

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

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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.

Mitchelstown Grow It Yourself: Thursday, 4th June at 8pm sharp at Ozanam Centre, Thomas Street, Mitchelstown. Guest Speaker Mary Ellen Kenneally topic Herbs and Kitchen Gardening. Seed and Seedlings Bring & Swap. All welcome.

All Ireland Rosary Rally Knock Shrine: The Rally will be held in Knock on **Saturday, June 6th**. A bus will be going from the Parish, if you would like to travel, please give your name and contact number to the Parish Office (*during opening hours of 9am to 12 noon Monday to Friday*), **no later than Wednesday 3rd June**. Adults €20, Children €15, the money can also be paid into the Parish Office. The Bus will leave The Town Square at 7.15am.

TODDLERS CLUB at Bright Sparks:

Children over 12 months can enjoy 3 hour play session together, with lots of play therapy, music, water, etc. We have lots of fun and enjoy our morning/afternoon snack with others. The interaction supports speech sharing and turn taking. For more details contact 086-2653839 or 025-86799

Mitchelstown PTAA Mass and Presentations: Presentation of Ten Year, Golden and Silver Jubilarian Badges, Fr. Cullen Medal, 10 Year Certificate, 40 Year, 60 Year, 70 Year Diploma's, will take place at a **SPECIAL MASS** in the **Church of Our Lady Conceived without Sin, Mitchelstown, On Friday, June 26th at 7.30 p.m.** All welcome. If you think you are eligible, please contact Catherine Hanley (Secretary) 087-7727496 or any member of the local Pioneer Council. For more details please see Church notice board.

NCBI SHOP MITCHELSTOWN would like to make an appeal for donations, we take ornaments, tea sets, glassware, household, ladies and men's clothes etc. The NCBI shop is situated at the top of the Square, easy parking. The shop sells a variety of goods new and pre-owned, well worth a visit. **The shop supports The National Council for the Blind of Ireland, we would appreciate your help in increasing our donations.** Contact Isobel tel: 0871254900

Marymount Hospice Sunflower Collection on Saturday, 6th June in Mitchelstown.

A big thank you, to Patricia Casey who has organised the Hospice Sunflower Collection for as long as we can remember, but unfortunately is unable to continue doing it. She has asked Seán Finn and me, if we could help with the collection this year, so we are very much looking for your help and support. Patricia gave us the list of names, but no contact numbers, of the people who have helped with the collection down through the years. If you would like to continue helping with this very worthy collection, on Saturday, 6th June, we would be most greatly if you would contact Seán Finn on 086-4021369 or Liz Downes on 087-7689875. Let us put our best foot forward and make this year's collection another great success.

The C.B.S. Secondary Parent Council would like to thank all who donated clothing to our Clothing Collection Fundraiser recently. It was greatly appreciated.

The Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady: As Catholics, images and statues are reminders to us of God's presence and love. We don't worship statues, but we hold them and place them in our homes and in other buildings, to remind us that the living God is with us. The Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady is available for visitation to the homes of the parish. If you would like to have the statue for a week, contact the Parish Office, the Sacristy or a Legion of Mary Member.

ST FANAHAN'S COLLEGE PARENTS COUNCIL, along with the Staff and Pupils would like to thank most sincerely, everyone who contributed to their recently held Clothes Collection Fundraising Event. It was a resounding success.

Go Raibh Maith Agaibh Go Léir.

The NET Ministries Ireland Team has departed this past week after two composite years of working in the parish. We would like to thank the parishioners of Mitchelstown for their support, prayers, & loving kindness over the past two years. Your generosity was greatly appreciated & you will always be in our prayers & in our hearts! God bless!

Corpus Christi Procession: The Annual Procession will take place after the 12 o'clock Mass on next Sunday June 7th. The route is down Chapel Hill, turning left on to Upper Cork Street, turning right at the traffic lights, up Church Street, turning right onto George's Street and then right onto King's Street. The Procession will enter the Town Square from King's Street and turn right down to Main Street and conclude with Benediction in New Square.

We encourage you all to come and participate and bring the family. It is a special public walk with our beloved Eucharistic Saviour, Jesus Christ. All First Holy Communion children are invited to walk directly in front of the Blessed Sacrament. We also invite the owners of homes and shops to welcome the Procession with suitable decorations. By means of the Procession we ask the Lord to bless our Town and the whole Parish.

C.B.S. Primary will host an **Information Night** for Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of Incoming Pupils in the School Hall on **Wednesday, 3rd June at 8pm**. If you know of anybody who intends to enrol their child at C.B.S. Primary in the next school year - please let them know about this. For more information contact 025/24505.

Prayer for success in exams:

Lord, you know the anxiety that I'm feeling right now.

Please calm my spirit, come and still my nerves, for the questions I am about to be given, Help me to read them slowly and correctly.

Come and flood my heart with Your peace.

For the words I am about to write, Help me to recall everything fully.

Come and inspire my mind as I gather my thoughts.

For the examiners who read my work, Help them to mark with justice and fairness, Come and refresh them, please bless their lives.

I give all these prayers to You and ask that this day you would give me the success that my heart desires, For Your kingdom and glory.

~Amen~