

**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.

1<sup>st</sup> 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. - 1<sup>st</sup> Friday: 7.30p.m.

**ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, KILLACLUIG:**

Sunday & Holyday: 10.30a.m. - 1<sup>st</sup> Friday: 8.15p.m.

**CONFESSION TIMES:**

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

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of month: 12 - 1p.m. & 7p.m. - 7.30p.m.

**NEW:** After Saturday Evening Mass on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month.

**BALLYGIBLIN:** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 7p.m. **KILLACLUIG:** before 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Mass.

**CLERGY:**

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

Rev. Fr. Greene C.C. Phone: 025-84077.

Parish Office: 025-84062

**E-MAIL:** [mitchelstownparishoffice@eircom.net](mailto: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](http://www.mitchelstownparish.ie)**

**Sick Call Phone Number: 087 - 2524979**

*Tired & Weary?*

*I got up early one morning and rushed right into the day,*

*I had so much to accomplish that I didn't have time to pray.*

*Problems just tumbled about me, and heavier came each task.*

*"Why doesn't God help me?" I wondered.*

*He answered, "You didn't ask."*

*I wanted to see joy and beauty, but the day toiled on, grey and bleak;*

*I wondered why God didn't show me. He said, "But you didn't seek."*

*I tried to come into God's presence; I used all my keys at the lock.*

*God gently and lovingly chided, "My child, you didn't knock."*

*I woke early this morning, and paused before starting the day;*

*I had so much to accomplish that I had to take time to pray.*

**Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter**

**Volume: 5**

**Issue: 8**

**Date: Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2013**

Dear brothers and sisters, Our Gospel this week recounts the story of Mary and Martha: Mary who sat listening at Jesus' feet and Martha who busily darted to and fro preparing, cooking and tidying. Martha was upset that she got little help from Mary but Jesus reminded her that Mary had chosen the better part. There is nothing more important than our relationship with Jesus. Nothing. After every Gospel we hear the words "The Gospel of the Lord," which means that the passage we have heard is God's word to us. God is Father and because he loves us he wants to talk to us. He wants to show us how to be happy. So even though we have heard this Gospel a hundred times before we can ask ourselves do we really listen? Do we really believe that doing what God wants will make us happy? What is His message this week and what are we going to do about it? Let us take 2 simple lessons from our Gospel.

1) There is nothing more important, nothing more beautiful and nothing more precious than our faith. When our time on earth is over, our bank accounts, our hobbies, the condition of our bodies, pleasure and fame are all entirely useless. We will be faced by Jesus in all his light and beauty. We will see him as he really is. And we will see ourselves as we really are. Will we honestly be able to say we love him if we have never done so while on earth? Some say love is spent T.I.M.E. Do we spend time with Jesus or do we begrudge him the weekly 40 minutes at mass? Do we simply go to mass ticking the box or do we celebrate it? Do we get there late and stand somewhere embarrassed to answer the mass and then leave mass before it's over? Jesus deserves better than that. Our sons and daughters deserve better than that. They need to see we believe by our actions, priests and people. When we leave earth only our love for God and neighbor counts. Let us decide to celebrate mass with much more love and enthusiasm. Let us arrive on time and respond to mass like we mean it. Let us take time for quiet prayer after Holy Communion. Let us pray for our children's faith and let us give example of what we believe so that they may say "I want the faith and joy that he has."

2) Jesus praised Mary who sat at his feet while Martha was working. By this the Lord doesn't mean that we should spend the whole day in the church. That would be unreasonable. But we can spend our day doing everything out of love for Him. How? I can cut the grass and offer this half for the mother-in-law and that half for a new job. I can peel potatoes and offer them for a sick child. Everything becomes prayer. Everything unites us more deeply with Jesus. What a wonderful way to live! And we can do it. We can do everything out of love for the Lord and so we are always in prayer. We have such a beautiful faith, such an amazing faith that helps our families, our young people, our bereaved, our sick and our job-seekers. It is worth discovering and living on. We are so enthusiastic about our sports victories and rightly so. But let us give God what he deserves too. Let us not be afraid to change our habits, to sit if we normally stand during mass, to answer the mass because we believe in what is happening, to stay until the end so that one day when we find ourselves before the Lord we can say as St. Peter, "Yes Lord, you know I love you."



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