near: On the following morning, 7 August, at five-thirty, before beginning the work of helping the wounded and burying the dead, I celebrated Mass in our house. It is certain that in the most tragic moments, we feel nearest to God and the importance of His assistance. Actually, the external surroundings were not much adapted for fostering devotion during the celebration of Mass. The Chapel, half destroyed, was packed full of those who had been injured. They were lying on the floor close to each other and they were obviously suffering from the torments of their pains. I began Mass as best I could in the midst of that crowd, which did not have the least idea of what was taking place upon the Altar. They were all pagans and had never seen a Mass. I cannot forget the frightful impression I had when I turned towards them at the "Dominus vobiscum" (Mass was then said with one's back to the congregation) and saw the sight from the Altar. I was unable to move and remained as if I were paralyzed with my arms stretched out as I contemplated that human tragedy: human knowledge, technical advance used for the destruction of the human race. All looked at me with eyes filled with anxiety, with desperation, as though expecting that some consolation would come from the Altar. It was a frightful scene! Within a few minutes, there would descend upon the Altar the One of whom John the Baptist had said: "there is one in the midst of you whom you do not know". *Savage Cruelty:* I had never sensed before so greatly the solitude of the pagan ignorance of Jesus Christ. Here was their Saviour, but they 'did not know who was in the midst of them'. I was only one who knew. From my lips, there spontaneously went forth a prayer for those who had the savage cruelty to launch the atomic bomb: "Lord, pardon them, since they do not know what they are doing"; And for those lying before me, tortured by their pains: "Lord, grant them faith, that they may see, give them the strength to endure their pains." When I lifted the Host before those torn and mangled bodies, there rose from my heart: "My Lord and my God: have compassion on this flock without a pastor!" *To Smile in the Midst of Pain:* Certainly from that Host and from that Altar there poured forth torrents of grace. Six months later, when all, already cured, had left our house (only two persons died), many of them had received baptism, and all had learned that Christian charity can have compassion, can assist, can give a consolation that is above all human comfort, can give a peace that helps one to smile in the midst of pain and to pardon those who have made us suffer so much. "Such Masses as these are moments replete with a sacramental intuition which arrives at understanding what is so difficult or impossible to understand without faith, that is, the value of suffering, the beauty and sublimity of the sacrifice of charity.

RECENTLY DECEASED: The sympathy of the Parish Community is extended to the family and friends of
Mary Curran, Tearmann Uí Chaoimh
Kevin O'Brien, formerly of Liam Lynch Park
Marian O'Donovan (née O'Flaherty), Captain Keane's Grove
Edward Cameron, Ballinwillin Close
Tony Crotty, Glenatlucky

Who died recently.

May They Rest In Peace