

**CLERGY:**

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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](http://www.mitchelstownparish.ie)**

**Fr. Burke is on Sick Call this week - Phone Number: 087 - 2524979**

**Welcome to Kilbehenny Cycling Club notes.** We congratulate our club member, Damien English on a great win in the boxing ring last Saturday night in the St Patricks Punch Up. Damien gave a fantastic performance and what a victory from such a brilliant team player that he is. The Bike for life cycle programme will be commencing mid April and will consist of a cyclist brought through various skills and techniques involved in cycling over an 8 - 10 week period. Its content will be, preparing for a bike ride, cycling safely on the road, cycling as a group, cycling in low and high traffic volumes, bike handling skills, nutrition and hydration, bike repair and maintenance and training for your cycling goals. The cost of the Bike for Life programme is 30 Euro per person, this includes a log book, a high viz vest, full Cycling

Ireland insurance for the duration of the programme and coaching. Level One: is for those that are new to cycling or who are nervous cycling on the road and want to learn the basics to cycling. Level Two: is for those who are reasonably fit and want to build on what they have and take it a bit more seriously. Level Three: is for the cyclist who wants to increase their cycling knowledge and skills at a faster pace and do longer distances. It is a brilliant event to take part in and will set you up for safe enjoyable cycling. Kilbehenny Cycling Club are cycling every Sunday at 10:00am, from Kilbehenny Community Centre. Wednesday evening cycling will recommence shortly. We have a great year of cycling events planned! For further details contact: Mary 086 6033239, Eileen 068 3180962, Tom 087 2683587. New members most welcome.

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**Killacluig Church Choir:** We are delighted to welcome our new singers who have joined the choir in recent weeks. We are still looking for more singers and musicians, everyone welcome! Choir practices will be arranged to learn the hymns. Come along any Sundays that you are available. Meet us any Sunday at 10.30am Mass or contact Caitriona on 086-3760487 if you are interested.

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**Leaving Cert Students:** Worried about your *Oral French*?

Classes this Easter in **Ozanam Centre Mitchelstown.**

**Contact:** Michael 087 9027908 **Email:** michaelneau@mac.com

# Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

**Volume: 6 Issue: 39 Date: Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2015**

**Secularism Destroys Religious Faith:** Deprived of Faith in a living God, who created him and calls him to live forever, the secular man must create his own goals and walk his own path. When the secular man joins with others in the work of forming society, they must begin by destroying a society of faith that already exists and is an obstacle. They begin by dismantling religious practices, tear down religious symbols and point out all the faults of religion, all for their hidden agenda of establishing a secular state. They convince people that the world they are building will be free of what they call religious prejudice. As they accomplish their goals, especially among the young, a truly new society emerges. New gods appear, new lifestyles and new freedoms. Everyone congratulates themselves. They have successfully rejected a faith that they claim belonged to an unenlightened age. They set out on a new path, totally oblivious to the problems built into the human heart. When the human heart does not serve the living God, it serves itself. When it rejects a life after death, it seeks to make earth into a self-serving paradise.

All goes well as long as a society fulfils all the persons needs. When all is prosperity the secular society flourishes, totally unaware that it cannot cope with economic collapse. So let us not be deceived and misled by the false secular society. In time of crisis it will not be able to do anything for us. Let us treasure our faith in God, nourish and grow in it. If we have set it aside, find it again and hold tight to it.

**What is Sloth?** Sloth is listed as one of the seven deadly sins, but what is it? Most see it as mere laziness, but it is more than that. The Greek word we translate as sloth is akedia, meaning indifference or negligence. St. Thomas speaks of sloth as sorrow for spiritual good. By it, we shun spiritual good as too toilsome. Some modern commentators speak of sloth a "don't care" feeling. Some even say it is a kind of falling out of love with God and the things of God. On account of sloth, there is an aversion or even disgust to right living and it is seen as too laborious. By sloth, many experience sorrow rather than joy or zeal in following God. Sloth gives rise to many sins: we do not pray, attend Mass, go to Confession or read Scripture. We do not grow in our spiritual life and thus we fail to become the man or woman, God made us to be. Coming to recognise sloth for what it is, calling it by name and learning its moves, are the first steps on the road to healing. Sloth is, of course, one of those drives that is so deep that ultimately we must fall on our knees and beg deliverance from the Lord, who alone can heal us.

**Chrism Mass:** The Chrism Mass will take place in the Cathedral in Cobh on **Wednesday week April 1<sup>st</sup> at 7.30pm.** In past years we have brought a bus from the Parish. If you would like to travel, please give your name and phone number to the Parish Office, by Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> March. The bus will leave the square at 6.00pm.

**Mitchelstown Community Pre-school** have E.C.C.E. places available for September 2015. Please contact Mary Milward (086) 8832533.

**Upcoming events:** Annual Table Quiz and Sponsored Walk – dates to be announced. We thank you for your continued support.

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**TOTAL TONE CLASSES** in Glenahulla National School, every Wednesday night at 7pm to 8pm. All levels of ability welcome. Contact Noreen on 086 0706382 to pre book.

