

MASS TIMES:

CHURCH OF OUR LADY CONCEIVED WITHOUT SIN, MITCHELSTOWN:

Sat & Eve of Holyday: 7.30p.m. Sunday & Holyday: 8.30am. 10.30am. 12noon & 7.30p.m.

1st Friday: 7.30p.m. - Weekday: 8.30a.m. & 10a.m.

Morning Prayer in Parish Church: Mon. to Fri. at 8a.m.

Rosary in Parish Church: Mon. to Sat. at 9.45a.m. Before: 10a.m. Mass

Perpetual Adoration: Sunday 12.30p.m. & Saturday 7p.m.

Eucharistic Healing Hour of Adoration: Every Thursday night from 8p.m. to 9p.m.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY, BALLYGIBLIN:

Sunday & Holyday: 9.30a.m. - 1st Friday: 7.30p.m.

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, KILLACLUIG:

Sunday & Holyday: 10.30a.m. - 1st Friday: 8.15p.m.

CONFESSION TIMES:

MITCHELSTOWN: Saturday, Eves of Holydays: 12 - 1p.m. & 7p.m. - 7.30p.m.

1st Thursday of month: 12 - 1p.m. & 7p.m. - 7.30p.m.

NEW: After Saturday Evening Mass on the 1st Saturday of the month.

BALLYGIBLIN: 1st Friday 7p.m. **KILLACLUIG:** before 1st Friday Mass.

CLERGY:

V. Rev. Fr. Fitzgerald P.P. V.F. Phone: 025-84090. V. Rev. Canon O'Leary C.C. Phone: 025-84088

Rev. Fr. Greene C.C. Phone: 025-84077. Parish Office: 025-84062 (9am-12pm)

E-MAIL: mitchelstownparishoffice@eircom.net **DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS 12 NOON WEDNESDAY**

Office Open: 9 am to 12 noon - Monday to Friday. Parish Website: www.mitchelstownparish.ie

Sick Call Phone Number: 087 - 2524979

RECONCILIATION SERVICE - PARISH CHURCH - MITCHELSTOWN

ON MONDAY, 23RD DECEMBER AT 7.30PM.

8 priests will be available to hear confession.

Confession: It is important that we receive the Sacrament of Confession regularly, it keeps us in the Grace of God, as we face life's difficulties and it prepares us for the day when the Lord will call us.

CHRISTMAS CONFESSION TIMES:

CHURCH OF OUR LADY CONCEIVED WITHOUT SIN, MITCHELSTOWN:

Saturday, 21st Dec - 12noon to 1p.m. & 7 - 7.30 p.m.

Tuesday, 24th Dec (Christmas Eve) - 12noon to 1pm & 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY, BALLYGIBLIN:

Thursday, 19th December - Confession 7 p.m. & Mass 7.30p.m.

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, KILLACLUIG:

Friday, 20th December - Confession 7.00 p.m. & Mass 7.30p.m.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS FOR THE PRIESTS: You can use the Offering envelope supplied with this leaflet. The Priests wish to thank all the parishioners for their generosity to their collections.

The Parish Office will be closed for the Christmas Holidays from Monday, 23rd December to Tuesday, 7th January 2014. Anyone wishing to advertise in the Parish Newsletter for weeks 29th December & 5th January 2014 please have your articles into the Parish Office no later than 12 noon NEXT Wednesday, 18th December. We would like to thank everyone for supporting our Newsletter during 2013 and look forward to dealing with you in 2014.

Wishing you all a very Happy Peaceful Christmas and the very best for 2014.

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 5 Issue: 29 Date: Sunday 15th December 2013

Deans Morgan O'Brien & Mahony:

When the Presentation Sisters left Mitchelstown in 2003, it was not possible to locate the remains of the above two former Parish Priests buried in the Convent Chapel. After a very long time consuming search, both remains were recently found. With the permission of the new owner and in accordance with Health Board Regulations and with the sanction of Cork County Council, both remains were reverently exhumed on Wednesday 11th December 2013 and they were re-buried in the Church yard, beside the burial plot of the late Canon John Sheehan. Bishop Crean was also informed of the exhumations. Canon Fitzgerald, Canon O'Leary and Fr. Greene led the graveside prayers. The O'Brien Undertakers, Mitchelstown, took care of the arrangements and the gravedigger was Denis Roche assisted by Tom O'Donoghue. Tom O'Keeffe voluntarily conducted the search over a number of years and led the exhumation itself, to whom we are most grateful. As the Convent continued to deteriorate, the exhumation became more urgent. It is a relief to have the process successfully completed, as it is so important that we respect our dead. Dean Morgan O'Brien was born in Youghal in 1798. He served as Parish Priest of Mitchelstown from 1845 - 1868. A detailed account of the enormous service he gave to the parish is brilliantly laid out in a book published in 2009. The author of the book is the former CBS Secondary School Teacher, Mr. Tom O'Donnell. The title of the book is "The turbulent life of Dean Morgan O'Brien". Dean Morgan O'Brien's work is particularly significant because he completed the building of the Parish Church Tower, led the building and completion of both Killacluig and Ballygiblin Churches. He introduced the Presentation Sisters and the Christian Brothers to the parish. A detailed account of all his works and trials are laid out in the book already mentioned. As of now, very little is known of the late Dean Mahony. He succeeded Dean O'Brien in 1869, until his death in April 1881. He served in Coachford and Inniscarra, before being appointed to Mitchelstown. He was the one to continue and maintain the enormous work of Dean O'Brien. If more details of his life become available, we will publish them in the coming months.

