

## Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 5 Issue: 30 Date: Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2013

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

Rev. Fr. Greene C.C. Phone: 025-84077. Parish Office: 025-84062 (9am-12pm)

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**

### RECONCILIATION SERVICE

#### PARISH CHURCH - MITCHELSTOWN

**ON THIS MONDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER AT 7.30PM.**

*8 priests will be available to hear confession.*

### Confession:

It is important that we receive the Sacrament of Confession regularly, it keeps us in the Grace of God, as we face life's difficulties and it prepares us for the day when the Lord will call us.

### CHRISTMAS CONFESSION TIMES:

**Church of Our Lady Conceived Without Sin, Mitchelstown:**

Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> Dec (Christmas Eve) – 12noon to 1pm & 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS FOR THE PRIESTS:** You can use the Offering envelope supplied which was delivered to your homes. The Priests wish to thank all the parishioners for their generosity to their collections.

The Parish Office will be closed for the Christmas Holidays from Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> December to Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2014. We would like to thank everyone for supporting our Newsletter during 2013 and look forward to dealing with you in 2014.

*Wishing you all a very Happy Peaceful Christmas and the very best for 2014.*

### **Welcome the Infant Jesus:**

Christmas is a time of welcomes. Firstly to Jesus as the Saviour of the World. He comes to each and every one of us, no matter what our circumstances or age. He waits to be acknowledged and welcomed into each of our hearts. Let us rekindle our prayers, desire this Christmas and for the New Year. The Saviour is coming and we need to stop and open the doors of our hearts in prayer. In the Diary of St. Faustina, the Visionary of the merciful Jesus, she tells us that on one occasion, when Jesus appeared to her, He said "tell me all about your retreat". She replied, "Sure, you know Lord all about the retreat". He answered, "Yes I do, but I like to hear the sound of your voice". Jesus likes us to talk to Him and tell Him all about ourselves and our experiences. He likes us to speak to Him from the depths of our hearts.

Christmas is also a time to welcome family and friends and those we have fallen out with, Christmas is a time to forgive and make peace. The Infant God wants to bring peace to the world and to all families and to each of us individually.

Pope Francis celebrated his 77<sup>th</sup> birthday during the week and to mark the occasion, he invited four homeless men from the streets of Rome to the Vatican, one of the men also brought his dog. May that spirit of Infant Saviour bring His love alive in all our hearts this Christmas and into 2014.

**Christmas, Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ - Mary's dream:** I had a dream Joseph. I don't understand it, not really, but I think it was about a birthday celebration for our Son. I think that was what it was all about. The people had been preparing for it for about six weeks. They had decorated the house and bought elaborate gifts. It was peculiar though, because the presents weren't for our Son. They wrapped them in beautiful paper and tied them with lovely bows and stacked them under a tree. Yes, a tree Joseph, right in their house. They'd decorated the tree also. The branches were full of glowing balls and sparkling ornaments. There was a figure on top of the tree. It looked like an Angel might look. Oh it was beautiful. Everyone was laughing and happy. They were all excited about the gifts. They gave the gifts to each other, Joseph, not to our Son. I don't think they even knew Him. They never mentioned His name. Doesn't it seem odd for people to go to all that trouble to celebrate someone's birthday if they don't know Him. I had the strangest feeling that if our Son had gone to this celebration, He would have been intruding. Everything was so beautiful, Joseph, and everyone so full of cheer, but it made me want to cry. How sad for Jesus not to be wanted at His own birthday celebration. I'm glad it was only a dream. How terrible, Joseph, if it had been real!

*Author unknown*

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

### PARISH CHURCH:

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Eve

Vigil of the Nativity: 7.30pm

Carol Recital: 9.30pm

Night Mass of Nativity: 10.00pm

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Day Masses:

8.30am, 10am, 11am & 12noon.

### N.B.: No Evening Mass on Christmas Day

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Dec – Feast of St. Stephen, 1<sup>st</sup> Martyr Mass at 11.00am

Weekday Masses from Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Dec to Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Dec at 11am only.

