

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

Canon Fitzgerald is on Sick Call this week - Phone Number: 087 - 2524979

Youth 2000 Ireland will be hosting their **Annual Christmas Retreat** in Newbridge College, Newbridge, Co. Kildare from Friday 12th to Sunday 14th December 2014. Many young people from across Ireland (aged 16-35) are expected at this donation only event, with all newcomers very welcome. This is a great opportunity to find out what your faith is all about in a friendly, chilled out atmosphere. Free buses available. Online booking necessary, see www.youth2000.ie or phone 01 6753690.

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Thank You: Kilbehenny Cycling Club would like to sincerely thank all who came along to support our Table Quiz last Friday night, which was a huge success with a great number of tables. To the many sponsors who so kindly gave of the vast amount of great spot prizes, John Carey and staff of the Ramble Inn for the fine hospitality and food on the night, our excellent Quiz master for a selection of well balanced highly interesting questions, the dedicated score keepers and table score collectors etc and all who have helped out in any way. An excellent night was had by all. It will be eagerly awaited as an annual event! Don't forget our club's Christmas Party taking place on Saturday 20th of December in the Firgrove Hotel, Mitchelstown. Not to be missed. Do try and join us! On Wednesday nights at 8pm Calligraphy classes continue at Kilbehenny Community Centre.

Spinning Classes continue on Tuesday evenings in B2A. For further details contact Tom. New members always welcome. Mary 086 6033239, Eileen 068 3180962, Tom 087 2683587

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Nativity Pageant & Santa's Visit at Knockadea Community Centre on **Friday December 5th**. Santa arriving at 8 pm. The pageant will start at 9pm, followed by a social evening with lots of entertainment. There will also be a raffle with lots of great prizes on offer. Hope to see you there.

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 6 Issue: 25 Date: Sunday 30th November 2014

Time to Gather – Time to Prepare:

A young Australian Cricketer in his 20's was struck by a ball on the playing field during the week, he collapsed and died a couple of days later. The Gospel, this 1st Sunday of Advent, is short, but its message is crisp: "Stay Awake", because we never know when the time will come. The time, of course, is when the Lord calls us from this world to judgement.

Throughout the world great emphasis is placed on buying presents and preparing the Christmas Feast. Let us remind ourselves that all these things satisfy our material cravings and pleasures, but our hearts are made for a deeper purpose, that is: to love God and to make a place in our hearts for His Son, Jesus. So, let us take the call of God's word seriously this 1st Sunday of Advent and dedicate a part of everyday, this Advent, to the Lord in prayer. Let us gather in our homes and in groups, with our neighbours and friends, to pray and really prepare to celebrate the coming of Our Saviour and King, Jesus Christ.

Satan wants to be king of our hearts and of our world, but his kingdom is deceptive, because he is the orchestrator of suffering and misery – his kingdom is going to collapse and so too all those who follow him.

We turn to Our Lady this Advent, because God has given her the power to destroy Satan and all that he is doing to destroy humanity. May, the Mother of our Saviour, help us to come close to her Son this Advent, that we may deeply experience His Joy and Love and that the reign of Jesus will be re-established in the world.

Safety of Our Children: A number of parishioners have expressed concern about the increase of car traffic on the avenue to the priest's houses, on Convent Hill, making their way to the Primary and Secondary schools. Many small children use the avenue to make their way to and from school. Because of the car traffic, it has become unsafe and dangerous for children. **We would ask you all to use the avenue as a Pedestrian Walk Way Only and NOT to use it as a driveway to the schools.** Notices to this effect, will be put on the avenue during the week. Resident priests will continue to use the avenue and those who use the Parish Office and visit the priests. We thank you for your co-operation. As you will understand, the safety of our children is an urgent matter.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Annual Christmas Collection will take place **THIS WEEKEND Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th November 2014** at all Churches in the Parish. Your much needed support would be greatly appreciated.

"Get into the Festive Spirit. Join **Mitchelstown Heritage Society** for our **Annual Christmas Table Quiz on December 5th in The Hunters Rest at 9pm**. This fun event, is a great social night out, with lots of interesting questions for all abilities, excellent spot prizes and the highlight for many; our delicious Mince Pies. Cost €28 per table."

SANTA comes to T.O. PARK from 1.30pm onwards, **THIS Sunday, November 30th**. Free parcels for all the girls and boys. ♦Children's Party – Face Painting etc, ♦Kids Disco, ♦Fancy Dress – come dressed as your favourite character, ♦Spin the Wheel, ♦Raffle, ♦Tea & Refreshments. All welcome.

