

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 7 Issue: 38 Date: Sunday 13th 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.

Fr. Burke 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 participate.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY: Thursday next is the Feast of our National Patron and is a Holyday of obligation. **Vigil Mass Wednesday Evening at 7.30pm. Masses on Thursday in all three Churches, the same as Sunday.** The Annual Collection for the support of Irish Emigrants will be taken up at all Masses on St. Patrick's Day, your support would be appreciated.

MASSES FOR THE REMAINDER OF 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 and before Vigil Mass on Wednesday Evening.

EUCCHARISTIC HEALING HOUR: As St. Patrick's Day falls on Thursday, there is an Evening Mass at 7.30pm. The Mass will be followed by a period of Eucharistic Adoration until 9.00pm.

PALM SUNDAY: Next Sunday is Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, Palms will be blessed at all Masses. You are invited to bring your own Palm branches.

SPRING STATIONS:

Fri. 18th Corracunna & Cooleregan

Olive Flynn

Fri. 18th 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.**

HOLY WEEK: The programme for Holy Week will be delivered to all homes in the Parish in the coming week. Again we would appreciate the help of the distributors, they are now ready in the Parish Office for collection.

FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH: Saturday March 19th.

CHRISM MASS IN COBH: In the Cathedral on Wednesday Evening, March 23rd at 7.30pm. A bus will leave the Square in Mitchelstown at 6.00pm. Names to be given into the Parish Office. 025 84062 office hours 9am-12noon.

An unusual time – Ireland at a Cross Roads: We have elected 158 public representatives and we still await the formation of a Government. It is a time for all of us to reflect on what kind of Ireland do we want for the next period of her history. There are a lot of questions and condemnations, but very few answers. There are no magical solutions to the problems and we are all part of the solutions. We must all take responsibility in creating the future of our Country. Has our Patron St. Patrick anything to say to the Ireland of 2016? In his personal account written in his Confessions, he tells us of his great hardships as a boy slave here in Ireland in the 5th Century. But He came to know the goodness and mercy of God and of Jesus Christ and this led to his liberation from captivity and he returned home to Britain. But God had a special plan for Patrick and for Ireland. Patrick had a profound experience of God as a young slave in Ireland and after his escape, he was called back for this purpose: "I never had any other reason for returning to this nation from which I had earlier escaped, except the Gospel and God's promises". (*St. Patrick's Confessions*) He declared in the same document that his return to Ireland to preach and lead the people to Christ was a gift of God.

Our Nation is uniquely connected to St. Patrick and the Christian Gospel, there is no way forward without it. Again we read in St. Patrick's Confessions "Turn in faith with all your hearts to the Lord my God, because nothing is impossible to Him, so that He may put food in your way, even enough to make you fully satisfied. He has an abundance everywhere". St Patrick found his freedom in prayer and fasting. It is a lesson for all of us who hold St. Patrick in reference to fast and pray anew that God may direct our Nation at this crossroads. May St. Patrick obtain a new illumination for us all and our Country.

What is Easter Duty? Because of the central importance of Easter to the Christian faith, the Catholic Church requires all Catholics who have made their First Holy Communion to receive the Holy Eucharist sometime during the Easter season, which lasts through to Pentecost Sunday, 50 days after Easter. They should also take part in receiving the Sacrament of Penance before receiving this Easter Communion. This reception of the Eucharist is a visible sign of our faith and our participation in the Kingdom of God. Of course we should receive Holy Communion as frequently as possible; This "Easter Duty" is simply the minimum requirement.

Prayer to St. Patrick:

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down,
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in the eye that sees me,
Christ in the ear that hears me. Amen.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society Meeting this Monday, 14th March 2016, at 7 p.m.
In **Marian Hall, Convent Hill.** *New Members always welcome*

The next meeting to discuss **St. Joseph's Foundation's Annual Spring Fair** will take place on **This Monday, 14th March at 7.00pm, in St. Joseph's Campus, Baker's Road, Charleville.** The Annual Spring Fair will take place on Sunday, April 24th. Your help with this event would be greatly appreciated. We would be delighted if you could attend the meeting.

P.T.A.A. Private Members Draw Results Wednesday 17th February:

1st Prize:	€1200	B. Gavigan, Navan Co. Meath	Card No: 69 Line: 2
2nd Prize:	€400	K & U Birrane, Crossmolina, Co. Mayo.	Card No: 93 Line: 4
3rd Prize:	€200	J. Drea, Tullamore, Co. Offaly.	Card No: 6 Line: 1
4th Prize:	€100	L. Magee, Enniskillen Co. Fermanagh.	Card No: 35 Line: 10

Six Promoters Prizes of €40 each;

1. D. Gorman, Derry City. Card No: 44
2. N. Sweeney, Achill Co. Mayo. Card No: 64
3. A. Hyland, Clarendon, Co. Mayo. Card No: 17.
4. A. Costello, Ballysheedy, Co. Limerick. Card No: 50
5. D. Gorman, Derry City. Card No: 43
6. P. Mulhall, Bray, Co. Wicklow. Card No: 82

The next draw will be held on Wednesday 16th March 2016

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. **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.

