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Canon Fitzgerald is on Sick Call this week;

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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

E-mail address for Parish Pastoral Council is mitchelstownppc@gmail.com

Also on Facebook – Mitchelstown Parish Pastoral Council

● **Stations of the Cross:** Throughout the Sundays of Lent, we will have the Stations of the Cross in the Parish Church at **3.00pm**, beginning this Sunday. This is a very important Lenten devotion and we encourage you to participate. **The Parish will lead the Stations of the Cross on Corrin Hill, Fermoy, on Sunday next, February 25th at 3.00pm.**

● **Trócaire Boxes:** Are available today, if you have not already got one. Remember that by denying ourselves a little during Lent, we can offer life to someone in poorer countries.

● **A Special Collection is being taken up next Sunday throughout the Country for the World Meeting Of Families, your support is greatly needed:**

● When there is a 2nd collection at Mass, beginning next Sunday, the 1st one will be taken up after the Homily and the 2nd after the Prayers of the Faithful and during the announcements.

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

EUCHARISTIC HEALING HOUR: Thursday Evening **8.00-9.00pm** with reflections on the Passion of Christ and Eucharistic Healing Blessing.

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

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, Killaclaugh

MASS TIMES: Sunday & Holy Day: **10.30am.** First Friday: **6.30pm.**

CONFESSIONS: First Friday: **6.00pm.**

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

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Lent 2018: At the time of Noah, according to the 1st Book of the Bible, Genesis, the people of the earth had become very corrupt. They greatly offended God by their selfishness. But Noah and his family greatly pleased God. God sent a great flood to cleanse humanity and make a new beginning with Noah and his family. As we reflect on these ancient events during Lent 2018, let us take seriously the call of our Saviour Jesus Christ to turn anew to God, reflect on our lives, correct what is offensive to God in our lives and give our hearts anew to Him. We can do this by three means: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. The worship of the living God and the keeping of His Commandments must come first. We need to cut back on the pleasure of food and other pleasures and so resist the temptation of Satan. Through almsgiving let us reach out to help those around us who are poor, lonely and troubled. Let us through the Trócaire collection, reach out to help poorer Nations. To help us do these exercises, let us listen carefully to the Word of God at Mass and read daily the Scriptures in our homes. May the Holy Spirit help us individually and as a Community this Lent to find genuine renewal in God, so that we can participate in the celebration of Easter. The people who laughed at Noah, lost life and the happiness of God. Through Lent 2018 may the Lord be merciful to us and our world.

Nun's recovery recognised as 70th Lourdes miracle: A French Bishop declared Sunday, that the recovery of a long-debilitated Nun made after she visited the Shrine in Lourdes was a miracle, the 70th event to be recognised as an act of Divine Intervention at the world-famous Pilgrimage site. Bishop Jacques Benoit-Gonin of Beauvais proclaimed the miracle nearly a decade after Bernadette Moriau attended a blessing of the sick ceremony at the Lourdes Sanctuary in southern France. The Bishop of Lourdes, Nicolas Brouwet announced the declaration during Mass at the Shrine's Basilica. Moriau's experience underwent extensive studies and tests by the International Medical Committee of Lourdes. The Bishop has the last word on whether to approve a reported cure as a miracle. Moriau had four operations on her spinal column between 1968 and 1975 and was declared fully disabled in 1980. One foot was permanently twisted, requiring her to wear a brace and use a wheelchair. She took what she said were significant doses of morphine for pain. "I never asked for a miracle," the nun, now 79, recounted of her July 2008 pilgrimage to Lourdes. After returning to her home Convent near Beauvais and praying in the Chapel, "I felt a (surge of) well-being throughout my body, a relaxation, warmth.... I returned to my room and, there, a voice told me to 'take off your braces,'" she said in a video posted on the Beauvais diocese web site. "Surprise. I could move." Moriau said she immediately did away with all her aids, from braces to morphine — and took a 5 kilometre hike a few days later. The Bishop said the Nun's "sudden, instantaneous, complete and durable change" alerted him to a possible miracle. The Lourdes medical committee said the changes were unexplainable "in the current state of our scientific knowledge," he added. A miracle at Lourdes last was declared in 2013. It involved an Italian woman who visited Lourdes in 1989, suffering severe high blood pressure and other problems.

