

PARISH PERSONNEL:

V. Rev. Canon Leamy P.P., V.F. Phone: 025-41765.
Rev. Fr. Pat O'Donoghue C.C. Phone: 025-84077
Parish Secretary – Patricia Dwane: Phone: 025-84062.
Office Open 9am-12pm Monday to Friday.
Sick Call Phone No.: 087 – 2524979

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.

KnockShrine continues as a Place of Pilgrimage during the Covid-19 crisis, pilgrimage Masses have been broadcast online from Knock Basilica every Sunday at 3.00 pm. each weekend there has been a special welcome for the pilgrimage groups that traditionally travel to the National Marian Shrine for their own celebrations. Pilgrims have been able to place their petitions online on the Knock Shrine website in advance, so that they can be placed on the altar for the Mass. Many pilgrims light candles during their visit to Knock Shrine. This service has also been made available online: a candle is lit at the outdoor candelabra for each request received.

Cork Autism Online Conference 2020 - Autism: Beyond Behaviours. Sunday, October 11th. This online conference offers interventions, skills and strategies to support autistic people with behaviours of concern. Suitable for Parents, Families, Caregivers, Autistics, Employers, Educators, Professionals, Agencies, Advocates and anyone with an interest in autism. Visit: www.autismcork.ie

Campa Mhuire Mháthair, an online free Catholic Faith Camp for children aged 5 - 12: Mitchelstown Summer Faith Camp unfortunately had to be cancelled due to Covid 19 Restrictions, but join some familiar faces from **July 27th - 30th** for Bible Stories, Art, Music, Sport, Drama, live-streamed daily Mass and prayer, and much more! Bonus sacramental preparation material daily for First Communion and Confirmation children also! Find us on Facebook and Instagram, or check out www.holyfamilymission.ie/summer-camp for more information.

Some Light Humour - After explaining the commandment to honour your father and mother, a teacher asked her class if there was a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters.

One boy, the oldest in his family, immediately answered, "Thou shalt not kill."

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 11 Issue: 50 Date: Sunday 11th / 12th July 2020
Parish Office, Convent Hill, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork, P67 E303
Office Phone: 025 / 840620 Open: Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 12 noon

Thought for the Day

Today's Gospel is in three parts: the parable Jesus taught, an explanation on how to listen, and an explanation of the parable Jesus taught. The parable itself is well known and concerns seeds, where they land, and what happens to them. We might take note of the seeds as representing God's Word and the effect it has, or does not have, on us. What makes the difference in the parable is the type of soil the seed lands on and how suitable it is for growth to take place. Let us consider our own hearts as the soil: how open are we to receiving seeds that may be planted there? What condition is our 'soil' in?

Any decent gardener will know that good soil is key in order to cultivate anything. Soil needs to be weathered, broken down; it can be too acidic, or it can be too alkaline. Good soil needs organic matter such as compost or manure. It needs lots of air and water; it needs to be tended and prepared.

We too are weathered down by various forces in our lives, and at times have manure thrown at us. This can either close us down and harden our hearts, or it can open us up help us to grow, ready to receive the seeds that are scattered. Like the soil, we must take care of our bodies, hearts, and minds, adopt a holistic approach to our well-being.

The lesson on 'hearing' in the Gospel today is also important. How do we listen? Do we listen or read God's word while being distracted by many things, or are we fully attentive, even for a few minutes each day? How do we listen to one another? Fully attentive or with one eye on our phone? There is a great richness in the text today, spend time with it. Perhaps think about how you might prepare better the soil for planting.

'The soil is the great connector of lives, the source and destination of all. It is the healer and restorer and resurrector, by which disease passes into health, age into youth, death into life. Without proper care for it we can have no community, because without proper care for it we can have no life.' (Wendell Berry)

Moment of Reflection

In the rush to return to normal, use this time to consider which parts of normal are worth rushing back to.

Mitchelstown Community Council clg: Annual Mass will be held in the **Adjoining Cemetery, Mitchelstown, on Tuesday, July 28th at 7.30pm**
All are welcome.

RETURN TO THE PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF MASS AND THE SACRAMENTS: Weekday Masses 8.30am (Monday, Thursday & Friday) & 10.00am. (Monday to Saturday)

Sunday Masses in all three Churches per usual times. - Masses will be reviewed on a regular basis.

