

### CLERGY:

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**DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS 10AM WEDNESDAY**

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

**Parish Website: [www.mitchelstownparish.ie](http://www.mitchelstownparish.ie)**

**Fr. Burke is on Sick Call this week - Phone Number: 087 - 2524979**

### **P.T.A.A. Private Members Draw Results Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize:** €1200 P. Lyng, Churchtown, Dublin 14.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize:** €400 E. O'Hagan, Cookstown, Co. Tyrone.  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize:** €200 M. Ryan, Castletown, Co. Meath  
**4<sup>th</sup> Prize:** €100 P. O'Donovan, Togher, Co. Cork.

Six Promoters Prizes of €40 each;

1. L. Magee, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh.
2. R. Clarke, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.
3. John Casey Mitchelstown, Co. Cork.
4. C. Sheridan, Creeslough, Co. Donegal.
5. S. Farrell, Dublin 3.
6. M. Brady, Navan, Co. Meath.

***The next draw will be held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014***

The private members monthly draw which anyone may feel free to join has been held over the last number of years, proved most successful as a national fundraising event. Membership is €7 per month. Those wishing to join, can do so by contacting any member of Mitchelstown Pioneer Council or local promoter John (087) 6477897. We thank you for your financial assistance in the past and look forward to your support in the future. Best of luck to all in the draw. Wishing all our friends and supporters every blessing of Christ Child this Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

**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, Yearly €17.

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**TEAMHOPE SHOEBOX APPEAL:** 2820 Gift packed boxes from Mitchelstown / Fermoy area, left on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> November for Romania. We would like to say a huge thank you to all who donated a box, the school children, the staff, parents and the public. We would also like to say thank you, to Eileen, Bríd, Margaret and staff of the Ozanam Centre for all their help, to the Active Retirement for the knitted items, to Info TV for Credit Union Ad and our drop off points, Ozanam Centre, Supervalu, Price Savers and Supermac's.

2820 Happy faces on Christmas morning thanks to your kindness, so until next year, Beannacht Nollaig agus go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.

## Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

**Volume: 6 Issue: 26 Date: Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

**Parish Pastoral Council:** On Saturday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, seven Parishioners attended a seminar on the introduction of a Parish Pastoral Council. Bishop Crean, in accordance with Vatican II documents and the teaching of recent Pope's, would like all Parishes in the Diocese, to form a Parish Pastoral Council. The Council would be co-responsible with the Priests, for the faith life of the Parish. To form a Council, it is suggested to seek nominations from the Parish, that would be representative of the Parish and that there would be a gender and age balance in the nominations. Early in the New Year, we will be consulting the Parish on this matter. In the meantime, we would ask you to pray and reflect on the importance of such a Council in the Parish.

**Bishop's Pastoral Statement on Marriage:** This weekend all Catholic Parishes in Ireland are being delivered a Pastoral Statement on the Unique Relationship of Marriage, different from all others. We encourage every family to take one home and to study its contents very carefully. The Pastoral Statement is titled: "The Meaning of Marriage".

**Who is St. John the Baptist?** He was the son of SS Elizabeth & Zachary. He was conceived at a time when his parents were losing hope that they might ever get pregnant. The Angel Gabriel revealed to Our Lady at the Annunciation, that this miraculous event had occurred six months earlier, for he said "Nothing is impossible to God". In his early manhood, John began to live a life of self-denial, prayer and solitude in the Judean desert, south west of Jerusalem. Between October and December 27AD, John came out of seclusion and began to preach publicly with the words: "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand". (*Matthew 3:2*) John demanded two rites of those who come to him: 1. An open Confession of their sins, 2. A physical dip in the waters of the river Jordan, where he preached, as an outward sign of their change of heart. John was later arrested and beheaded by King Herod Antipas, because John denounced him for taking his brother's Philip's wife, Herodias. But John had fulfilled what God had asked him to do: "Prepare the people for the coming Jesus".

The Gospel today reminds us of the call of St. John to repent and to prepare for the coming of the Lord. We can sincerely do that, by making a good Confession before Christmas night.

**Christmas Variety Concert - St Patrick's Church Fermoy,**

**THIS Sunday December 7<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 8.30 p.m.** Loreto School Choir. The Phil Dunphy Quintet, Treble Clef, Frank Ryan, Vera Noonan, Áine O'Flynn, The Cork Garda Choir, M.C. Sean Donnellan. Tickets €15 available from Riordan's Supervalu, Amber Service Station Fermoy, The Book Shop Fermoy, Fermoy Community Hospital. **In aid of Fermoy Community Hospital Fundraising**

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**BRIGHT SPARKS - BEST IN CLASS Educational Computer Training Classes.** Fun Computer Lessons incorporating MATHS /ENGLISH /LANGUAGE /PHONICS suitable for 4, 5 & 6 years old. Starting January 2015. Bookings now taken for classes. Class sizes limited. We aim to improve your child's level of technology and advance to higher levels in school. Price €8 per class, 45 minutes class Afternoons / weekends. Call 025 86799 for booking form.