### KILLACLUIG CHURCH:

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas Eve: Night Mass of Nativity: 9pm

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas Day Mass 10.30am

### BALLYGIBLIN CHURCH:

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas Eve: Night Mass of Nativity: 9pm

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas Day Mass 9.30am

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### MITCHELSTOWN HEALTHY TOWN

**HEALTHY WALKING:** Every Tuesday safe guided walks are conducted from John Mandeville New Square at 7 pm covering a choice of 3 km and 5 km routes. A good aerobic walk for 30 minutes will enhance physical and mental well being. Why not join in with a good bunch in the Walking club. It's all free in God's fresh air. Mitchelstown Forum is promoting the Healthy Town Project.

**KEEP FIT FOR SCHOOL PARENTS:** Fun Aerobics for Mitchelstown School Parents are conducted every Tuesday at 9.30am in the spacious and heated St. Fanahan's Hall. Keeping in shape means a more enjoyable well being with less trials and tribulations. Like the truth in the old saying it is likened to having an apple a day to keep the doctor away. It is graded to suits beginners upwards.

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The **Galtees Toastmasters** would like to congratulate the girls from Transition Year in Presentation Secondary School for their great participation and involvement in the Youth Leadership project. We would like to wish all our members and friends old and new a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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**Ultimate Health Clinic** would like to wish all Parishioners a Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year. We will continue to provide free dietary advice to everyone suffering from Asthma, Bronchitis, IBS etc. If you suffer from breathing or digestive problems we can help simply call 061315785

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**The Pioneer Magazine** is published monthly and is full of interesting and informative articles and features. If you would like to get a copy each month, please contact any council member. Price per copy €1.55.

**Mitchelstown Citizens Information Centre**, Marian Hall, Convent Hill, Mitchelstown

Tel: **0761 07 8030** E-mail: [Mitchelstown@citinfo.ie](mailto:Mitchelstown@citinfo.ie)

The Citizens Information Centre will be closed for the **Christmas Holidays from Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> December to Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014.**

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### Your Christmas Diary

Ballygiblin Hurling Poc Fada on Sunday December 29<sup>th</sup> at 11am from Firgrove Hotel. Under 10, 12, 14, 16 & Adult. 3 per team. €15 per team. Invite friends to have a festive craic at being Cuchulainn Nua.

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### Thanks from Mitchelstown Heritage Society

Mitchelstown Heritage Society wishes to thank all those who supported the recently held fundraising Table Quiz in The Hunters Rest. Quiz-master John Hickey ensured there was a challenging but enjoyable night, with the festive mince pies proving as big a treat as ever! The support from the teams and especially the generous businesses of the town, who sponsored the prizes for the teams and for the bountiful raffle, ensured the night was an enjoyable success. The generosity and variety shows the huge variety available locally at Christmas, so shop local to protect local jobs. Mitchelstown Heritage Society wishes all members and friends of the society, a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year! 2014 will be packed with more lectures, outings and events, so watch this space.

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Why not present a festive voucher for your Family Ancestry Research and have a family searched as seen on TV show "WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE"? Do a short Do It Yourself course with Clan Search if you or yours have an interest in tracing your ancestry. Free Genealogy assessments available. Contact [www.paxad.ie/clansearch](http://www.paxad.ie/clansearch) or 087.3589734.

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### Cork County Macra Na Feirme News

Recently, Glanmire Macra competed against Freemount Macra in the Cork County Macra Novice Debating Final in Lamlara Hall. The motion was defeated in the end. Congratulations to Freemount Macra. Presiding Officers on the day were Catriona Sweeney from Carrigaline Macra and Caitríona Fox from Ballyhoura Macra. Eight teams took the stage recently in Bandon GAA Hall in the Cork County Macra Na Feirme Capers Final (light entertainment 20 mins show). The teams were as follows: Mitchelstown, Freemount, Glanmire, Donaghmore, Bantry, Midleton, Clonakilty and Terelton. Congratulations to Donaghmore, Tarleton and Glanmire who came 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively. Catriona Sweeney and Caitríona Fox were also presiding officers on the night. Ballyhoura Macra will represent Avondhu Macra in the national soccer finals after Christmas. They also had a cinema night recently in Mallow. More details on [www.facebook.com/ballyhouramacra](http://www.facebook.com/ballyhouramacra).

For more information on Macra in your local area call or text 086-3760487 or check out [www.facebook.com/corkmacra](http://www.facebook.com/corkmacra)