

V. Rev. Canon Leamy P.P., V.F.  
V. Rev. Canon O'Leary C.C., P.E.  
Rev. Fr. Pat O'Donoghue C.C.  
Parish Office – Patricia Dwane:

**CLERGY:**

Phone: 025-41765.  
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Phone: 025-84062. **Open 9am-12pm**

**Canon Leamy is on Sick Call this week; Phone No.: 087 – 2524979**

**PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS: [mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com](mailto:mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com)  
DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS 10AM WEDNESDAY**

● **Today is 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent** and the beginning of our preparation for the birth of Christ at Christmas.

● **St. Vincent de Paul Annual Christmas Collection** will be taken up at all Masses next **weekend 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> December**. Envelopes for this collection are available at the Church entrances today please take one on your way out. The collection makes it possible, to help the Society to carry on their great work throughout the year, we ask you to support generously.

● **Eucharistic Healing Hour** Thursday evening **8.00pm to 9.00pm**.

● **Confessions Parish Church:** Saturday: 12.00-1.00pm & 7.00 – 7.30pm

● **Today 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month and the Diocesan Purposes** will be taken up.

● **Reminder** – As the **8<sup>th</sup> of December** falls on a Sunday this year the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to the Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December**. Masses on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> (Feast of the Immaculate Conception) will be at 8.30am; 10.00am and at 7.30pm in the Parish Church.

● **Flowers Decorate the Altar and Tabernacle:** A very dedicated group of women in the Parish make sure the Altars of our three Churches are suitably decorated with flowers throughout the year and for that we sincerely thank them for their faithful devotion and decorations. The **Annual Collection for flowers on the Altars** will be taken up at all Masses **the Weekend, 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> December.**

**Some Light Humour** - A linguistics professor was lecturing to his class one day. In English, he said, a double negative forms a positive. In some languages though, such as Russian, a double negative is still a negative. However, he pointed out, there is no language wherein a double positive can form a negative.

A voice from the back of the room piped up, Yeah. Right

## Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

**Volume: 11 Issue: 19 Date: Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

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### Thought for the Day

Today is the beginning of a New Year for the Church. During these days, we look forward, waiting in hope. The liturgical year starts and ends with God, our Beginning and our End. The Advent wreath symbolises the circle of life, evergreen with hope, increasing in light nearing Christmas, the feast of light in Winter.

### The Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is an old custom. Whether you are on your own or surrounded by family, why not make one for your home this Advent? You will need some kind of circular base (a wire coat-hanger will do), some evergreen foliage, three purple candles, one pink candle, one white candle. If you wish to add ribbons, feel free to do so. Say a prayer and light one of the candles each Sunday in Advent, gradually building up the light as Christ's coming draws nearer.

The Advent wreath is rich in symbolism that can help us to pray. The circular form reminds us that God's love is eternal, it has no beginning and no end.

The evergreen leaves of the wreath remind us that God never changes.

The colour purple represents sorrow. Three of our candles are in this colour to represent our sorrow for our failure to live in so many parts of our lives.

One candle is pink and this represents our joy and happiness at the coming of Christ. We light this candle on the third Sunday of Advent, also called 'Gaudete' Sunday from the Latin meaning 'rejoice'.

The white candle, which is placed in the middle of the wreath on Christmas Day, represents the Christ-child born that day whose teachings will be our guiding light for the coming year.

**COLLECTORS FOR DECEMBER 2019:** We thank those who collected during November. The Collectors for December take over THIS weekend.

Vigil 7.30pm: Denis Coleman, John Fox, Patrick Manning,  
8.30am: Neil Egan, Michael Boland, Con Hogan  
11.30am: Seamus Mannix, Tom O'Brien, Seamus Carey, Tom Lucey  
7.30pm: Verling Fitzgerald, Bridget Sherlock, Brian Neville

**EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:** We thank Team "C". Team "D" take over THIS weekend.

**Advent Retreat - Join us for Our Advent Retreat - "New Beginnings a Very Special Time of Year"** Facilitated by Fr. Archie Byrne O.P. & Fr. Benedict Hegarty O.P. **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> of December.** Residential €175. Non-Residential €100. Saturday only €60. Booking is Essential. Phone 021-4502520 / Email [info@eenismore.ie](mailto:info@eenismore.ie)

**International Youth Conference December 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> at Clongowes Wood College, Castlebrown, Clane, Co. Kildare, W19 DN40.** To register [www.afcmteamireland.org](http://www.afcmteamireland.org). For more details contact: Sonia 087-9041272

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul:** Are you struggling? If yes, then we are here to help. Call us at 087-6093906. If you would like to become a volunteer in our shop or should you have clothes or furniture to donate, please call us on 087-6093906.