Cork Tag Rugby will hold a **Charity Tag Rugby Blitz** on Friday March 25th to launch their Spring/Summer league at Highfield RFC on the Model Farm Road. The blitz will begin at 6pm and it promises to be an evening of great entertainment. Teams cost €150 to enter and funds raised on the night will benefit the **Cork Association for Autism (CAA)**. Please come along and support. For further information or to book your place email corktagrugby@gmail.com or visit their website www.corkastrorugby.com.

A **Fundraising Table Quiz** is being held by the **Fermoy & District Lourdes Invalid Fund** on **March 18th**. The 2016 Annual Cloyne Pilgrimage to Lourdes is from June the 1st until June the 6th. The Fermoy and District Lourdes Invalid Fund facilitates those who wish to travel with the Pilgrimage and stay in the Hospital in Lourdes for the duration of the visit. The Table Quiz will be held in the Fermoy Pitch and Putt Club at 8pm and all support would be very welcome. For further details contact 087 2399106.

St. Joseph's Church, Killacraig - 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.

PRESENTATION SECONDARY SCHOOL presents an Evening of **NARRATION, STORY TELLING, POETRY, SONG AND DANCE.** To **COMMEMORATE 1916** and Celebrate everything Irish on **this MONDAY 14th MARCH, 7.30pm, FIRGROVE HOTEL, MITCHELSTOWN.** All proceeds go to The Alzheimer Society of Ireland
Tickets: €10 (Adult), €5 (Student/OAP), €20 (Family – 2 Adults, 2 Children)
Available from the School Office (025 24394), and at the Door on the Night

MITCHELSTOWN COMHALTAS, ANNUAL SOCIAL NIGHT, Saturday 19th March in the Firgrove Hotel. (*Sandwiches, finger food and chips, tea and coffee served*) All are welcome to this night of Irish Music, Song & Dance. Admission €10 tickets available at the door.

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.

40 Hours Adoration in Celebration of the Year of Mercy. As part of the Year of Mercy, the Parish of Mitchelstown will hold the 40 Hours Adoration Devotion in the Church of Our Lady Conceived without Sin, Mitchelstown. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the main altar of the Church during the 40 hours. **This devotion will commence on Thursday 31st March with Holy Mass at 7.30pm followed by a conducted Holy Hour and conclude on Saturday 2nd April at 7.00pm followed with Holy Mass at 7.30pm, the vigil of Divine Mercy.** Each station area will be given an hour to spend with the Lord. Rota details will be delivered to each home with their Easter envelopes. We invite all in our parish community and surrounding areas to take part in this devotion for the Lord's great mercy, protection and the many graces that the Lord wants to give us.

The Crystal Project, the **COMMUNITY DEMENTIA PROJECT** in North Cork, led by the HSE, are currently looking for volunteers in the area. We are on the lookout for kind, caring and dependable people to join our team of social volunteer visitors. If you are interested in volunteering with the project or would like to find out more about what we do:

Phone: Christine O'Riordan 086-0255205 / Sheena Cadoo 086-7871818

Visit: www.crystalproject.ie Email: christine@crystalproject.ie

A Vision for Change, Advancing Mental Health in Ireland. Fermoy/Mitchelstown Area. Are you currently a Mental Health Service User? Are you interested in having your voice heard? Come and be part of a new mental health service users group; this group will provide a space for mental health service users to have their voice heard. The first meeting of our group will take place in the **Fermoy Resource Centre, 42 McCurtain Street on Tuesday 5th April at 7.00pm.** Please contact Martin Scully on 087-6599581 for further information.

Mitchelstown Library, Sutton's Court, Clonmel Road. (025)41939

mitchelstownlibrary@corkcoco.ie <http://www.corkcoco.ie>

18th Mar (Fri) @ 10.30am: Writer's Group – every 2 weeks. Please contact the library for the next meeting date. **25th Mar (Fri) @ 4pm:** Ciorcal Cainte - if you have a grá for gaeilge, no matter what your level why not come and enjoy some conversation with some like minded souls? Every 2 weeks. Please contact the library for the next meeting. **Exhibitions:** March Exhibition is by Jay Whitehead of O'Ceannobhain's Art Studio and comprises x7 portraits in pencil of the Signatories to the Proclamation.