

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 – Patricia Dwane: Phone: 025-84062. **Open 9am-12pm**

**Canon O'Leary 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

●**Mass in Adjoining Cemetery:** The Mitchelstown Community Council have organised the Annual Mass in the Adjoining Cemetery on **Tuesday evening next, at 7.30pm.** All welcome.

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

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

EUCHARISTIC HEALING HOUR: Thursday evening at **8.00pm – 9.00pm** with special prayers for world peace and Eucharistic Healing Blessing.

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: 52 Date: Sunday 8th July 2018

The Extreme Weather: Should we be praying for rain this weekend? Conscious of the problems that the continuous heat is bringing to the farming community, the answer is definitely yes. The situation brings home to us, we can choose many things, but we have no control of the weather. When all is said and done, we depend ultimately on Almighty God. This is why we should always put Him first in our lives. We are going nowhere without Him. We all know St. John's Gospel. "I am the vine, you are the branches, cut off from Me, you can do nothing." (John chapter 15). In Ireland we always expect rain, we lament that our climate is too wet, yet, we have learned in the last couple of weeks, how necessary rain is. We have seen pictures on television screens of the effects of prolonged dry weather and the devastation it can bring. We have learned again these last couple of weeks, how precious water is, in order to sustain life. We are grateful to the Lord for the sunshine, but, Lord we thank you too for the rain.

School Holidays: All our schools are now closed for the summer holidays. We wish all our teachers, SNA's, and our boys and girls a happy and a safe holiday. We thank them for all their work and creativity, throughout the school year. Thanks too, to all our Boards of Management and our school communities, for the wonderful work you do throughout the year. We hope that families can relax a little more during the holidays and spend more happy time together. Let us continue to be kind and caring towards one another. Always keep time for prayer alone and in the family. May we be always in God's loving Hands and may He never be excluded.

The World Cup: What a competition every four years! What drama it has brought in 2018. The mighty have fallen and the Russian soccer team has surprised us all. The gestures of prayer and faith, the agony and the ecstasy! The Russians have done a great job and let's enjoy the last stages. Only a few more days left and we can all go back to normality.

Dear Heavenly Father, Thank you for this day and the opportunity You have given us to participate in this sporting event. Lord, watch over these players and keep them safe from harm as they test their skills against each other. We ask that You help the players, coaches, officials and parents treat each other as they would want to be treated - with respect, love, understanding, patience and appreciation. With your assistance, we can together be a shining example of our Catholic, Christian faith and ideals. Finally, give all of us the wisdom to make sportsmanship, the enjoyment of competition and the lessons learned from competition more important than the final score of the game. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

LIAMS LIFTS – TRANSPORT FOR CANCER CARE: Volunteer Drivers needed in the Mitchelstown Area, to drive people to and from their cancer treatments in Cork Hospitals. If you have time and would like to join our pool of existing drivers, who provide this service, we would be delighted to hear from you. For more information contact Pat Walsh 087 – 215 8874

Cloyne Diocesan Pilgrimage to Fatima 11th – 18th September 2018: Cost 899euro – 7 nights full board. Flight from Cork to Faro return. Insurance 29euro extra for those who wish to avail of it. Single room supplement is 30euro a night. Contact Pilgrimage Abroad 01 6359300 or for further information Fr. Patrick Winkle 024 92270, Fr. John McCarthy 021 4815619 or Nora 087 2509184.

What is Alpha? Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that explores the basic truths of the Christian Faith in a fun, friendly, and informal environment. Topics include “Who is Jesus?” “Why Did Jesus Die?” “Does God Still Heal Today?” **Who is Alpha For?** Alpha is for anyone who would like to engage in conversations about faith, life and God. It’s a chance to revisit what you learned about God as a child, but never really understood. Or for those who have given up on Church or have never been and are a bit curious to explore what it’s all about! No question is too big or too small And no laugh is too loud! **What Happens at Alpha?** Each session involves a short talk, nice food and small group discussion. There is no charge for Alpha.

