

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.

Canon Fitzgerald is on Sick Call this week;

Phone Number: 087 – 2524979

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS:

mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com

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
First Thursday: 12.00-1.00pm & 7.00-7.30pm

We encourage families to practice monthly Confession

EUCHARISTIC HEALING HOUR: Thursday evening at **8.00pm – 9.00pm**

With Prayers for Families and Eucharistic Healing Blessing.

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

Church of the Holy Family, Ballygiblin

MASS TIMES: Sunday & Holy Day: **9.30 a.m.**

First Friday: 7.30 p.m.

CONFESSIONS: First Friday: **7.00pm**

St. Joseph's Church, Killacluig

MASS TIMES: Sunday & Holy Day: **10.30 a.m.**

First Friday: 6.30p.m.

CONFESSIONS: First Friday: **6.00pm**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Throughout the Sundays of Lent the Stations of the Cross in the **Parish Church** at **3.00pm**. This is a very important Lenten devotion and we encourage you to participate.

Evening Mass during the weekdays of Lent at **7.30pm**

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE EX CORK: *Walk in the footsteps of Jesus.* This unforgettable (fully guided) trip will take place from **October 8th – 16th 2017**. Highlights include: A boat trip on the Sea of Galilee, visits to Nazareth, Cana, Jericho, The Dead Sea, Jerusalem, The Mount of Olives, Bethlehem, etc. The trip includes: Return flights ex Cork, a comprehensive daily programme, entrance fees, 4* Hotels, dinner, bed and breakfast throughout. Spiritual Director: Fr. Christy Fitzgerald. For further information and details please contact MAP Travel 01-8783111 or Tour Manager Jim Keogh 021-4885371 or 087-2678793. Please note that places are strictly limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 8

Issue: 38 Date: Sunday 19th March 2017

To Be A Good Father: At one of the 1st Holy Communion Masses recently, one little girl recalled that one of her happy memories was going fishing with her Daddy. Most of us have memories of our fathers. We are very influenced by our fathers. Some men take easily the role of father, others can find it difficult to express a fathers love and affection. In times past, fathers were regarded as the provider and the mother as the one who did the loving and caring. We all have had different experiences with our fathers. But, it is true to say that fathers are more involved with their children now, then in times past. Fathers change nappies and take turn babysitting and we even have now a number of stay at home dads. Every father has his own unique characteristic and makes his influence felt over his children in a very special way. Someone once asked, what is the greatest thing that a father can do for his child?and the answer was, to love the child's mother and the reverse, what is the greatest thing that a mother can do for her child?and the answer is, to love the child's father. Every child wants to see his or her parents at peace with one another, no matter what the circumstances. To be a good father, is to always show respect for his child's mother. The model for Christian fathers is St. Joseph. With Our Lady, he had the serious responsibility of providing, caring, teaching and protecting the Saviour of the world, Jesus Christ. There are no recorded words of St. Joseph in the Bible, but we see by his actions his love and care for Mary and Jesus. He was the nearest in life to being the perfect father. St. Joseph must take a special interest in all families, as we celebrate his Feast day on Monday, let us pray for all fathers, that they may love their children's mothers and strive to be good models for their children. May St. Joseph intercede for all fathers and for all our families.

Words of St. Patrick: "So I am first of all a simple country person, a refugee, and unlearned. I do not know how to provide for the future. But this I know for certain, that before I was brought low, I was like a stone lying deep in the mud. Then he who is powerful came and in his mercy pulled me out, and lifted me up and placed me on the very top of the wall. That is why I must shout aloud in return to the Lord for such great good deeds of his, here and now and forever, which the human mind cannot measure."(Confessions of St. Patrick).

The next meeting to discuss **St. Joseph's Foundation's Annual Spring Fair** will take place on **This Monday, 20th March at 7.00pm, in St. Joseph's Campus, Baker's Road, Charleville.** The Annual Spring Fair will take place on Sunday, April 9th. Your help with this event would be greatly appreciated. We would be delighted if you could attend the meeting.

Cycle Against Suicide arriving in Fermoy on **Wednesday May 3rd 2017.** Homestays needed to accommodate cyclists for one night for this worthy cause. Please contact John Hennessy (087) 4154301 or Ellen Downey at "fermoyhomestays@gmail.com"

Paddy appeared before St Peter at the pearly gates. "Have you ever done anything of particular merit?" St Peter asked. "Well, I can think of one thing," Paddy offered. "Once, on a trip to Dublin, I came upon a gang of fellas, who were threatening a young woman. I told them to leave her alone, but they wouldn't listen. So, I approached the largest and most heavily tattooed fella and smacked him in his face, ripped out his nose ring and threw it on the ground. I then yelled, 'Now, back off, or I'll kick the living daylight out of all of you!'" St Peter was impressed. He leafed through the great book he held. "When did this happen?" "Just a few minutes ago..."

C.B.S. Primary Parent Council: Would like to THANK everybody who supported their recent Fashion Show 2017, at the Firgrove Hotel. Whether you displayed on the night, provided sponsorship, attended, or indeed, gave any other assistance, we really appreciate your efforts. The Committee is sincerely grateful for the unstinting local support of their successive fundraising ventures. All proceeds go directly to improving facilities for the pupils of C.B.S. Primary. Go Raibh míle míle maith agaibh go léir.