While you **take a few hours off** to get sorted for Christmas we at Bright Sparks will take care of your children in a fun and friendly environment. All ages catered for, food included, €7 per hour. To book your child in please call us at 025 86799

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**Youth 2000 Ireland** will be hosting their **Annual Christmas Retreat** in Newbridge College, Newbridge, Co. Kildare from Friday 12<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2014. Many young people from across Ireland (aged 16-35) are expected at this donation only event, with all newcomers very welcome. This is a great opportunity to find out what your faith is all about in a friendly, chilled out atmosphere. Free buses available. Online booking necessary, see [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie) or phone 01 6753690.

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**MITCHELSTOWN LAWN TENNIS CLUB  
TABLE QUIZ & PARTY NIGHT**

**Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> December @ 8.30pm** in The Tavern (O'Brien's Bar)

Cost €40 for table of 4. Music & Light Refreshments

Contact Mike 086 2549930 for details.

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**Cloyne Diocesan Pilgrimage to Fatima 2015:-** September 9<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> 2015, flying direct from Cork to Faro. 7 nights full board at Hotel Tres Pastorinos which is only 5 minutes from the Sanctuary. The fare includes: travel insurance, transfers, tour of the Sanctuary area, services of a guide in Fatima. The fare is €879pps and the single supplement is €25 per night. Avail of €150 off the fare of €879 if paid in full by December 10th. Fare is €789 if paid in full by 2nd February 2015. Fare is €829 if deposit of €200 is paid by 2nd February 2015. For more information contact Bernadette White on 087 6472983.

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**Awbeg Funcheon Recreation Scheme Ltd** are looking for a Caretaker, a Recreation Officer and an Administrator / Secretary in January 2015. If interested please send a CV to the: Awbeg Funcheon Recreation Scheme Ltd, 20 Baldwin St, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork

**ST. JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY**

Meeting this Monday, **8<sup>th</sup> December**, at **7 p.m.** In **Marian Hall, Convent Hill.**

*New Members always welcome*

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**Parishioners are encouraged to participate in our Pilgrim Virgin's Home Visit Programme.** Families are asked to set up a little home shrine where our Blessed Mother's statue will be placed. The Recitation of the Rosary by a family gathering is granted a plenary indulgence when all requirements are met. Recitation of five decades of the Rosary in the group with meditation on each decade. The usual conditions for a plenary indulgence are also needed, Confession, Holy Communion and prayers for the Popes Intentions. You can make arrangements for the Legion of Mary Pilgrim Statue visit, which is usually a week visit by contacting the parish office or a member of the Legion. Legion Members will bring the statue to your home and pray the welcoming Rosary with you, your family, and friends. Closing prayers are said when the statue moves from your home to a new location.

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**Mitchelstown CBS** will host a Parent Session on **Tuesday December 9<sup>th</sup>** in the school, entitled "**Alcohol and the Teenager - friend or foe**". Liam Doocey (Youth Health Services) will be the main speaker, and the session will begin at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend. Admission is free. This event is sponsored by Mitchelstown CBS and the Parent Council.

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**Kilbehenny Cycling Club** would like to welcome all new members that recently joined the club. We are delighted to have you, as we set about to cater for all. The social element of the club too is excellent, as we aim to enjoy being in the moment! Our club's Christmas Party is just around the corner, that being, Saturday 20th of December in the Firgrove Hotel, Mitchelstown. This year we aim to make it even more special. Contact Eileen this week so as to secure your place as there is great demand for places. Spinning classes Tuesday evenings in B2A. Calligraphy Wednesday evenings. For further details contact: Mary 086 6033239, Eileen 068 3180962, Tom 087 2683587. New members most welcome.

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On behalf of **The Irish Blood Transfusion Service.** Please pass on our thanks to all who contributed to the running of this Clinic. **210** Donors attended our **MITCHELSTOWN** Blood Donor Clinic. Their generosity and commitment to helping hospital patients is very much appreciated. This precious gift brings life & hope to the patients and to their families & friends.

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**Ballygiblin N.S. Parent Council - Thanks for supporting our clothes collection** it was a great success... Now we are collecting mobile phones in conjunction with Irish Autism Action. If you are upgrading or buying a mobile phone this festive season consider giving old phone to school, not only are you giving much needed resources to the school, but supporting families affected by Autism. Contact Noelle 087-8158902 if any queries. Phones need to be in good condition thanks again for your support.

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**NET Ministries Presents:** Young Women's Group! Join us for a Christmas party at the Mitchelstown Town Hall on Monday, December 8, from 7-8:30pm. The last event of 2014! All secondary aged students welcome!