

CLERGY:

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: 025-84718.
Parish Office – Patricia Dwane: Phone: 025-84062. **Open 9am-12pm**

Fr. O'Donoghue is on Sick Call this week; Phone No.: 087 – 2524979

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS:

mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS 10AM WEDNESDAY

Office Open 9 am to 12 noon Monday to Friday

● **Reminder –Feast of the Immaculate Conception (8th December) is transferred to the Monday 9th December.** Masses on Monday 9th (Feast of the Immaculate Conception) will be at 8.30am; 10.00am and at 7.30pm in the Parish Church.

● **BAMBINELLI SUNDAY** –We invite the children of the Parish to bring their Baby Jesus to Mass on the **3rd Sunday of Advent, 14th/15th December.** After Mass we suggest that the Baby Jesus is wrapped up and placed under the Christmas Tree and on Christmas Day the youngest member of the Family places the Baby in the Crib.

● **St. Vincent de Paul Annual Christmas Collection** will be taken up at all Masses **THIS weekend 7th/8th December.** 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

● **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 **NEXT Weekend, 14th/15th December.**

● **Christmas Home Deliveries:** The boxes of Parish envelopes for the coming year, Parish Calendar & programme for Christmas, will be delivered to your homes in the coming days. We would be most grateful for the help of the Autumn distributors. If distributors can collect the envelopes from the Parish Office, during Office hours – Monday to Friday, 9am to 12noon. This will help us greatly. Thank you.

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 11 Issue: 20 Date: Sunday 8th December 2019

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

Advent Themes

A season of renewal: During Advent, we express our great longing for God. Who are we without God? Apart from Christ we can do nothing (cf. Jn 15.5). We prepare ourselves and wait for God's coming.

Prepare the way of the Lord: We open our hearts to Jesus in prayer, and show by our actions each day that we are his. We try to love other people more, and to be more patient and understanding. We pray for others, especially those who are close to us, and ask God to help them to grow in love.

A time to change: During Advent we are invited to change our lives and our hearts. God wants us to prepare for his coming by doing good. Each day we should look at our faults and weaknesses and ask our Father to help us to follow Jesus more closely.

A season of hope: Advent brings hope, because Jesus is always ready to help us to grow. He has conquered sin and selfishness by his obedient death and by his rising; he can help us to change our lives for the better. If we want to grow closer to him, and pray and work to improve, Jesus will help us to change for him.

A season of joy: Advent brings joy. We are followers of Jesus, who is the king of glory. We are happy because he is our king, and we are his brothers and sisters. We rejoice because God is our dear Father and because the Holy Spirit lives in our hearts. We are happy because Jesus wants to give us his peace and let us share his joy now and in heaven forever. Not a time of penance. Advent is not a time of penance like Lent. It is a season of renewal, when God invites us to let Jesus come into our hearts and make us more like him. It is a season of quiet expectation; we live it in the expectation of the fullness of joy to come.

Spiritual Renewal: Advent is a time for renewing our lives as followers of Jesus. We are invited to “make straight the way of the Lord” in our hearts and in our lives.

Confession: It is important that we receive the Sacrament of Confession regularly; it keeps us in the Grace of God, as we face life's difficulties and it prepares us for the day when the Lord will call us.

Reconciliation Service:

Parish Church - Mitchelstown

ON MONDAY, 16TH DECEMBER AT 7.30PM.

Priests will be available to hear confession.

CHRISTMAS CONFESSION TIMES:

International Youth Conference December 27th to 30th at Clongowes Wood College,

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY – The tradition, called Baminelli Sunday, was begun by Pope John Paul II, to take place on the third Sunday of Advent, or Gaudete Sunday. Following the Sunday Angelus address, the Holy Father blesses all the statues and figurines of Baby Jesus held up by the children in the crowd under the Holy Father's window, which the children then take back to their homes to be placed under their Christmas Trees, waiting for Christmas Eve, when the Baminelli can be placed in the Manger to mark the birth of the Baby Jesus. We invite the children of the Parish to bring their Baby Jesus to Mass on the **3rd Sunday of Advent, 14th/15th December**. After Mass we suggest that the Baby Jesus is wrapped up and placed under the Christmas Tree and on Christmas Day the youngest member of the Family places the Baby in the Crib.

Castlebrown, Clane, Co. Kildare, W19 DN40. To register www.afcmteamireland.org. For more details contact: Sonia 087-9041272

Society of St. Vincent de Paul: Are your 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.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society. Meeting this **Monday, 9th December, at 7pm in Marian Hall, Convent Hill.** *New Members always welcome*

HOME OF THE MOTHER - Girls' Get-Togethers in the **Town Hall, Mitchelstown 7th & 14th December**, Songs, Games, Prayer, Crafts and More! With the Servant Sisters.
● **5th & 6th Classes on Saturday, 7th December, 10am to 2pm.** ● **2nd to 4th Classes on**

Saturday, 14th 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, e-mail subject: Get-together.

Enrolments in Mitchelstown Second-level Schools - A gentle reminder to parents/guardians of 6th class students, that the closing date for receipt of applications for places in First Year 2020/21 in the second-level schools in Mitchelstown is **Friday December 13th 2019**. Please contact the schools should you require any information.

CBS – 025 24104 / info@cbsmitchelstown.ie

Presentation – 025 24394 / office@presmitchelstown.ie

Coláiste Fionnchua – 025 24314 / info@stfanahans.ie

LIAMS LIFTS – TRANSPORT FOR CANCER CARE: Volunteer Drivers needed in the Mitchelstown Area, to drive people to and from their cancer treatments in Cork Hospitals. If you have time and would like to join our pool of existing drivers, who provide this service, we would be delighted to hear from you. For more information contact Pat Walsh 087 – 215 8874

The CBS Primary Performing Arts Club will be performing at the Foyer of the Firgrove Hotel on Sunday, 8th December, to greet our Senior Citizens, as they gather for their Annual Christmas Social. They will also perform at Tearmann Ui Chaoimh on Monday, 16th December, then they will be at Supervalu, **New Square, on Thursday 19th 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). They will also be performing 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, 18th 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 Shraharla invite you to their **Christmas by Candlelight Carol Service** in **Killacluig Church on Wednesday 18th December at 7.30pm**.

Mitchelstown Citizens Information Centre, Marian Hall, Convent Hill, Mitchelstown **Will be closed for the Christmas Holidays** from Monday, 23rd December and will re-open on Thursday, 2nd January 2020 usual hours.

Tel: 0761 07 8030

E-mail: Mitchelstown@citinfo.ie

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday: 1.30p.m. to 4.30p.m.

Nano Nagle Birthplace, Ballygriffin, Co Cork: Sat 14th December: 'Day of Meditation and Relaxation' with Eileen Nash pbvm: Give yourself the Gift of a day away from the busyness and stress of your everyday life! 10.30am – 3.30pm (registration 10am); bring a packed lunch; cost €25 incl. tea/coffee. Booking essential: 022 26411; secretary@nanonaglebirthplace.ie