

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 6

Issue: 49

Date: Sunday 31st May 2015

Mitchelstown Community Alert: Community Alert propose to set up a **TEXT ALERT NETWORK** to immediately alert our community when an incident has occurred, prompt information to and from Gardaí deters criminal activity. Text Alert systems have been evolving by trial and error over the past few years, so in an effort to promote best practice.

Guidelines for Text Alert have been agreed to by Garda Management, Muintir Na Tire and the IFA.

When a burglary or other crime takes place in rural areas it is a common occurrence that neighbours are unaware of the incident until many hours or days later.

This is a huge help to criminals who are by then long gone.

Jogging memory, to describe vehicles and people sighted is of less use than immediate response.

An example of messages sent out recently:

Fermoy warn a white van reg no. 141D10192 with Cahir Hygiene Solutions written on the side stolen today in Cahir. Do not approach this vehicle, notify Gardaí.

Warm Fermoy reports of 2 well dressed males acting as ESB calling to homes in Mitchelstown area. Looking for bank details. Report any sighting to local Garda Station.

Prompt two-way notification about criminal activity in the area, is critical for a safer community.

Please create new contacts on your mobile phone, and always have the Mitchelstown Garda Station and Fermoy District Garda Station numbers to hand.

Garda Fermoy; 025-82100 (24 hr) District (Cork North Divisional HQ) Garda Station

Garda Mitchelstown Station; 025 – 84833

Garda Kilworth Station; 025-27101

Garda Bruff (24hr) District Station; 061-382940

Garda Henry Street (Limerick District HQ); 061-212400

If you are interested in being a member of our **TEXT ALERT NETWORK** please fill in your details below and return to any Member of the Community Council.

Cut here-----

We request a contribution of €10 to help pay on-going cost of the texts themselves and your consent to your mobile phone number being included in the Text Alert Network.

My Name: _____

Address: _____

Write very clearly Mobile Phone No: _____

Write very clearly E-mail address: _____

If you would like a text notifying you of Community Alert meetings, please write yes or no here: _____

Parish Pastoral Council: The Council met on last Tuesday evening and agreed the following Mission Statement:

“Mitchelstown Parish Pastoral Council will reach out, listen, and encourage everyone to participate in the Faith Life of the Parish, as we grow together, in our relationship with Christ.”

The members of the Council are: James Sherlock, Bernadette White, Christopher O’Sullivan, Catherine Hanley, Nora O’Brien, Paddy Ryan, Michael Bermingham, Martha Kent, J.J. Lynch, Pauline Dillane, Jer Colbert, Pat McEvoy, Margaret O’Doherty, Martin Kelly, Kayren Hayes, Fr. Gabriel Burks, Canon Timothy O’Leary, Canon Michael Fitzgerald.

The Council elected Bernadette White to be Chairperson, Christopher O’Sullivan as Secretary and James Sherlock as Assistant Secretary.

The next meeting will be held in the Parish Office on Tuesday, 23rd June at 7.30pm.

This is a very exciting time for the Parish with Priests and people working together to foster the growth of faith in the Parish. We encourage you all to support the members of the Council for their courage and generosity.

After the Referendum: Now that the debate on same-sex marriage is over, where do we stand as a Church? Firstly, the Church has the very same welcome to people of same-sex attraction, as to everyone else. The Church, through her teaching, based on the Bible, calls people of same-sex attraction and everyone else to holiness of life and to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Even though the Church holds strong convictions on the Biblical understanding of marriage and homosexual activity, she will continue to extend a welcome to people of same-sex attraction. What most people may not know is that there is an International Catholic support group called “Courage”, which helps and guides Catholics with same-sex attraction. They have a website called: www.couragerc.org . If you visit that website you will find some very interesting testimonies of same-sex people. Same-sex attraction has been a hidden struggle for many people and it has taken great courage for people to share their burden. We need also to support parents and family members who are trying to understand these issues. There is also a Christian website: www.livingout.org , which you may also find helpful.

Following, the recent debate on gay marriage, whether you were a yes or no voter, it is now an opportunity for all of us to learn more about the Biblical teaching and come to a more Christian acceptance and understanding of people with a same-sex attraction. A good book to read: “Is God anti-gay?” written by a gay man, Sam Allberry. We hope to make some copies available soon.

