

PARISH PERSONNEL:

V. Rev. Canon Leamy P.P., V.F. Phone: 025-41765.
V. Rev. Canon O'Leary C.C., P.E. Phone: 025-84088.
Rev. Fr. Pat O'Donoghue C.C. Phone: 025-84077
Parish Secretary - Patricia Dwane: Phone: 025-84062. *Open 9am-12pm*
Sick Call Phone No.: 087 - 2524979

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.

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.

Accord's new helpline identifies problems and offers advice to couples during pandemic restrictions. Accord's free and confidential 'Relationships Support Phone Line' for marriages, families and relationships offers support to those experiencing extra pressure due to social restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The number is: 01 5313331

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

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

Office Phone: 025 / 84062 **Open:** Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 12 noon

Office e-mail: mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com

Website: www.mitchelstownparish.ie

Thought for the Day

In traffic, you pay particular care to the vehicle in front. While manoeuvres taking place behind and beside you matter, ultimately it is that in front of you that counts – as many rear-ending drivers have found out to their cost. In a convoy, it can be strangely comforting to have another to lead you, alerting you to as yet unseen hazards.

A little bit like the shepherds Jesus compared himself with, who slept at the gate of the sheepfold. Anyone or anything that sought after the flock had to go through the shepherd to the sheep behind.

On the deeper kind of journey, we have a God who journeys with his people, leaning forward into the journey. God is in our tomorrows, as much as the oriental shepherd walked ahead of his sheep. And it is our tomorrows that fill people with fear. Yet God is already there:

God is in every tomorrow,

Therefore I live for today,

Certain of finding at sunrise,

Guidance and strength for my way;

Power for each moment of weakness,

Hope for each moment of pain,

Comfort for every sorrow,

Sunshine and joy after rain.

The Sound of Silence

Christ must have shocked his followers when he said; When you pray do not babble like the pagans thinking that the more they multiply words the greater their chances of being heard. The words still shock those who have never known any other way of praying and who are caught with set formulas and having to adhere to a set number of prayers and at certain times. Becoming a listener in prayer is of the utmost importance if we are going to have anything worthwhile to say. Words that are born of silence have a ring of authenticity that is absent in idle chatter. Having spent time in silence we may not be aware of having heard anything, but afterward the quality of our presence is very different and we approach difficult situations or people with greater wisdom. Our hectic pre Corona lifestyle often left us only physically present to loved ones and not even present to ourselves. One mother who was constantly on the go was shocked by her seven year-old daughter who said; Mummy I miss you so much, even when you are at home

Weekly Services

(All services will be Live Streamed and can be accessed through Mitchelstown Parish Website www.mitchelstownparish.ie)

Monday – Saturday: *Mass:* 10.00am *Rosary* 10.30am
Thursday: *Holy Hour* 8.00pm – 9.00pm
Every Friday: *Divine Mercy Prayers* 3.00pm
Saturday
Sunday Vigil Mass 7.30pm
Sunday : Mass 8.30am 11.30am

PARISH YOUCAT

In response to the need for a Catechism that was youth friendly a group of writers came together to devise a basic text based the Catechism of the Catholic Church. They spent two summer camps discussing the text with a total of 50 young people. YOUCAT came into being based on the everyday practice of the faith of young people. This is what makes it so valuable.

Based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church it is written for and by young people who want to know what they believe.

YOUCAT is full of quotations, references and explanations that help the reader to understand the statements of the Church. The official YOUCAT website is www.youcat.org. The book is widely available online and in bookshops and an e-version is downloadable from www.youcat.org.

During this lockdown we are planning on making an online presentation of YOUCAT which will be presented by the Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother. This will be available to connect to through the parish website mitchelstownparish.ie on Wednesday evenings from 8pm. Beginning on Wednesday 29th April. Go to parish website and click relevant link for YOUCAT.

We pray for all those in our country and throughout the world suffering from the Corona Virus. May its victims and their families be strengthened by the support of our community of faith and restored soon to full health. We also pray for our leaders and medical personnel who deal with the virus. May we keep calm and may we join together in solidarity with care and compassion to tackle this emergency. This we ask in confidence through Christ Our Lord. Amen

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

Catherine Kenneally (née O'Donnell), Ballinabrook.

Maura Riordan (née Quill), Ballinwillin

who died recently.

May They Rest In Peace

St Angela's College, Sligo Is inviting applications for the following course beginning Autumn 2020

Part-Time Certificate in Religious Education (Primary) with Online Delivery
The course is open to: Qualified primary school teachers; Qualified post-primary school teachers who wish to transfer to primary school teaching. Parents, sacramental preparation teams and parish catechists who have a specific interest in the area of primary religious education may also apply.

Closing date for Applications is Friday 15th May 2020. This date may be extended. For further information and application forms contact Mary Kearns, Education Department, St. Angela's College, Lough Gill, Sligo
Email: mkearns@stangelas.nuigalway.ie
Or visit Website: www.stangelas.nuigalway.ie

The Origin of the Gospels - The Evangelists. The Jewish memory was extremely retentive. We cannot easily forget repetitive TV adverts because the order of the words is always the same. The same was true of the early Jewish converts. Once the apostles had grouped the miracles, teaching and parables of Jesus into a set order, their listeners would not easily forget. The words of the apostles would be firmly imprinted in their memory. This helps us to understand the part played by the gospel writers. They did not write a book in the sense that we speak of a modern author writing a book. They put into writing that which was at first passed on by word of mouth. Their work - and this is their great gift to us - brings us into direct contact with the preaching of the apostles, the official witnesses of the life of Jesus

Light Humour – After the christening of his baby brother in Church, Little Johnny cried all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him what was wrong and finally, the boy sobbed, “That priest said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I want to stay with you guys!”

This is something we should all read at least once a week. Written By Regina Brett, 90 years old, of The Plain Dealer, Cleveland, Ohio.

1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
2. When in doubt, just take the next small step.
3. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone...
4. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends and parents will. Stay in touch.
5. Pay off your credit cards every month.
6. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.
7. Cry with someone. It's more healing than crying alone.
8. It's OK to get angry with God. He can take it.

Primary Schools and Access to Grow in Love online resources during Pandemic.

A reminder and sincere gratitude message to our Catholic Primary Schools and families. In order to facilitate teachers, students and parents at this difficult time, Veritas is giving free access to its online **Grow in Love resources**. See email and password details below. Our schools and teachers are doing so well, keeping up the relationship with all the boys and girls. So, to all the children, keep going with the school year – follow your Grow in Love as your teacher asks you. It's all learning for a big bright and happy future for you and all your family and friends. Website: www.growinlove.ie Email: trial@growinlove.ie Password: growinlove