

EU Flag:

The EU flag, which as we all know has 12 stars against a blue background, but do we know the origin of its design?

What most of us did not know, however, is that this flag – unknown to those who chose it as the emblem for Europe – was inspired by the Immaculate Conception! The European ministers chose the design in 1955, five years after a competition was launched to find a winning design for the European flag. The winner was Arsne Heitz, a devotee of the Blessed Virgin, who has recently revealed that at the time of the competition he had been reading the story of the 1830 Marian apparitions of St. Catherine Laboure in the rue du Bac in Paris. This is where his inspiration came from to create twelve stars in a circle on a blue background, the image used traditionally to depict the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin. The image is drawn from the ‘great and wondrous’ sign mentioned in the Book of Revelation, which speaks of “a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head.” Heitz, who prays the Rosary every day, believes that the inspiration for his design was heaven-sent. The European ministers, without realising, adopted the flag in 1955 on, the 8th December – feast of the Immaculate Conception. Every time we see the EU flag hoisted from now on, knowing what it depicts, we can look upon it as a sign of ‘sure hope’ for our times.

Eucharistic Adoration – 20th Anniversary:

On **Monday night June 29th at 7.30 p.m.** Fr. Pat Winkle will lead a concelebrated Mass of Thanksgiving for 20 years of perpetual Adoration of the Holy Eucharist in our Parish. The 1st two centres of Perpetual Adoration began in the Diocese of Cloyne on December 8th 1988, and the other eight began in the following sixteen months. The success of Adoration in Mitchelstown Parish is due to the wonderful love and devotion of so many people (a number from outside the Parish) to the Blessed Eucharist: people who come week after week, year after year to spend their hour in prayer, many doing so since the adoration began. We hope for a big attendance at the Anniversary Mass. We also invite all the families of the Parish to consider giving together an hour of Adoration. Time spent in Adoration of Jesus will bring great blessings to all. *Fr. Michael.*

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

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St. Fanahan's Well

Open Air Mass Monday night June 22nd at 7.30 p.m.

St Fanahan's Well is a unique place in our Parish. The pathway walk lined with trees, the green fields and the mountain view prepares the pilgrim to enter the Well area in a Spirit of Reflection. The secluded Well area itself draws the mind and soul to contemplate our Creator God and to experience His presence and peace.

We invite you all to this special annual Mass on Monday night next at the Well at 7.30 p.m. *Fr. Michael.*

The Procession:

There has been a very positive response to the Corpus Christi Procession. People were particularly appreciative of the great number who attended and their reverence. People also remarked on the beautiful decoration of the houses and streets for the event. It was obvious to all of how much the Blessed Sacrament is respected. Thanks to everybody who prepared for the event and to all who participated. I would like to express special thanks to the local Gardai for their help and co-operation.

We look forward to an even bigger and better Procession next year.

<p>Clergy: Rev. Fr. Fitzgerald P.P. Phone: 025-84090 Canon O’Leary Phone: 025-84088 Fr. Greene Phone: 025-84077 <u>Priest on Sick call this week is:</u> Fr. James Greene Emergency Contact Number: 087 - 2524979</p>	<p>Mass Times: Church Of Our Lady Conceived Without Sin, Mitchelstown: Sat & Eve of Holyday: 7.30 p.m. Sunday & Holyday: 8.30 a.m. 10.30 a.m., 12 p.m. & 7.30 p.m. 1st Friday: 7.30 p.m. Weekday: 8.30 a.m. & 10 a.m. Morning Prayer: Mon – Fri. at 8 a.m. Church of the Holy Family, Ballygiblin: Sunday & Holyday: 9.30 a.m. 1st Friday: 7.30 p.m. St. Joseph’s Church, Killacluig: Sunday & Holyday: 10.30 a.m. 1st Friday: 8.15 p.m.</p>
<p>Confession Times: Mitchelstown: Sat, Eves of Holydays & Eves of 1st Fridays. 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. & 7 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Ballygiblin: 1st Friday 7 p.m. Killacluig: before 1st Friday Mass.</p>	<p><u>Eucharistic Healing Hour of Adoration:</u> A public hour of Adoration will be held in the Parish Church. <u>Every Thursday night From 9 p.m. to 10 p.m.</u></p>
<p>Reflection: Sometimes in a lonely cell in the presence of my God I stand and listen. In the silence of my heart I can hear God’s will when I listen. For I am but a servant Who is guided by my King when I listen. (<i>Saint Columba 521-597</i>)</p>	<p>Eve’s Pudding A Sunday school teacher, after telling her class about the creation of the world, asked the children the name of the first woman on earth. Getting no reply she offered a clue. “It has something to do with an apple,” she said. A little boy at the back of the class called out, “Was it Granny Smith?”</p>

Successful Sunflower Collection for Marymount Hospice, Cork

Patricia Casey, Mitchelstown, organizer of the above collection, would like – on behalf of Marymount Hospice, to thank all those who made the Sunflower Collection such a great success. Thanks to the committed collectors who turned up cheerfully & punctually. Thanks to the following proprietors who allowed us to collect outside their premises – *Aldi, Credit Union, Reidys’ Super Valu, Post Office, Centra, Spar & Tesco*. Thanks to the great many people who contributed so generously. The amount collect was €4,500. This wonderful response to the collection is a recognition of & tribute to the loving care & kindness shown by the dedicated staff at Marymount to the Mitchelstown people in their care. As an expression of their gratitude a Novena of Masses will be offered at the Hospice for all your intentions.

Are you interested in deepening your Faith in Christ?

Mir Retreat Centre announces the commencement of 5 Faith Development Modules for any person interested in deepening their Catholic Faith. The modules will include:

1. Being a member of The Catholic Faith Community
2. Focus on our Faith Development
3. Spirituality of the Love of God (Heart of Jesus)
4. Being an Active member in the Church

These modules are **Free**. Just a desire to participate is required and last 2hours per module.

When: Start with Eucharist at 2.15pm on 28th June

Where: Mir Retreat Centre-Cregane, Lombardstown Mallow.
Phone: 085-1226004
Email: declanbrowne@mirretreatcentre.org

Priests Retreat.

A number of Priests from the Diocese will be on retreat this week at the Rosminian House of Prayer, Glencomeragh, Kilsheelan, Co. Tipperary. The retreat will be directed by a Fr. David Cotter, a priest of the Diocese of Paisley in Scotland. Please pray for the success of the retreat and God’s Blessings on all our Priests.