Mitchelstown Citizens Information Centre – NEW TIME added On Tuesday

Marian Hall, Convent Hill, Mitchelstown. Tel: 0761 07 8030

E-mail: Mitchelstown@citinfo.ie. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10am to 1pm
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday: 1.30pm to 4.30pm

Killacluig Choir: Thanks to all who participated in the Choir on St. Patrick's Day in Killacluig. New members are always welcome- singers and musicians. Do you play an instrument or sing? If so, please join us! Contact Caitriona on 086-3760487 if interested in joining the Choir. Choir on Sundays in Killacluig will resume to normal schedule following Easter. More details on upcoming practices will be announced on the Parish Newsletter.

A TODDLER CLUB NOW OPEN at Bright Sparks for age 12 months upwards. 3 hours of fun, interaction and learning. Messy, Sensory, Great Outdoor, Music and Movement, Drama and Dance, Imaginative play. Snack included, €20. More details or bookings on 025 86799 or text 086 2653839

Catholic Bible Study and Healing: Johnson Sequeira, a Catholic Lay Preacher will lead a day of bible meditation, prayer and healing service in **Mitchelstown Town Hall on Saturday 25th March 2017 from 10.30am to 7.00pm**. Mass will be celebrated at 3.00pm. He will share his profound insights into the bible, unveiling the power of the word of God. Experience the healing and freeing power of the Lord's word in your life. Please bring a bible and notebook for taking notes. All are welcome. Contact: Catherine 087 7727496

URGENT REPLY NEEDED: TAX REFUND: A few weeks ago, some of you would have received correspondence from us about the tax refund scheme, at present there are still a number of these **TAX FORMS** not returned, if you have mislaid the form, please contact Patricia the Parish Secretary on 025 / 84062, Monday to Friday 9am to 12 noon and she will reissue one for you. The Tax Refund system is of great financial benefit to the Parish and it would be a pity to miss out on the opportunity of availing of the refund. Please complete, and return forms, in the stamped addressed envelope sent to you, no later than Wednesday, 29th March. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

LENTEN STATIONS 2017

Town & Country Stations: 7.30 p.m. Unless otherwise stated.

MARCH

Mon.	20 th	<i>New Stag Park Estate. 7.00pm</i>	STAG PARK COMMUNITY HOUSE
Mon.	20 th	<i>Liam Lynch Pk., O'Neill Crowley Tce. Beechwood Grove, Moher Crescent, Mandeville Pk., & Ailsbury Court.</i>	PARISH CHURCH
Tues.	21 st	Pollardstown & Killicane	Timothy Mackessy PARISH CHURCH
Fri.	24 th	Kilshanny	Michael & Margaret Boland PARISH CHURCH
Fri.	24 th	Gurrane & Coolenave	Sonny & Mary O'Connell
Fri.	24 th	Ballybeg, Turbeigh, Ballybeg Road & Glenatluckey	8.15pm Patrick & Catherine Mullins
Mon.	27 th	Corracunna & Cooleregan	Elizabeth O'Brien

We encourage you all to participate in the Station Masses.

Fatima 1917 - 2017, Celebrating 100 years. This year celebrates the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady in Fatima, from May to October 2017. The message of Fatima - Prayer, Penance & Reparation - is a simple one but one that is very important for the Church today. The International Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima arrived in Ireland on March 1st and is currently visiting the North and North West of the Country. Our Lady will be coming to Munster later this month and will pay a visit to **Mitchelstown Parish Church on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29TH FROM 10AM - 12NOON**. Even though this is a short visit we are incredibly lucky to be able to be in Her Presence in this most important year. **Mass will be celebrated at 10am** as soon as Our Lady arrives and everyone is invited to come along and pray with and to Our Lady. Boxes for petitions to Our Lady of Fatima are in all 3 Churches, so please feel free to write a petition. All the petitions will be offered to Our Lady during the offertory procession of the Mass on March 29th. The petitions will be taken to the shrine of Our Lady in Fatima in September as part of the Cloyne Diocesan Pilgrimage. This is a unique and very special opportunity, one we may not get again, so please do come and be in the presence of Our Beloved Mother. In Fatima on the Feast Days Our Lady is brought in procession around the Square and as She is returned to the Capelinha, Pilgrims wave white hankies. This is known as the Fatima Adieu. So do remember to bring your white hankie/tissue to wave goodbye to Our Lady when she leaves at 12noon.

Thank you from Mitchelstown Pioneer Total Abstinence Association: The above Association would like to thank the following people and management, for allowing us to collect outside their premises, on the occasion of our Flag Day Fundraiser held last Saturday, March 11th: Aldi Stores (Ireland Ltd), Mitchelstown Credit Union Ltd., Farrell's Centra, Roche's Spar, and Farrell's Supervalu. Thanks also to our many collectors, subscribers and all those who helped in any way. "Go Raibh Mile Maith Agaibh Go Léir".

THE SACRED HEART MESSENGER: Local promoters is; ANNA MARIA RUSSELL, (025) 84151. Copies **on sale** in the Porch of the Parish Church, €1.50 each.

Mitchelstown Flower and Garden Club will be hosting a demonstration with Sandra Buttimer on Thursday (March 30th 2017) in the Town Hall at 8 p.m. All Very Welcome.