**Advent at Glenstal Abbey 2019** - Here is the Lord: Come out to meet Him. A series of 3 talks on the first 3 Sundays of Advent (**December 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>**) Venue: Monastery Library – Glenstal Abbey at 4.30pm. Speakers: Dr Jessie Rogers, Luke MacNamara OSB, Cuthbert Brennan OSB

**HOME OF THE MOTHER - Girls' Get-Togethers** in the **Town Hall, Mitchelstown 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> December**, Songs, Games, Prayer, Crafts and More! With the Servant Sisters. **●5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Classes on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December, 10am to 2pm. ●2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> Classes on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> December, 10am to 2pm.** Cost for both days is 2 euros (to cover the cost of crafts). The girls are asked to bring their own lunch. Contact Sr. Mary for inquiries / sign up at [hmactivitiesireland@gmail.com](mailto:hmactivitiesireland@gmail.com), e-mail subject: Get-together.

**Ennismore Retreat Centre,** Montenotte invites you to a **Conversation, DOES GOD FEEL?** on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 7:30pm.** The speaker will be the internationally renowned Irish Dominican biblical scholar, Fr. Wilfrid Harrington, O.P. Fr. Wilfrid, O.P. is the author of some 60 texts in biblical theology. All are welcome. Conversations in Ennismore is a weekly forum of Conversations on a variety of topics. You can view our 2019-2020 Programme on [www.ennismore.ie](http://www.ennismore.ie) For any further information call 021-4502520 or email [info@ennismore.ie](mailto:info@ennismore.ie)

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** The sympathy of the Parish Community is extended to the family and friends of –  
Annie Whelan-Ryan (née Casey), Barrack Road  
Eleanor Gillespie (née Rea), Ballinwillin Close  
Who died recently. *May They Rest In Peace*

*MITCHELSTOWN COMMUNITY FORUM CLG (Embracing Communities).*

We would cordially like to invite you all to the Annual General Meeting of the Mitchelstown Community Forum CLG, **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 8pm.** Venue: Enterprise Centre Mitchelstown. Looking forward to seeing you all

**Ballygiblin N.S. – Fundraising Event -Parent Council – New & Used Clothes & Shoes Collection in Ballygiblin N.S. Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> December, 9am to 3pm & 6pm to 8pm, also Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> December morning up to 9.30am.** No mobile phones. Any queries, please contact Noelle Luddy on 087-8158902. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

**The Irish Blood Transfusion Service** will hold a Blood Donor Clinic in The Firgrove Hotel, Mitchelstown. Wednesday 5pm – 8.30pm, Thursday 3pm – 5pm & 7pm – 9pm, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019. Blood Donation is essential to ensure Hospital Patients get the treatment they need. One Donation can save up to 3 Lives. Full details of all clinics and on Giving Blood can be found on [www.giveblood.ie](http://www.giveblood.ie) or by telephoning 021 4807400 or 1850 731 137.

**P.T.A.A. Private Members Draw** was held on **Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019** - Congratulations to Elizabeth Quane, Killacluig, Mitchelstown, who won the 1<sup>st</sup> prize of €1,000. **The next draw will be held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019.** Local promoter John (087) 6477897. Best of luck to all in the draw. Wishing all our friends and supporters every blessing of Christ Child this Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

It's that time of year again! **The Senior Citizens Social** will be held on the **8<sup>th</sup> December** in the Firgrove Hotel at 1pm. Any queries contact Delia Tobin 087-0927878.

**The CBS Primary Performing Arts Club** have a very busy schedule ahead of them, first up is their performance at the Foyer of the Firgrove Hotel on Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> December, to greet our Senior Citizens, as they gather for their Annual Christmas Social. They will also perform for all at Tearmann Ui Chaoimh on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> December, then they will be at **Supervalu, New Square, on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December.** School Staff and Friends will be around town with a bucket collection in aid of the **Local Branch of the St. Vincent De Paul Society,** (Garda permit granted). C.B.S. Primary looks forward to your continuing support, carrying on a tradition which is now spanning over 3 decades. They will also be performing at the AIB Bank for their Community Day on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> December and in the foyer of Tesco in Aid of Temple Street Children's Hospital, date yet to be confirmed.

**ALL WELCOME** to join with **C.B.S. Primary** staff and pupils for their **Advent Ceremony,** which will be celebrated in the **Parish Church on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December from 11.00am.** Everybody at CBS Primary wishes the Community a Very Happy Peaceful Christmas and the very best for 2020.

**Glenahulla NS** with friends from Shraharlain invite you to their **Christmas by Candlelight Carol Service** in **Killacluig Church on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm**

**NEWLY BAPTISED:** We welcome into our Catholic Community, through the Sacrament of Baptism:  
Will Landers