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

**Find us on Facebook: Mitchelstown Parish**

E-mail for Parish Pastoral Council is [mitchelstownppc@gmail.com](mailto:mitchelstownppc@gmail.com) / Facebook: Mitchelstown PPC

# Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

**Volume: 11 Issue: 36 Date: Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

Parish Office, Convent Hill, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork, P67 E303

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**Office e-mail: [mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com](mailto:mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.mitchelstownparish.ie](http://www.mitchelstownparish.ie)**

## A Coronavirus Prayer

*Loving and healing God,*

we, the people of the Diocese of Cloyne turn to you in prayer, confident that you are with us and with all people in every moment. We stand before you as people of hope, trusting in your care and protection. May your faithful love support us and soothe the anxiety of our hearts.

*Generous God,*

fill us with compassion and concern for others, young and old, that we may look after one another in these challenging days. Bring healing to those who are sick with the virus and be with their families. May those who have died rest in your eternal embrace. Comfort their family and friends. Strengthen and protect all medical professionals caring for the sick and all who work in our medical facilities. Give wisdom to leaders in healthcare and governance that they may make the right decisions for the well-being of people. We pray in gratitude for all those in our country who will continue to work in the days ahead in so many fields of life for the sake of us all. Bless them and keep them safe.

*O God of creation and life,*

we place ourselves in your protection.

May the mantle of your peace enfold us this day and tomorrow.

St. Patrick, pray for us.

St. Brigid, pray for us.

St Colman, pray for us.

St Fanahan, pray for us.

May all the Saints of God, pray for us. Amen.

**For the six Thursdays of Lent**, there will be a Series of Mediations at the Holy Hour in our Parish Church led by Fr. Pat O’Donoghue, on understanding the Mass through the writings of the Saints. It is an opportunity to deepen our knowledge of the parts of the Mass. **The Holy Hour will be live streamed on the internet from 8.00pm to 9.00pm.** The link can be got by going to Mitchelstown Parish Web Site.

**Light Humour** - Paddy and Murphy were doing a crossword. Paddy asks, "How do you spell paint"? Murphy replies, "What colour?"

A priest, a minister and a rabbi are discussing when life begins. The priest says, "It begins at conception". The minister says, "Life begins at 24 weeks gestation". The rabbi says, "You are both wrong, Life begins when the kids move out of the house and the dog dies"

## Thought for the Day

The easy thing for Jesus to do on Palm Sunday is to let the people make him their king. It’s clearly what they want, but not God’s purpose. They dreamt of a political take-over, but his kingdom was not of this world. They refused the easy thing. Instead he did the right thing, allowing his enemies to crucify him.

People struggling over a decision agonise and say, 'What’s the right thing to do? In most situations, you will find that there is the easy thing to do, and the right thing to do. Usually the hardest and most painful option is the right thing.

Many will urge the easy option. But you’re alone in doing the right thing!

Today the use of crucifixes even as personal jewellery blinds us to the awful form of Roman execution that it was. All the more strange that, when Christians were finally delivered out of the underground tombs of Rome, the symbol they adopted was not the palm branch of coronation, but the cross. That must have made Jesus smile, for they understood.

In your present situation and predicament, you know what is the easy and what is the right thing to do. Do the right thing.

This is a simple and loving act of Spiritual Communion we are called to make in times which we are unable to attend Mass and receive Communion.

## Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

## LENTEN CALENDAR

*This Lent, you are invited to pray with a line of God’s Word each week and to express that Word in action each day...*

**Palm Sunday: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord**

Mon: Be just in all you say and do

Tues: Let the blessings of others be a source of joy for you

Spy Wed: Pray for those whom we have betrayed and those who have betrayed us

Holy Thurs: Sharing a meal makes us family – look around at your family

Good Friday: Fast and pray

Holy Sat: Wait with Mary and the disciples

## Holy Week Services

(All services will be Live Streamed and can be accessed through  
Mitchelstown Parish Website)

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup>/Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>/Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>** – 10.00am Mass and Rosary  
at 10.30am

### Holy Thursday

**7.30pm** Mass of the Lord's Supper  
**9pm – 10pm** Holy Hour

### Good Friday

**12.00noon** Stations of the Cross  
**3.00pm** Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
**7.30pm** Stations of the Cross  
**9.00pm- 10.00pm** Prayer around the Cross

### Holy Saturday

**9.00pm** Vigil Mass of the Resurrection

### Easter Sunday

**8.30am** Mass  
**10.00am** Stations of Light  
**11.30am** Mass  
**7.30pm** Stations of Light

**Easter Monday** **11.00am** Mass

In these difficult and uncertain times, people find strength, consolation and hope in prayer.