To mark the event of the re-burial the 12 o'clock Mass next Sunday, December 22nd will be offered for both priests.

May they rest in peace.

Bel Canto Choir will sing Christmas Carols before, during and after the 7.30pm Mass on This Sunday, 15th December.

C.B.S. Primary Carol Singers will be outside **Supervalu, New Square**, Mitchelstown on **Thursday, 19th December**. School Staff and Friends will be around town with a bucket collection in aid of the Local Branch of the St. Vincent De Paul Society, (Gardaí permit granted). This Carol Singing is a tradition which has long been carried out by the school. Thanks in advance to all the businesses and people of Mitchelstown, who have always been so supportive. Everybody at CBS Primary wishes the Community a Very Happy Peaceful Christmas and the very best for 2014.

Better Life Cycle - Malin to Mizen in aid of St. Joseph's Foundation Charleville. A **Charity Auction** is being held in "**Jackie O'Brien's**" on **Friday December 20th at 9.45pm**. Come along for a great night out for a great cause.

P.T.A.A. Private Members Draw Results Wednesday 20th November:

- 1st Prize:** €1200 B. Boles, Sligo
2nd Prize: €400 C. Claffey, Ferbane, Co. Offaly.
3rd Prize: €200 Y. Rogers, Drumcondra, Dublin 9.
4th Prize: €100 D. Walsh, Oughterard, Co. Galway.

Six Promoters Prizes of €40 each;

1. S. O'Kane, Cookstown, Co. Tyrone.
2. J. Halligan, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan.
3. J.V. Fegan, Burren, Co. Down.
4. O. Bermingham, Glasnevin, Dublin 11.
5. S. Farrell, Drumcondra, Dublin 9.
6. A. Henahan, Kiltoom, Co. Roscommon.

The next draw will be held on Wednesday 18th December 2013

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.

The Monday Morning Club - Ballindangan Hall

Monday 16th December: Decorate your own Christmas cake. Help will be available to you. Please ring Norma at 086 - 8332623 to find out what you need to bring with you on Monday morning.

This is an open invitation to all would like to call in on Monday morning from 10.30am for a cuppa and a chat. A nominal fee of €2 each is for hire of the hall.

The club will be taking a break for the Christmas holidays and will be back again January 13th.

Wishing all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Mitchelstown Flower & Garden Club wish all our members and friends old and new a very Happy Christmas and a Merry New Year

MITCHELSTOWN HEALTHY TOWN

HEALTHY WALKING: Every Tuesday safe guided walks are conducted from John Mandeville New Square at 7 pm covering a choice of 3 km and 5 km routes. A good aerobic walk for 30 minutes will enhance physical and mental well being. Why not join in with a good bunch in the Walking club. It's all free in God's fresh air. Mitchelstown Forum is promoting the Healthy Town Project.

KEEP FIT FOR SCHOOL PARENTS: Fun Aerobics for Mitchelstown School Parents are conducted every Tuesday at 9.30am in the spacious and heated St. Fanahan's Hall. Keeping in shape means a more enjoyable well being with less trials and tribulations. Like the truth in the old saying it is likened to having an apple a day to keep the doctor away. It is graded to suits beginners upwards.

Fun Fire Engine will be in Tesco Car Park on Friday, 20th December from 12 noon to 2.30pm. There will be Face Painting, Balloon Twisting, and Colouring Competitions. There will be a Movie or Video Game on inside the Fun Fire Engine and of course the Big Man himself Santa will be making an appearance. Some of the proceeds from the event will go to Tesco's Charity AWARE. So come along and join in the fun!

THANK YOU! The Mitchelstown Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank most sincerely the people of Mitchelstown Parish for supporting their recent Annual Christmas Collection €4,010 was raised.

Pope Francis has announced that in October 2014 an Extraordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops will take place in the Vatican to discuss the theme: 'The pastoral challenges for the family in the context of evangelisation'. In order to prepare for this Synod, and to assist in its discussions, the Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops has initiated a consultation to obtain responses on this important theme.

A 'Preparatory Document' to contextualise this initiative is available on the Vatican website:

http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/synod/documents/rc_synod_doc_20131105_iii-assemblea-sinodo-vescovi_en.html This 'Preparatory Document' also includes the consultation questions which are grouped under the following ten sections:

1. The Diffusion of the Teachings on the Family in Sacred Scripture and the Church's Magisterium
2. Marriage according to the Natural Law
3. The Pastoral Care of the Family in Evangelization
4. Pastoral Care in Certain Difficult Marital Situations
5. On Unions of Persons of the Same Sex
6. The Education of Children in Irregular Marriages
7. The Openness of the Married Couple to Life
8. The Relationship Between the Family and the Person
9. Other Challenges and Proposals
- 10: Further comments

For those interested in completing the survey, please return your response to the Cloyne Diocesan Centre, Cobh, before Friday, January 10th 2014.