

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 O'Leary is on Sick Call this week;

Phone Number: 087 – 2524979

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS:

mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS 10AM WEDNESDAY

Office Open: 9 am to 12 noon – Monday to Friday.

Parish Website: www.mitchelstownparish.ie

E-mail address for Parish Pastoral Council is

mitchelstownpcc@gmail.com

ADVENT PRAYER: This Sunday Evening in the Parish Church at **5.00pm** with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. We invite you and your family to participate during the Sundays of Advent.

The 4th Sunday will be a Carol Service organised by the Parish Pastoral Council.

FIRST FRIDAY MASSES: Parish Church – 8.30am, 10am & 7.30pm Killacraig – 6.30pm (Confessions 6.00pm). **Ballygiblin** 7.30pm (Confessions 7.00pm)

Prayers in Convent Cemetery: This Sunday at **3.00pm**. Access to Cemetery from the Parish Church Yard.

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 & 7.30m.

Bank Holidays: 11am

MORNING PRAYER: Monday – Friday: 8.00am

CONFESSIONS: Saturday: 12.00-1.00pm & 7.00-7.30pm

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

EUCCHARISTIC HEALING HOUR: Thursday evening at **8.00pm – 9.00pm**.

With special prayers for the sick, Anointing and Eucharistic Healing Blessing.

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

EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST: We thank Team "C". Team "D" take over next weekend.

CHURCH DOOR COLLECTORS FOR DECEMBER: We thank those who collected during November. The Collectors for December take over next weekend.

Vigil 7.30pm: John Fox, Denis Coleman, Jimmy Walsh & Pat Manning.

8.30am: Neil Egan, Con Hogan & Michael Boland.

11.30am: Tom O'Brien, Willie Kenneally, Seamus Mannix & Seamus Carey.

7.30pm: Michael Kilkenny, Verling Fitzgerald, Tom Lucey & Bridget Sherlock.

Next Sunday is the 1st Sunday of the Month, the Diocesan Religious Purposes Collection will be taken up at all Masses.

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 8

Issue: 22 Date: Sunday 27th November 2016

Third Talk On Our Lady: There was a great gathering of young people in the Town Hall last Wednesday night for the 2nd talk, given by the young man Gerard Hanley from Galway. Gerard shared beautifully his own experience of faith in the Lord and its effects on his life as a potential International Soccer player. He encouraged the young people not to be afraid to be open to the plan of God in their lives. God is not going to ask you to do something without giving the necessary help to fulfil it. Gerard shared how Confession had given him great freedom in his faith. It was a most inspiring presentation.

This Wednesday Evening Fr. Seán Corkery who is stationed in Mallow, but working as Diocesan Religious Advisor for the Diocese. Fr. Seán is a young Priest, who is able to present the message of the Gospel in a very inspiring way. We are blessed to have him in the Diocese. We encourage you not to miss this opportunity. We thank the Parish Pastoral Council for organising these three fantastic presentations and we look forward to more in the future.

Be Ready: This is the simple message of the 1st Sunday of Advent. We must not allow all the activities of life to drown out the presence of God in our lives. We must remind ourselves who it was that gave us life in the 1st place. We must remind ourselves that this life is limited and we may be called from it sooner than we think. We must make a genuine effort to prepare for the Birthday of our Saviour by prayer, self-denial and acts of love. But we must always be preparing ourselves for the moment when God will call us from this life. Be ready and repent now.

PREPARE SPIRITUALLY FOR CHRISTMAS:

Five suggestions:

1. In this time of grace renew prayer.
2. Undertake some acts of self-denial and charity.
3. Open ourselves to Holy Confession.
4. Open ourselves to the way of conversion and holiness.
5. Give time to God so that we can know His will.

St. Vincent de Paul Annual Collection: This collection is being taken up today after Holy Communion. The Society appreciates your generous support throughout the year and they would appreciate your support again this weekend. We thank all the volunteers for the fantastic work they do on our behalf. If you wish, you may use the envelope provided.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Annual Christmas Collection on this weekend 26th/27th November. We thank you for your generosity in the past, and we trust you will avail of this opportunity to help the less well-off families in our community. Many thanks.