The Parish Pastoral Council will hold the Alpha Sessions in the Town Hall, beginning on Wednesday September 19th. There will be eleven sessions. If you are interested, give your name in the Parish Office. It is a very enriching experience.

Mitchelstown Community Council Notes.

Annual Mass will be held in the **Adjoining Cemetery** on **Tuesday, July 10th** at **7.30pm** for all the deceased of Mitchelstown and the surrounding areas.

Get your Summer Holiday Reading at the Ozanam Shop, Thomas Street, Mitchelstown, 025 84733. Fiction €2; Non-Fiction €1; Children’s Books 50c. Opening Hours: Mon – Fri: 10am–1pm & 2pm–4.45pm, Sat: 10am-1pm. All proceeds go to your local Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Annual Mass in the Cemeteries for Fermoy: The Annual Mass in the Fermoy Area for the Cemeteries will take place on **Tuesday 10th July at 8.15pm in Kilcrumper Old Graveyard.**

Youth 2000 Summer Festival, Cistercian College, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary from **Thursday 16th – Sunday 19th August 2018.** For young people aged 16-35, an opportunity not to be missed to experience the Catholic faith and meet many new people, with over 1000 young people from all corners of Ireland attending last year. The festival is donation only. Free buses travelling from all around Ireland. For more info and to book online, see www.youth2000.ie

St Thérèse – The Little Flower” Summer Faith Camp. For Boys & Girls aged 6-12 years. This year’s Faith Camp will run from Monday July 23rd to Thursday July 26th in the Town Hall. For more details contact Catherine Hanley 087-7727496

WHAT IS SECULARISM? As defined by the catholic dictionary, secularism is: A moral philosophy developed by nineteenth-century freethinkers, inculcating the principle that man is to develop himself in the moral order by the employment of solely human and material means, without the help of any revealed religion. According to the proponents of this ethical system, the good things of this life and the improvement of man’s lot here on earth, should be the prime object of human consideration and endeavour. Whether God exists or not, whether there is a state of reward or punishment in a future life or not, are questions which cannot be answered definitely, and consequently, religion can offer no effective motivation or solid basis for good action. Whatever contributions to the advancement of science, whatever makes for material prosperity and wellbeing, whatever is capable of being tested by experience in this life and is found conducive to the common good, that alone is morally acceptable and that alone is to be sought.

Today secularism reflects more an attitude of mind and way of life, than a scientific philosophical approach to morality, and as such it is more widespread. The secularism of our times has however, retained the basic doctrine of the nineteenth-century system, that man need not heed those things which lie outside the ambit of experience, but merely gear himself for the pursuit of the good things of this life. The modern secularist will let himself be guided only by those principles, which are required for social acceptability. He will seek to remove all religious influence from public life and will believe, firmly in the principle, that public opinion and majority rule, determines what is right and what is wrong.

A 5-day programme of Inspiration and Reflection at Nano Nagle Birthplace, Ballygriffin near Mallow from 12 – 16 July as part of the tercentenary of her birth. Topics will include Evolutionary Awareness, Spirituality for Today, Nano's Legacy to the World, Women in Leadership, Prophetic Women from Scripture, and Faith in the 21st Century. Bookings for day sessions or the full programme through www.nanonaglebirthplace.ie ; phone 022 26411.

The **Irish Blood Transfusion Service** will hold a **Blood Donor Clinic** in **The Firgrove Hotel, Mitchelstown. Tuesday 5pm – 8.30pm & Wednesday 3pm – 5pm & 7pm – 9pm, 10th & 11th July 2018.** Blood Donation is essential to ensure Hospital Patients get the treatment they need. One Donation can save up to 3 Lives. Full details of all clinics and on Giving Blood can be found on www.giveblood.ie or by telephoning 021 4807400 or 1850 731 137.

Bus to Knock for Popes Visit on 26th August leaving Mitchelstown at 2am. Returning from Knock at 3pm. Contact Brigit on 086-3594571 for booking and details.

NEWLY BAPTISED:

We welcome into our Catholic Community, through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Charlotte Condon. Shaye Gubbins