

**PARISH PERSONNEL:**

V. Rev. Canon Leamy P.P., V.F. Phone: 025-41765.  
V. Rev. Canon O'Leary C.C., P.E. Phone: 025-84088.  
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Parish Secretary – 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](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.

**For the six Thursdays of Lent**, there will be a Series of Mediations at the Holy Hour in our Parish Church led by Fr. Pat O'Donoghue, on understanding the Mass through the writings of the Saints. It is an opportunity to deepen our knowledge of the parts of the Mass. **The Holy Hour will be live streamed on the internet.** The link can be got by going to Mitchelstown Parish Web Site.

**Church Offerings & Parish Envelopes** can be dropped in the box provided, in the Parish Church, or to the Parish Office during office hours (Mon to Fri. 9am to 12 noon)

# Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

**Volume: 11 Issue: 34 Date: Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> March 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

What a convoluted Gospel we have today. The healing of the blind man unleashes a chain of chaos and confusion. His neighbours are dumbfounded, the Pharisees are suspicious and at war with one another, and the Jews are cynical, even calling in the man's parents as witnesses.

The character of Jesus, and of the blind man, are called into question as everyone tries to figure out what has happened. Jesus and the man who has been healed are both accused of being sinners. The interrogators even ridicule the man, asking, 'Are you trying to teach us, and you a sinner through and through?'

But things are simple for the man who has experienced Jesus' healing. He knows what he has witnessed, and is ready and willing to attest to it. 'If this man were not from God,' he says, 'he couldn't do a thing.' He understands that his encounter with Jesus was extraordinary.

Jesus finally clears up the confusion, turning everything on its head, as is often his way. It is the man who had been blind who sees who Jesus is: 'Lord, I believe.' The Pharisees who think they see things clearly are the ones who are really blind to the truth. 'We are not blind, surely?' is the question facing all of us as we advance through Lent. Are we open to the Good News and the healing power of Jesus?

## LENTEN CALENDAR

*This Lent, you are invited to pray with a line of God's Word each week and to express that Word in action each day...*

**4th Sunday of Lent: God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son**

Mon: Pray for loved ones who show us a glimpse of God's love

Tues: Make an effort with someone you find difficult

Wed: Let the News today call you to pray

Thurs: Fast with Jesus

Fri: Take time today to believe in God's love for you

Sat: Show love for someone else today

**Mother's Day** - Every mother needs a no-matter-what friend. Someone they can call, no matter what. Someone they can vent to, no matter what. Someone they don't have to explain themselves to, no matter what.

Wishing all mothers, a very happy Mother's Day.

## LIVE STREAMING OF MASSES

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

[www.churchservices.tv/mitchelstown](http://www.churchservices.tv/mitchelstown)

**In the Parish of Mitchelstown Sunday and Weekday Masses are cancelled  
as of 14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020.**

### LIVE STREAMING SERVICE

Mass will be available on our Live Streaming Service

([www.mitchelstownparish.ie](http://www.mitchelstownparish.ie) – Click the

Live Streaming Link) at the following times.

- **Saturday evening: 7.30pm / Sunday: 8.30am & 11.30am.**
- **Monday to Saturday: 10.00am**

Funeral Services, Church Weddings and Baptisms, **may be** celebrated, on condition, that the attendance in Church does not exceed 100 people.

In these difficult and uncertain times, people find strength, consolation and hope in prayer.

**Churches will remain open for prayer each day:**

**Monday – Saturday: 10.30am – 6.00pm.**

**Sunday: 12.15pm – 6.00pm.**

This is an occasion for all of us – especially in families - to pray more intensely for each other and especially for those who have been directly affected by the illness.

We should pray also for those in frontline services – especially doctors, nurses and medical staff and other carers, including clergy – that the Lord will protect them as they serve their communities.

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**Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service seeking marriage preparation facilitators**

- ACCORD Catholic Marriage Care Service is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation course facilitators.

If you have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church

If you have the enthusiasm to be part of the Accord team in supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage

Accord wants to hear from you! Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation courses locally.

Contact Jean on 025/31899 – Monday to Friday 9.30am – 1.30pm or on email [accordcloyne@cloynediocese.ie](mailto:accordcloyne@cloynediocese.ie) for more information on or before 31<sup>st</sup> March.

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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.

**Pope Francis** - “In this moment, I would like to address all the sick that have the virus and that suffer the illness and the many that suffer uncertainties about their own sicknesses,” the Pope said during his General Audience broadcast from the Library of the Apostolic Vatican Palace. “My heartfelt thanks to the hospital personnel, the doctors, the nurses, and the volunteers, who, in this very difficult moment are next to the people that suffer.

“I thank all the Christians, all the men and women of goodwill that pray for this moment, all united, regardless of the religious tradition to which they belong; my heartfelt thanks for this effort. However, I would not like this pain, this very strong epidemic make us forget the poor Syrians that are suffering at the border between Greece and Turkey: a people suffering for years. They must flee from war, from hunger, from sicknesses. Let us not forget our brothers and sisters, the many children that are suffering there.”

**Some Light Humour** - A man and wife were having an argument about who should make the pot of tea in the morning. The wife told him that he should do it because he gets up first. The husband said that she was in charge of the cooking in the house, making it her job. The wife said that even the bible says that the man should do it. The husband told her to show him and if it did he would make it. She fetched the bible and opened up the new testament, showing him at the top of several pages that said "Hebrews".!!

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**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, 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020. 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.

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**RADIO MARIA IRELAND** is an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station. Prayer, Catechesis, Uplifting music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies – all commercial free – Listen via TV on [Saorview](http://Saorview) - Channel 210 and [Freeview](http://Freeview) - Channel 826; Download our FREE APP - “RADIO MARIA IRELAND”, streaming on [www.radiomaria.ie](http://www.radiomaria.ie). Please join our growing faith family!

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**COVID-19 Support Line for Older People:** ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm, by calling 0818 222 024. Hours may be extended to meet the demand.

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