### Churches will remain closed to the public, until 12<sup>th</sup> April

This is an occasion for all of us – especially in families - to pray more intensely for each other and especially for those who have been directly affected by the illness.

We should pray also for those in frontline services – especially doctors, nurses and medical staff and other carers, including clergy – that the Lord will protect them as they serve their communities.

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**Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service seeking marriage preparation facilitators -**  
ACCORD Catholic Marriage Care Service is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation course facilitators.

If you have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church

If you have the enthusiasm to be part of the Accord team in supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage

Accord wants to hear from you! Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation courses locally. Contact Jean on 025/31899 – Monday to Friday 9.30am – 1.30pm or on email [accordcloyne@cloynediocese.ie](mailto:accordcloyne@cloynediocese.ie) for more information on or before 31<sup>st</sup> March.

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**Mitchelstown Lions Club** - In times of crisis Mitchelstown Lions Club are here to serve, we would like to advise our local community that we are willing to help. We can organise to collect your shopping, prescriptions, etc., or even provide a listening ear if needed. We can also help with any form filling that you may need assistance with, this will be done in strict confidence. We can be contacted through our Facebook page. [Useful Helpline Contacts:](#) ●HSE.ie. Coronavirus updates, and general health service information. HSE phone 1850 241850 (Mon-Fri 8am - 8pm. Sat & Sun 10am to 5pm).●Pieta House Suicide help line 1800247247 (24 hour).Web site Pieta.ie.●Samaritans.116 123. (24 hour) Your Mental Health.1800 111 888.Web site.[www.yourmentalhealth.ie](http://www.yourmentalhealth.ie) (Mon-Fri office hours).●Aware Support Line (depression & anxiety). 1800 804 848 (Mon-Fri 10am-10pm)●Money Advice & Budgeting Service (MABS). 076 107 2000. (Mon-Fri 9am-8pm)●Mind Our Farm Families. 1890 130 002 (Mon-Fri 9am-6pm & Sat10am-6pm) ●Parent line. Support parents under stress. 1890 927 277 Daytime (Closed Sat & Sun)

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### Cork ETB and Mitchelstown Adult Education Services can assist you

The current situation of Covid19 is having a significant impact on everyone. Cork Education & Training Board services are still operating including our Adult and Community Education and Training services, and may be of assistance or interest to you if you are confined to your home, have been laid off, or are looking at ways to keep in touch or gain a new skill. We will advise and support you in the best way possible.

### Mitchelstown Adult Education Services

Ria Breen Tel: 086 048 4457

Email: [ria.breen@corketb.ie](mailto:ria.breen@corketb.ie)

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**Trócaire**- Now more than ever, we need to support and stand up for each other. We also need to connect with each other in creative ways, taking into consideration social distancing and restricted movement. Our thoughts in Trócaire are with everyone impacted by Covid-19 in Ireland and in the countries where we work overseas.

On Holy Week, the most reflective week in the Church's year, we are inviting you to attend two interactive workshops *online*. We will hold these workshops on the Monday and Wednesday of Holy Week, in final preparation for the Easter Triduum.

• On Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> April at 11 am, Trócaire will have a **Prayer and Reflection Workshop for Families**. To register, please contact Anna Keegan on [anna.keegan@trocaire.org](mailto:anna.keegan@trocaire.org) and Anna will then send you on the webinar link.

• On Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> of April at 11 am, Trócaire will hold a workshop on **Laudato Si' - Caring for our Common Home**. To register, please contact Jane Mellett on [jane.mellett@trocaire.org](mailto:jane.mellett@trocaire.org) and Jane will then send on the webinar link. Let us direct you to our resource page on our Trócaire website, where you can read and pray our resources from your own space at home. These include prayers, stations of the cross, homily notes and resources for children. <https://www.trocaire.org/resources/parishes>