Annual Trip to Dublin, Saturday, 6th December. Seats available call T.O. on 086-8272761, Deci on 086-4005727 or Stella on 025-24009

Christmas Variety Concert - St Patrick's Church Fermoy,

Sunday December 7th 2014 at 8.30 p.m. Loreto School Choir. The Phil Dunphy Quintet, Treble Clef, Frank Ryan, Vera Noonan, Áine O'Flynn, The Cork Garda Choir, M.C. Sean Donnellan. Tickets €15 available from Riordan's Supervalu, Amber Service Station Fermoy, The Book Shop Fermoy, Fermoy Community Hospital. **In aid of Fermoy Community Hospital Fundraising**

BRIGHT SPARKS - BEST IN CLASS Educational Computer Training Classes. Fun Computer Lessons incorporating MATHS /ENGLISH /LANGUAGE /PHONICS suitable for 4, 5 & 6 years old. Starting January 2015. Bookings now taken for classes. Class sizes limited. We aim to improve your child's level of technology and advance to higher levels in school. Price €8 per class, 45 minutes class Afternoons / weekends. Call 025 86799 for booking form.

The Sue Ryder foundation: We have started selling tickets for our annual Christmas raffle. The first prize is a dolls house. There will be a host of other prizes kindly donated by local businesses. One strip is €2 and 3 strips for €5. Please support. We are especially appealing for donations of bed linen and curtains along with all the other items we continually need such as Bric a Brac, books, clothes and shoes. We also accept good quality furniture. Collection can be arranged. We also have a brand new wedding dress in stock at the moment. Photos can be seen on Facebook on the Sue Ryder Mitchelstown page. Thank you for your continued support.

Mitchelstown CBS Secondary School will hold their annual **Open Night on Wednesday December 3rd**; from 6.30pm to 9pm. Principal's address is at 7pm. This is an ideal opportunity for prospective students and their parents/guardians to view the facilities, see what the school has to offer and meet with the staff and school management. All are welcome.

MITCHELSTOWN LAWN TENNIS CLUB - TABLE QUIZ & PARTY NIGHT

Friday, 12th December Dec @ 8.30pm in The Tavern (O'Brien's Bar)

Cost €40 for table of 4. Music & Light Refreshments

Contact Mike 086 2549930 for details.

Cloyne Diocesan Pilgrimage to Fatima 2015:- September 9th – 16th 2015, flying direct from Cork to Faro. 7 nights full board at Hotel Tres Pastorinhos which is only 5 minutes from the Sanctuary. The fare includes: travel insurance, transfers, tour of the Sanctuary area, services of a guide in Fatima. The fare is €879pps and the single supplement is €25 per night. Avail of €150 off the fare of €879 if paid in full by December 10th. Fare is €789 if paid in full by 2nd February 2015. Fare is €829 if deposit of €200 is paid by 2nd February 2015. For more information contact Bernadette White on 087 6472983.

Awbeg Funcheon Recreation Scheme Ltd are looking for a Caretaker, a Recreation Officer and an Administrator / Secretary in January 2015. If interested please send a CV to the: Awbeg Funcheon Recreation Scheme Ltd, 20 Baldwin St, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork

Fermoy Community Resource Centre, 42 McCurtain Street is celebrating 25 years in the community this December. The Board of Management would like to invite you to join with them in marking this significant milestone. On **Friday 5th December** we are hosting an "Open House" from 6 -9pm. On the night refreshments will be served, music will flow through the building, exhibition of paintings & photographs, there will be local market stalls in the courtyard full of craft and treats and someone special for the children too. We look forward to seeing you on the night.

MITCHELSTOWN LIONS CLUB LIGHT UP THE SQUARE

Mitchelstown Lions Club will light up the Christmas Tree **next Friday the 5th of December at 6pm**. It promises to be a great evening with Carols from the CBS Primary; the Fire Brigade will also be there and of course Santa himself!!!

Presentation Secondary School, Mitchelstown - A Christmas Market will be held in the multi-purpose room of the school on **Wednesday 3rd of December from 11.30am to 12.30**. Come and support our budding entrepreneurs. Lots for everyone, including crafts, jewellery and festive treats. Carol singing, free tea, coffee and festive treat. All are welcome.

Mitchelstown CBS will host a Parent Session on **Tuesday December 9th** in the school, entitled "**Alcohol and the Teenager - friend or foe**". Liam Doocey (Youth Health Services) will be the main speaker, and the session will begin at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend. Admission is free. This event is sponsored by Mitchelstown CBS and the Parent Council.