

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

Canon O'Leary is on Sick Call this week - Phone Number: 087 - 2524979

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.

Mitchelstown Library, Sutton's Court, Mitchelstown. 025 41939
Mitchelstown.library@corkcoco.ie Open: Tuesday-Saturday 9.30am to 5.30pm

Upcoming Events for March 2015

- ◆ The Book Club meet at 10.30am on the first Tuesday of the month.
- ◆ The Writer's group meet at 10.30am every other Friday. Their next meeting is on Friday the 13th of March.
- ◆ To celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge 2015 our Irish Group invite you to come along agus bí ag caint leo. They look forward to meeting you on Friday the 13th of March at 4pm
- ◆ Denis O'Sullivan will be with us on Saturday the 14th of March to showcase his GAA memorabilia from 10am to 3.30pm.
- ◆ Seamus Fox will be holding a free Clan Search workshop to help those who are interested in tracing their ancestors. This will be at 11am on Saturday the 28th of March.
- ◆ This month's exhibition is by Eddie Quinn.
- ◆ Mitchelstown Scouts have an exhibition in place for the month of March (children's side of library)
- ◆ Your Good Self – self help on the shelf range of books are available for loan. Drop in and have a browse.

Do you have a Cork County Library membership? Find it difficult to find time to call in? Download our free app from the iStore or the Play Store. Here you will find a selection of e-books and e-audio books. You will have access to your account our catalogue and links to our e-books and e-magazines.

If you are interested in displaying in the library please call in or phone us 02541939

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 6 Issue: 37 Date: Sunday 8th March 2015

They shed their blood for Christ: Throughout the Middle East at present Christians are being persecuted, killed and some of their Churches being burned down. But no incident was as cruel as the beheading of the 21 Egyptian men on the beach in Libya. These young men come from poor areas of Egypt and were Christian believers from the Coptic tradition. The last words from the mouths of these men were "Jesus Christ". We often read stories about the early martyrs of the Church. We produce movies, depicting their stories and lives, but nothing can capture it, like the scene of men dying for their faith in their Saviour and Redeemer. Sometimes we think of martyrs as being human, legendary figures, who lived extraordinary lives, but these men were ordinary. They were men who lived normal lives, poor men, who travelled to Libya to feed their families. Yet at the critical moment, they did not deny their Saviour or run away from him. Pushed on their knees to be killed, they stood taller than their murderers. They stood tall for the whole world to watch what Christianity is about. Thirteen of the victims come from one village in Egypt, causing untold grief and sorrow. The oldest victim was a 40 year old driver, Majid, who had hoped to earn enough money to pay for the education of his three children, as well as provide for his elderly mother and four siblings. Abanub was a 22 year old commerce graduate, who had hoped to help his family as well as save for his own wedding. Luqa was a 24 year old newly married man, who had missed the birth of his daughter, while in Libya. Among them were two brothers, Bishoy and Samuel, who had hoped to save for their weddings.

Pope Francis has asked us to pray for our persecuted brothers and sister. The Coptic Bishop said he forgave ISIS for what they have done. One can only feel pity for these people, so consumed by evil and hatred.

PRAYER AND REFLECTION: You are invited to the Presentation Primary School Hall on **Monday & Tuesday evening, 8 – 9pm**, to hear a presentation by Fr. Stephen Cummins on Parish Pastoral Council and to participate in a time of prayer. He will conclude the presentation on **Wednesday evening** with Mass in the Parish Church at **7.30pm**. We ask you all to make a special effort to attend the presentations.

'24 Hours For The Lord' God Rich In Mercy. The initiative entitled 24 Hours for the Lord, was received with great enthusiasm in 2014 and will be celebrated once again in 2015 on March 13th – 14th.

24 Hours of Confession will take place in **St. Patrick's Church, Fermoy from 5pm, Friday, 13th March to 5pm, Saturday, 14th March.** *The theme which will guide the reflection in 2015 is God rich in mercy (Eph 2:4)*

C.B.S. Primary Parent Council present our 29th Annual Fashion Show. Firgrove Hotel, **Friday, 13th March** at 8pm. Models by Hilary Thompson & some "Familiar Faces". Local Stands on Display. Cheese & Wine Reception. Raffle on Door Ticket. Tickets €15 available from the School Office or any member of the Parent Council. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

TOTAL TONE CLASSES in Glenahulla National School, every Wednesday night at 7pm to 8pm. All levels of ability welcome. Contact Noreen on 086 0706382 to pre book.

Mitchelstown Healthy Towns Operation Transformation 5k Challenge
Saturday March 14th and Sunday March 15th @ 11 am. Free registration at Tesco from 10 am. €10 donation to Temple St Hospital with T-shirt. Walk/ Run on historic route. Celebs to hoot the start horn.