Ballygiblin National School Parents Association - are holding a **New & Used Fundraising Clothes Collection on 29th November 2016** at Ballygiblin National School. We collect New & Used Men's, Women's & Children's Clothing, Shoes, Belts, Handbags, Ties, Linens, Household Textiles and Stuffed Toys. (*Any condition, once they are clean*) Mobile Phones (*please place in a separate bag*). Please Recycle & Support the Ballygiblin National School. Collection times are Monday 28th November from 6 to 8pm, Tuesday 29th November from 9am to 12md. Any queries Noelle 087-8158902.

RE: SUBMISSIONS TO CITIZENS ASSEMBLY: The campaign to remove the 1983 Pro-Life Amendment gathers pace, supported by vast sections of the media, pro-abortion groups and some politicians. It is being massively funded from abroad contrary to the stipulations of the Government's Standards in Public Offices Commission, without any Government reaction. The closing date for the Assembly to receive submissions on the Eighth Amendment (that protects unborn life) is 16th December 2016. Please make a submission to protect unborn life at all stages of gestation. Whether disabled or not, they are human beings. The website of the Assembly is www.citizensassembly.ie.

Galtee Runners Red Run – 4km Run/Jog/ Walk. Proceeds to Forrest Hall. **4th December at 12.30pm.** Start& Finish at Forrest Hall, New Square. Entry €5 – Family €20. Registration from 11.30am. Wear something Red. Treats at Finish.

LIAMS LIFTS – TRANSPORT FOR CANCER CARE: Volunteer Drivers needed in the Mitchelstown Area, to drive people to and from their cancer treatments in Cork Hospitals. If you have time and would like to join our pool of existing drivers, who provide this service, we would be delighted to hear from you. For more information contact Pat Walsh 087 – 215 8874

100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady in Fatima. Cloyne Diocesan Pilgrimage 7th to 14th September 2017. Departing from Dublin 7 nights, Hotel Cinqentenario, Cost €874 inclusive, including free coach transfer to and from Dublin Airport. Single room supplement €25 per night. Contact: Fr. McCarthy 021-4815619, Fr. Winkle 024-92270 for more information.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

The sympathy of the Parish Community is extended to the family and friends of;

Denis Scarry, Mulberry

Who died recently.

May He Rest In Peace

NEWLY BAPTISED:

We welcome into our Catholic Community, through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Jenna Sweeney

Saoirse O'Shea

The Countdown Begins!! - The biggest fundraiser of the year for **St Fanahan's Parents Council** is almost here. If it is not already in your diary, we suggest you make a note of it now, as this is really a great night out and all funds raised this year are going towards improving the outdoor sports area. **Friday December 2nd** is the date, **8pm** is the time and the venue is **The Firgrove Hotel**. We are delighted that O'Cruaio's have kindly come on board with us again this year. Their awarding winning Chef Joe Geoghegan, along with Paul O'Neill will again be cooking up some mouth-watering dishes, which will be for tasting on the night and raffled also. So, why not come along and get into the spirit of Christmas and enjoy a night of culinary delights and some fun thrown in too. Tickets are €10 and available from O'Cruaio's Fermoy, Farrell's Centra, Mitchelstown, Flowers By Una, Mitchelstown and any member of the Parent's Council. We hope to see you there.

Official opening of Forrest Hall will take place on **Thursday 1st December 2016** at 4pm sharp

Advent

God of Love,

Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.

He is a sign of your love.

Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent,

As we wait and prepare for His coming.

We pray in the name of Jesus, our Saviour.

Amen.

- Advent means 'the coming' of Jesus.
- Advent is a period lasting FOUR Sundays (not weeks!) preparing for the celebration of Jesus' birth.
- The first Sunday of Advent also marks the beginning of the Christian Church's year.
- Because the celebration is such an important event, Christians want to make themselves completely ready.

Why is the Advent Wreath so special to Christians?

- The circle of the wreath reminds Christians of God, His eternity and endless mercy, which has no beginning or end.
- The green of the wreath speaks of the hope that Christians have in God, the hope of newness, of renewal, of eternal life.

Why have four candles on the Advent Wreath?

- The four outer candles represent the period of waiting during the four Sundays of Advent
- The green of the wreath speaks of the hope that Christians have in God, the hope of newness, of renewal, of eternal life.

The four traditional advent themes

- The Candle of HOPE ● The Candle of PEACE
- The Candle of LOVE ● The Candle of JOY
- A fifth candle is lit in the middle to celebrate the birth of Jesus