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**GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL** – Our Computer Classes for **PRE-SCHOOLERS** are now open. Get your child ready and give them a head start to be ready for Junior Infants. Our programmes are working on Phonics, Language, Pre Reading, Pre writing. Classes 45 minutes, €8 per class. Enrolling at **BRIGHT SPARKS** 025 86799

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**Mitchelstown Allotments:** Anyone who would be interested in leasing one of our newly open allotments can contact Ballyhoura office on 025-85213 for more details.

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**GIRLS' SOCCER COACHING:** Park United Soccer Academy is now training girls every Saturday, with fun coaching sessions for girls aged 6 to 10. Just boots and shin-guards needed. Training is from 11am to 12.15pm at the CBS pitch, Mitchelstown. Why not come and try it out! Further information from Joanna 087 2496578

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**Ancestor Research** is no longer being carried out in the Parish office. The records for Mitchelstown Parish can be accessed through Mallow Heritage Centre, 27/28 Bank Place, Mallow, Co. Cork Tel: (022) 50302. Website: [www.rootsireland.ie](http://www.rootsireland.ie) or E-mail: [mallowhc@eircom.net](mailto:mallowhc@eircom.net)

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**Carmelite Lourdes Group** - Afternoon Tea Dance from 3pm to 6pm. Big acts have been confirmed, for what will be a great evening of song and dance in the **Firgrove Hotel on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April**. Louise Morrissey, Jo Cooke and Southern Beat, Dave Mulcahy and Tony Corbett - Southern Star, Jimmy O'Donoghue, The Fogarty Family, Michael Fogarty - World Champion Irish Dancer. All monies raised from this event will go towards bringing the sick and special needs children to Lourdes. All support will be greatly appreciated. Tickets can be got from Eddie Walsh Treasure Chest or O'Brien's Auctioneers Office or on the door for only 10 euro.

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Gaelscoil de hÍde Fermoy: Will hold a **5k Run /2k Family Walk** on **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March**. Registration on the morning, run starts at 11am & Walk at 11.30. All Welcome.

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**An Evening of Easter Celebration & Reflection in Shraharla:** Shraharla Church Choir are pleased to announce details of what promises to be a very enjoyable 'Evening of Easter Celebration & Reflection'. This event will take place on Palm Sunday evening **March 29<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in St. Mologga's Church**. The evening will take the format of song, interspersed with meaningful reflections by candlelight and we hope you get a chance to take a half hour out of your busy week to join us. This event, in conjunction with Fr. Michael Lomasney P.P. is a real community effort, with various members of the church rota and locality all lending a helping hand.

**Mitchelstown Flower & Garden Club** are having a night of Photographs 'Around The World' with Miko Grady in the **Town Hall on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 8.00pm**.

Everyone welcome.

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**Enrich your marriage on a Marriage Encounter Weekend.** Spend a weekend away discovering the full potential of your marriage. Enjoy real quality time together free from external pressures and interruptions. Develop a new way of sharing your thoughts and feelings with your husband or wife. Irrespective of how long you are married, this is a unique weekend experience that every good marriage deserves. The next Marriage Encounter Weekend will be from the **17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> April 2015** (8:00 pm Friday to 4:30 pm Sunday) at the Cork International Hotel, Cork. For information and bookings visit: [www.marriageencounter.ie](http://www.marriageencounter.ie) or phone [086 8334382](tel:0868334382) or 087-2162436.

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**Friendship Week Event 2015 - Fermoy Community Network** have organised the following events. Everyone is welcome to attend these events and they are free of charge:

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Infant Mental Health Talk - 7.30pm in the Youth Centre

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> - ADHD Talk - 7pm in the Youth Centre

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> - Fermoy Men's Club are hosting a Social Afternoon 2-5pm in the Youth Centre

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Fermoy Carers & Hokey Cokey Ladies Group are hosting a social coffee morning for members of the community in the kitchen at the Resource Centre 11-1pm

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> - Fermoy Active Retirement Group - Social dancing 4pm in the Youth Centre

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Traveller Cultural Awareness Training - 10.30 - 12.30 in the Resource Centre.

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The **Irish Blood Transfusion Service** will hold a **BLOOD DONOR CLINIC** in **The Firgrove Hotel, MITCHELSTOWN**

On **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015, from 5pm - 8.30pm** and on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2015 From 3pm - 5pm & 7pm - 9pm**

Blood Donation is essential to ensure Hospital Patients get the treatment they need.

One Donation can save up to 3 Lives. Full details of all clinics and on Giving Blood can be found on [www.giveblood.ie](http://www.giveblood.ie) or by telephoning 021 4807400 or 1850 731 137.

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**Mitchelstown Badminton Club:** Many thanks to everyone who attended the

Badminton Club Table Quiz on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> March at The Hunters Rest. Also, a special thanks to Peter Watson, who was the Quizmaster on the night. Thanks to Rob and the

Staff of the Hunters Rest, who helped to make the night a great success.

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**Awbeg Easter Camp** has a few places left. Anyone interested in putting their child in, ages 5-8 yrs old, please contact the Awbeg Office at 025-86956. The camp starts on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April from 11 am to 4 pm and will finish on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April.

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**TO Park Bingo** - Bingo will take place on **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March** in TO Park, outside Mitchelstown at 2.30pm in conjunction with Ballyhoura Macra. All welcome. Tea and refreshments will be served. Great prizes to be won.