

**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](mailto: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](http://www.mitchelstownparish.ie)**

E-mail address for Parish Pastoral Council is [mitchelstownppc@gmail.com](mailto:mitchelstownppc@gmail.com)

**Also on Facebook – Mitchelstown Parish Pastoral Council**

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK:** Parish Church: 8.30am & 10.00am

**MORNING PRAYER:** Monday – Friday: 8.00am

**CONFESSIONS:** Saturday: 12.00-1.00pm & 7.00-7.30pm

**EUCCHARISTIC HEALING HOUR:** Thursday evening **8.00pm – 9.00pm**, with reflections on the Holy Spirit and Eucharistic Healing Blessing.

**DIVINE MERCY PRAYERS:** Every Friday in the Parish Church at **3.00pm**. All welcome.

**Ballygiblin First Holy Communion:** Next Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> May, **please notetime change to 11am**

**Bus to Knock:** Leaving the Town Square on **Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup> at 7.15am**. Name to Pat McEvoy, Sacristan or Patricia in the Parish Office.

**Bishops' Conference Collection:** is being taken up today after Holy Communion. The offerings from this collection greatly help many services in Pastoral Care, Teaching, Helplines and many others. Your offerings are greatly appreciated.

**Ministers of the Eucharist:** A meeting of all Ministers of the Eucharist will be held in the **Parish Church on Monday May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7.30pm**. The meeting will include a short period of Eucharistic Adoration and will be followed by a few announcements. We ask all Ministers to attend.

# Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

**Volume: 7**

**Issue: 46 Date: Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

**United Nations on the Wrong Track:** Nothing is more sacred or precious than the gift of life. Many couples struggle to conceive the gift of life, many couples struggle to carry the gift of unborn life. Many couples would love to be able to give a loving home and adopt a child. Mothers and babies must be supported and protected. Yet the United Nations criticise our country for its restrictive abortion laws. On Wednesday Evening's main news, Germany, Slovenia and America were presented as denouncing us for protecting life. Since 1973, when America removed its protection to life, over 50,000 have been killed in gun crime in America. In the same period over 52 million children have been aborted. Now, many heroic people in America are succeeding, in various states, in turning the tide against this terrible situation. We must stand up to those who seek to undermine the protection of life in our Country. Abortion hurts parents, families and destroys the gift of a precious life with incredible potential. Abortion is destructive in every way. Would that we had someone to represent those of us who can see this destruction and tell the United Nations that they are on the wrong track? Let us love life and protect life.

**Bus to Knock:** A bus to Knock for the All Ireland Rosary Rally will leave Mitchelstown Town Square on **Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup>** at 7.15am. Names to be given in the Sacristy or Parish Office. Archbishop Eamonn Martin, Armagh, will be the Main Celebrant of the Mass.

**Veronica Guerin:** Twenty years ago the journalist Veronica Guerin was brutally murdered in her car, while stopped at a traffic lights on the Naas dual carriageway. Veronica had been writing and challenging the main drug dealers in Dublin at the time. Her courageous work cost her, her life. She was survived by her husband and young son Cathal. Cathal spoke on television during the week about the loving relationship he had had with his mother. Veronica exposed the evil being perpetrated by the drug dealers at the time and moved the Government to take decisive action against them. But, unfortunately, twenty years later the same problem is still a challenge to the authorities. In those twenty years, 230 people have been murdered in drug land related crime. Our society and the Church must continue to fight against the causes that have led to this destruction of life. It is an evil thing to take the life of another and is one of the principal offences against God. We all need to work and pray for a safer society.

**The Holy Spirit:** Jesus promised His disciples to send a Helper and that Helper is the Holy Spirit. The disciples of Jesus waited in prayer before they experienced His coming. Today we celebrate that coming as a most powerful event. The Holy Spirit brought power and strength, light and guidance. As we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost today, let us open our hearts to the Holy Spirit and renounce all sin and evil in our lives. **COME HOLY SPIRIT.**