A return to public worship will be a source of great joy and hope to our parish communities. Public health considerations will, however, require some practical adjustments to the way we celebrate our liturgies. These should not in any way compromise the integrity of the liturgy and every effort will be made to support active participation and prayerful and joyful celebration. The dispensation from the Sunday and Holy Day obligation is extended for the time being for the most vulnerable in our parish community. **If you are feeling unwell, please do not attend church services** in order to protect the safety of all in our community. Public health authorities advise that people should maintain physical distance from each other. In our churches this will mean that every second row of seats will be kept vacant to protect all parishioners. Signage will indicate seats not to be used.

Sanitisers are available at all entrances to our Churches. Please **sanitise** your hands on entering and leaving the Church. Public Health and Government authorities advise that we must maintain a social distance from each other. In Church this means that **every second row of pews** will be closed off.

Receiving Holy Communion – Please follow the instructions that will be given at Mass and maintain a social distance from people **not from your household**. Holy Communion will be administered in the hand while standing. Priests and Ministers will be wearing a face-covering while distributing Communion.

Missalettes will not be available for public use until later in the year.

Adoration Chapel will remain closed until further notice.

Church Collections will be taken up at the door of the Church at you enter. Second collections will be taken up at the end of Mass also at the door.

Sacrament of Baptism can be booked through the Parish Office which is open from Monday to Friday from 9.00am – 12noon.

We ask that you refrain from congregating outside the Church after Mass. Please ensure you **always follow social distancing guidelines**. In line with best practice within enclosed spaces, the **use of face covering is strongly recommended**. Thank you for your patience, understanding and cooperation, as we all adapt to new ways of managing our Parish liturgies. Working together will ensure that everyone is kept safe, well and protected from the Coronavirus. We ask for your cooperation and patience as we all adjust to new ways of doing things.

Weekly Services (All services in the Parish Church only, will be Live Streamed and can be accessed through Mitchelstown Parish Website www.mitchelstownparish.ie)

Mass: Monday, Thursday & Friday at 8.30am.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday at 10am

Rosary: 9.30am daily

Thursday: Holy Hour: 8.00pm – 9.00pm

Saturday: Sunday Vigil Mass: 7.30pm – Parish Church, 6pm – Ballygiblin Church
Sunday

Mass: 8.30am, 11.30am & 7.30pm – Parish Church 10am – Killcluig Church

Retirement of Parish Sacristans

Pat McEvoy (Sacristan in the Church of Our Lady Conceived without Sin, Mitchelstown) and Mary Barry (Sacristan of Holy Family Church, Ballygiblin) have both retired from their roles as Parish Sacristans. Between them they have given almost seventy years of service. Pat McEvoy has served twenty-nine and a half years as Sacristan in Mitchelstown. Mary Barry has served thirty-nine and a half years as Sacristan in Ballygiblin. Both have given great service to the parish of Mitchelstown over the years and will be long remembered.

On behalf of the parish community I would like to thank them for their generosity of service to the people of the parish and wish them well in their retirement. Both leave a legacy in their respective churches which we as community will endeavour to continue.

They both have given sterling service over many years. Their courtesy, kindness and friendship have been a blessing for us all. They have been so faithful, committed and generous with their time over all those years. From the bottom of our hearts we say thank you for the many gifts they shared with us. They made a wonderful contribution to life around the church and their warm friendship and positive presence will be missed.

Pat and Mary would like to thank the people of the parish, for the kindness and support that was shown to them over the years.

We wish them both well for the future and we assure them of our continued friendship and appreciation.

P.T.A.A. Private Members Draw Wednesday, 1st July 2020

(April 2020 draw was postponed until 1st July due to COVID-19):

As this was the final draw for 2019-2020, the Finance and Fundraising Committee of the PTAA Central Council are very grateful to the many subscribers who gave so generously in support of this draw. Thank you all most sincerely for making it such a great success.

RECENTLY DECEASED: The sympathy of the Parish Community is extended to the family and friends of –
Daniel (Dan) Roche, *Ballinwillin Inner*
Who died recently. *May He Rest In Peace*

NEWLY BAPTISED: We welcome into our Catholic Community, through the Sacrament of Baptism –
Fiadh O'Brien
John Delaney