

**PARISH PERSONNEL:**

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**Sick Call Phone No.: 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).**

**Find us on Facebook: Mitchelstown Parish**

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

**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**

**Volume: 11 Issue: 41 Date: Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> / 10<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

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](mailto:mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com)

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

**Thought for the Day**

I have a friend who, whenever he has a bad day, always has tomato soup and a grilled cheese sandwich for supper. He told me that ever since he was a little boy, tomato soup and a grilled cheese sandwich has been his “go to” comfort food when he is stressed out or worried about something. I suspect we all have certain “comfort foods” in our lives --- food that comforts us when we encounter difficult or trying days. In addition to comfort food, though, I also believe there are certain scripture passages that provide comfort whenever we read them. I think our Gospel for this Sunday is a case in point. In that Gospel, Jesus reminds us that “*We are not to let our hearts be troubled..... In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.*” And that he “*will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be.*” Jesus also tells us that he is “*the way, and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*”

The above words of Jesus fill me (and I suspect most of us) with great comfort whenever I read them. They remind me Jesus loves us so much that he wants to be with us always --- not just in this life --- but also in the life to come. He is the way that leads to the Father and in his Father’s house there are dwelling places for all of us.

Our first reading this weekend reminds us that roles and responsibilities began to develop in the early church, so that the word of God could “*continue to spread.*”

Our second reading this weekend is once again taken from the first letter of Saint Peter. In it Peter reminds his audience that because of Jesus Christ they are “*a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own.*”

**Questions for Reflection/Discussion:**

- 1. Have you ever had a troubled heart? What/who gave you comfort?
- 2. Are there certain passages from scripture that are “comfort” passages for you?
- 3. What things do you do so that the word of God can continue to spread?

### Weekly Services

(All services will be Live Streamed and can be accessed through Mitchelstown Parish Website [www.mitchelstownparish.ie](http://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 *Mass* 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](http://www.youcat.org). The book is widely available online and in bookshops and an e-version is downloadable from [www.youcat.org](http://www.youcat.org).

During this lockdown an online presentation of YOUCAT 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](http://mitchelstownparish.ie) on Wednesday evenings from 8pm. Go to parish website and click relevant link for YOUCAT.

**Mitchelstown Parish Church** will reopen for personal prayer and devotion on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May from 11am – 6pm. **No formal gatherings will take place.** We ask that all who visits the Church will respect the guidelines issued in relation to Covid-19. This will be reviewed on an ongoing basis.

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

**Some Light Humour** - Take No Offence - 'I hope you didn't take it personally, Father', an embarrassed woman said after a church service, 'when my husband walked out during your sermon.' 'I did find it rather disconcerting,' the priest replied.

'It's not a reflection on you, Father' insisted the church goer. 'Christopher has been walking in his sleep ever since he was a child.!'

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 15<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:mkearns@stangelas.nuigalway.ie)**  
**Or visit Website: [www.stangelas.nuigalway.ie](http://www.stangelas.nuigalway.ie)**

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**Pope Francis** gave an interview to English writer Austin Ivereigh during Lent. Ivereigh quotes the Pope: "I'm thinking at this time of the Saints who live next door. They are the heroes: doctors, volunteers, religious sisters, priests, shop workers – all performing their duty so that society can continue functioning. How many doctors and nurses have died! All serving .... The Lord does not leave his miracles half-finished. If we become aware of this miracle of the next-door saints, if we can follow their tracks, the miracle will end well, for the good of all. God doesn't leave things halfway". Think of the saints next door whom you know, name them, pray for them and thank God for them.

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**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](http://www.growinlove.ie) Email: [trial@growinlove.ie](mailto:trial@growinlove.ie) Password: growinlove.

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This Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, is the date when the **Cloyne Pilgrimage to Knock**, was due to take place. Given the restrictions of COVID-19, the people of Cloyne are invited to join in the online Mass from Knock Basilica, on their website [www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live](http://www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live) and on the Knock Shrine Facebook page. It begins with Rosary at 2.30pm followed by Mass and Benediction at 3.00pm.