

**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](mailto: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](http://www.mitchelstownparish.ie)**

E-mail address for Parish Pastoral Council is

**[mitchelstownpnc@gmail.com](mailto:mitchelstownpnc@gmail.com)**

**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

**EUCHARISTIC HEALING HOUR:**

Thursday evening at **8.00pm – 9.00pm**. Eucharistic Healing Blessing.

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

**Boxes of Offering Envelopes:**

If anyone did not receive their box of envelopes and wish to have one, please contact the Parish Office during the week.

**Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter**

**Volume: 8**

**Issue: 28 Date: Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

**Baptism of the Lord:**

The Baptism of a child or an adult is a very special event for the person and their families. In Baptism we all have received the freedom from Original Sin and its effects and we are incorporated into the Catholic Christian Community. The Sacrament of Baptism unlocks the door to the grace won for us, by the death and resurrection of Jesus and offers us the possibility of a place in God's Eternal Kingdom. St. John felt unworthy to baptise Jesus, but the Saviour chose to act in humility in order to reveal the Glory of God.

Because the understanding of Baptism is so important, six Parishioners have been trained in the last few months, to support families preparing for the baptism of a family member. The following have formed the first Baptismal Team; Nora O'Brien, J.J. Lynch, Eileen Dwan, Michael Bermingham, Rita Slattery and Catherine Hanley. We ask you to pray for them and for all families preparing for the Baptism of a family member. Faith in the Church and Her Sacraments is a very special gift and support in understanding the Mystery is greatly needed today. It is also our intention to invite all families who have celebrated Baptism in the past year, to the **11.30am Mass on Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>**.

As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord today, we pray that the Holy Spirit will awake, in a powerful way, the graces we all have received in our Baptism. Let 2017, be a year, when we live our faith to the full and with joy and share greater love as a community.

**Much Thanks To You All:**

We wish to acknowledge and to thank all who give so generously to the Parish of Mitchelstown. In particular the priests would like to thank everybody for your generous financial support to them. It is not possible to thank everybody personally and individually, but we would like you to know today, that every single offering is deeply appreciated. May the Lord reward you all.

**Envelope System:**

Some enquiries were made about the change of reference/envelope numbers. This is necessary to keep the system in order – so you may find from year to year, you will have a different number.

**St. Joseph's Young Priests Society**

Meeting this Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> January, at 7 p.m. in Marian Hall, Convent Hill.

*New Members always welcome*

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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.

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**TRACING FAMILIES MADE EASY**

Learn How to conduct your family history and construct family trees via 8 week course at Fermoy Education Centre on Mondays starting January 23<sup>rd</sup> 7.30 - 9.30pm. Register Monday January 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 - 8pm. Contact 087.3589734 for further details.

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**Announcement of Easter!** The season of Christmas ends with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord. As the season draws to an end, the solemnity of the Epiphany offers an opportunity to proclaim the centrality of Christ's paschal mystery: dying he destroyed our death and rising he restored our life. The Easter Triduum of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ is the culmination of the entire liturgical year. The proclamation of the date of Easter may be announced on the solemnity of the Epiphany after the homily or after the prayer after Communion. *The Announcement with music is to be found in RM, pp. 1351-2.*

Know, dear brothers and sisters that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, so by leave of God's mercy we announce to you also the joy of His Resurrection, who is our Saviour.

On the fifth day of March will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the fast of the most Sacred Lenten Season.

On the sixteenth day of April you will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the twenty-eight day of May will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the fourth day of June, the Feast of Pentecost.

On the eighteenth day of June, the Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

On the third day of December, the First Sunday of Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom is honour and glory forever and ever.

Amen.

**Bunscoil na Toirbhirte & C.B.S. Primary Schools will re-open on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 9 a.m.**

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**The Taxi Driver and St Peter**

A priest and a taxi driver both died and went to Heaven. St. Peter was at the Pearly gates waiting for them.

'Come with me,' said St. Peter to the taxi driver.

The taxi driver did as he was told and followed St Peter to a mansion. It had everything you could imagine from a bowling alley to an Olympic size pool.

'Oh my word, thank you,' said the taxi driver.

Next, St. Peter led the priest to a rough old shack with a bunk bed and a little old television set.

'Wait, I think you are a little mixed up,' said the priest. 'Shouldn't I be the one who gets the mansion? After all I was a priest, went to church every day, and preached God's word.'

'Yes, that's true.' St Peter rejoined, ' But during your sermons people slept. When the taxi driver drove, everyone prayed.'

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**NEWLY BAPTISED:**

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

Leons Kaulakans.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**

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

Nora O'Brien (néé Burke), Croughmore

Michael Dwane, Brigown

Sr. Carmel O'Hannigan, Presentation Convent, Fermoy

Mary Masterson (néé Gallagher), Liam Lynch Park

Who died recently.

May They Rest In Peace