SAFE PASS COURSE in Kilbehenny Community Centre **14th March** - contact Eileen on 087 9270020 for more details

A meeting to discuss **St. Joseph's Foundation's Annual Spring Fair** will take place on **Wednesday next, March 11th at 7.30pm** in St. Joseph's workshop, Baker's Road, Charleville. *(Please note change of time)*. Anybody interested in helping is most welcome to attend this meeting and we look forward to meeting with you.

GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL – Our Computer Classes for **PRE-SCHOOLERS** are now open. Get your child ready and give them a head start to be ready for Junior Infants. Our programmes are working on Phonics, Language, Pre Reading, Pre writing. Classes 45 minutes, €8 per class. Enrolling at **BRIGHT SPARKS 025 86799**

Ballylanders Macra hold their **Annual Irish Night** on **Friday the 13th March** in Gallahues Hall, Ballylanders, Co. Limerick, at 8.30pm. A night of music, dance and fun is ensured with band Pacific Blue. Proceeds from raffle on the night go to Irish Cancer Society. Entry is €10 (concession with valid Macra card €8) with door prize and finger food on the night. For more info contact us on 087 3433639

Mitchelstown Allotments: Anyone who would be interested in leasing one of our newly open allotments can contact Ballyhoura office on 025-85213 for more details.

ST. JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY: Meeting this Monday, **9th March, at 7 p.m.** In **Marian Hall, Convent Hill.** *New Members always welcome*

Stations of the Cross on Corrin: The Parish of Mitchelstown will lead the Stations of the Cross in Corrin Hill, **next Sunday, March 15th at 3pm.** This will take the place of the Stations in the Church. You are all invited to come along and to bring the children. Take the Fermoy Golf Club turn off on the Old Fermoy – Rathcormac road (opposite South Coast). We will meet there at 2.50pm. The Stations of the Cross is a beautiful and powerful devotion and walking the path up Corrin Hill to the Corrin Crucifix is a very touching exercise. It is a wonderful thing to do for Lent.

MITCHELSTOWN P.T.A.A. FLAG DAY: A flag day will be held by **Mitchelstown Pioneer Total Abstinence Association On Saturday March 14th 2015 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.** **Tesco Saturday March 21st, venue unavailable on Saturday March 14th** (by special arrangement with Liz Downes, Community Champion). 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.

Ballindangan Community Council: Monday Morning Club - The next meeting will be on March 9th at 10.30am and we are doing flower arranging. If you haven't done before as there will be plenty of help on the day. You can recycle your Christmas ring and swag holders. Oasis will be available on the day. If you would like to attend or want further information please contact Martina or Norma.

Progressive 45 Card Game - The next card game will be held on Saturday night **March 14th.** €10 game. Beginning at 8.30pm sharp. All Welcome.

GIRLS' SOCCER COACHING: Park United Soccer Academy is now training girls every Saturday, with fun coaching sessions for girls aged 6 to 10. Just boots and shin-guards needed. Training is from 11am to 12.15pm at the CBS pitch, Mitchelstown. Why not come and try it out! Further information from Joanna 087 2496578

PARENTING - A STRESS-FREE ZONE: Mitchelstown CBS Secondary will host a talk titled "Parenting - a stress free zone" on **Tuesday March 10th at 7.30pm, in CBS Secondary School.** Liam Doocey (Youth Services Ireland) will be the main speaker, and his talk will cover topics such as: ♦ What causes stress between parents/guardians and their teenagers. ♦ How to be an effective communicator. ♦ The main issue that present for teenagers living in the 21st century. ♦ What to do if there is a problem. Admission is free and all are welcome to attend.

Ancestor Research is no longer being carried out in the Parish office. The records for Mitchelstown Parish can be accessed through Mallow Heritage Centre, 27/28 Bank Place, Mallow, Co. Cork Tel: (022) 50302. Website: www.rootsireland.ie or E-mail: mallowhc@eircom.net

Carmelite Lourdes Group - Big acts have been confirmed, for what will be a great evening of song and dance in the **Firgrove Hotel on Sunday 19th April.** Louise Morrissey, The Jo Cooke Band, Dave Mulcahy and Tony Corbett - Southern Star, Jimmy O'Donoghue, The Fogarty Family, Michael Fogarty - World Champion Irish Dancer. All monies raised from this event will go towards bringing the sick and special needs children to Lourdes. All support will be greatly appreciated. Tickets can be got from Eddie Walsh Treasure Chest or O'Brien's Auctioneers Office or on the door for only 10 euro.

Pilgrimages to Lourdes & Fatima: Lourdes 5 Nights, Saturday, April 11th to Thursday 16th April 2015, in the Avena Hotel on Full Board. Spiritual Director is Rev. Fr. Michael O Hanlon, Dromahane. Also Fatima/Estoril July 2nd to 9th July 2015, with Rev. Fr. Neilus O Donnell, Rathcormac, as Spiritual Director. Details: Patsy Foley, Donoughmore. Tel. 021-7337159 or 087-6798810.