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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

Find us on Facebook: Mitchelstown Parish

E-mail address for Parish Pastoral Council

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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.

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

CLOYNE DIOCESAN CHANGES SEPTEMBER 2020

Most Rev. William Crean has accepted the resignation from office, on the grounds of retirement, of the following priests in the Diocese of Cloyne to come into effect at noon on Saturday 19th September 2020.

V. Rev. Liam Kelleher, PE, CC, Cobh to retire and continue to reside in Cobh

Rev. Kevin Mulcahy, CC Ballymacoda to retire and continue to reside in Ballymacoda

Bishop Crean has made the following appointments in the Diocese of Cloyne with effect from noon on Saturday 19th September 2020.

Rev. Thomas (Tommy) Lane returning from Mount St. Mary's Seminary, Maryland, U.S.A to be priest-in-residence in Mitchelstown while continuing research and writing.

Rev. Daniel (Danny) Murphy returns from Director of National Liturgy Institute to serve as Coordinator of the Diocesan Mission and Ministry Team to reside in Carrigtwohill

V. Rev. John McCarthy returning from Sabbatical leave to be CC in Mallow

Rev. Paul Bennett returning from Chaplaincy at Knock Shrine to be CC Cobh

Rev. Deacon James Sheahan, Newmarket to assist in Kanturk.

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

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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 we mark the first Sunday of the Season of Creation 2020, which runs from 1 September to 4 October. This special season in the church calendar celebrates the joy of creation, while encouraging awareness of initiatives to protect the natural environment.

We are reminded during this time of our duty to care for what Pope Francis calls 'our common home'. When we hear the word 'home', we tend to think of the immediate place where we live and the people we share it with – our house or living space and our immediate family, neighbours and community. Each of us lives within a particular web of relationships that we call home. But we must be conscious too that we live in a wider relationship with the earth and with all of creation. We all live in a common home, and we all must care for it, and for each other.

Our gospel today sees Jesus offer some advice about living in community. He first acknowledges that communities are far from perfect. We all struggle with our relationships and duties. But he makes one thing clear: in a community, we all have a responsibility to each other and to work to build harmony.

This responsibility extends beyond our immediate environment to our world. In this Season of Creation, we remember in particular those across the world who are suffering as a result of environmental damage. The way we live on this earth has consequences for the world and its people, and indeed for future generations. Over the next few weeks, let us consider how we might make some changes that reflect our care for others and for our common home.

'We need to strengthen the conviction that we are one single human family.' (Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*)

Congratulations to the young people from Bunscoil na Toirbhirte Primary School and C.B.S. Primary School, who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 5th September at two ceremonies in the Parish Church. On behalf of the parish we wish them every success as they move to Secondary School and thanks to all the staff of both schools

A little light humour - A Scottish mother visits her son in his New York City apartment and asks, "How do you find the Americans, Donald?" "Mother," says Donald, "they're such noisy people. One neighbour won't stop banging his head against the wall, while the other screams and screams all night long." "Oh, Donald! How do you manage to put up with them?" "What can I do? I just lie in bed quietly, playing my bagpipes."

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

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 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 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 – Killacraig Church

Reflection on the Gospel – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

At the time Matthew was writing his gospel local church communities would have numbered no more than fifty people. They would be known to one another. Matthew presents the instructions of Jesus for dealing with people whose behaviour disrupted and harmed the community. Note the steps suggested. Simple directions but many of us do otherwise. We avoid difficult confrontations. We talk about the faults of others to everyone but themselves. We go over the head of someone who displeases us and make complaints. In your experience, which approach is life-giving for you and for others?

While Jesus is referring to a group situation, the advice can be applied also to personal difficulties and problems with others. What lessons has life taught you about constructive ways of dealing with conflict.

As individuals and communities we have the power to bind and to loose, to exclude people from relationship, or to open up and include others in relationship. When have you found it important to acknowledge this power in your own life?

Jesus also promises to be with his followers when they gather together. What does that mean to you? How have you experienced the presence of Jesus in his followers gathered together? During the recent lockdown due to the coronavirus, how did you experience the presence of Jesus in your faith community?

The Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal: This year our Christmas Shoebox Appeal is going to be run differently. Due to the effects of Covid-19 restrictions, it is not possible to send gift-filled shoeboxes from Ireland this year. You can do your shoebox any time up until 23rd December but from 9th – 15th November, we are running the Christmas Shoebox Appeal Week. During this time we will be encouraging schools, families and communities to celebrate the Christmas Shoebox Appeal by building and donating their shoeboxes online, sharing pictures on social media using #TeamUpForTeamHope, coordinating fundraisers to purchase shoeboxes, and learning about the Appeal and the importance of giving. Although this year may be different, the need for shoebox gifts is more important than ever. Help us spread the word and continue to bring joy to children affected by poverty. Each gift-filled shoebox is €20. <https://www.teamhope.ie/christmas-shoebox-appeal/>

RECENTLY DECEASED: The sympathy of the Parish Community is extended to the family and friends of –
Julia Carroll (née Slattery), *Captain Keanes Grove*
Anne Pigott (née Tobin), *Roches Heights*
Carmel Sheedy (née Lynes), *Fermoy Road*
Who died recently. *May They Rest In Peace*

NEWLY BAPTISED: We welcome into our Catholic Community, through the Sacrament of Baptism –
Lily Maher
Bayley Aldridge