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DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS 10AM WEDNESDAY

Office Open: 9 am to 12 noon – Monday to Friday.

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Find us on Facebook: Mitchelstown Parish

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Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 11 Issue: 45 Date: Sunday 6th / 7th June 2020

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YOUCAT – An online presentation of YOUCAT is being presented by the Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother. This is available to connect to through the Parish Website: mitchelstownparish.ie, on Wednesday evenings from 8pm. Fifth session will take place on this coming Wednesday.

We pray for all those in our country and throughout the world suffering from the Corona Virus. May its victims and their families be strengthened by the support of our community of faith and restored soon to full health. We also pray for our leaders and medical personnel who deal with the virus. May we keep calm and may we join together in solidarity with care and compassion to tackle this emergency. This we ask in confidence through Christ Our Lord. Amen

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.

Light Humour–

Wife: "Our new neighbour always kisses his wife when he leaves for work. Why don't you do that?"

Husband: "How can I? I don't even know her."

Thought for the Day

With advances in communications, distance is effectively dead, thanks to post, e-mail, land and mobile phone and social media. One unfortunate development is the increase in 'junk mail'. But what's junk to one person is, no doubt, important to those who prepare it.

Even Christian groups delivering literature have found themselves considered as supplying 'junk-mail'. So many individuals and organisations have information they think everybody should know. But Christians hold their faith as all-important. So faith will be reflected in supporting God's work, in thirst to grow in Christian faith and practice, in desire to be a better-equipped witness for the Lord.

The examinations in College and the Certificate examinations which would be taking place normally at this time would require students to apply all their study to answer specific questions on paper with a time limit. Not unlike a human life?

A fable tells of a dog that bragged it could outrun any animal. It wasn't long before a certain rabbit put these claims to the test. With ease the rabbit outran his barking pursuer. The dog excused himself, however, by saying, 'You forget, I was only running for fun. He was running for his life!'

It needs to be asked how committed we are to the Lord's command 'Go, tell all people'. How much of a life-and-death issue is it for us? What answer is our life shaping.

**I must look for the good in others,
if I want to find it in myself.**

Mitchelstown Parish Church is open for personal prayer and devotion from 11am – 6pm. **No formal or informal gatherings will take place.** We ask that all who visit the church will respect the guidelines issued in relation to Covid-19. This will be reviewed on an ongoing basis.

Trócaire: Many thanks for your Trócaire donations, which has amounted to €3,067 so far. Donations can be handed into the Sacristy or the Parish Office.

Weekly Services

(All services will be Live Streamed and can be accessed through Mitchelstown Parish Website www.mitchelstownparish.ie)

Monday– Saturday,

Mass: 10.00am *Rosary* 10.30am

Thursday,

Holy Hour 8.00pm – 9.00pm

Every Friday

Divine Mercy Prayers 3.00pm

Saturday

Sunday Vigil Mass 7.30pm

Sunday

Mass 8.30am *Mass* 11.30am

Fight Racism

- Create respect for differences, keeping in mind that it's normal to be different.
- Teach children to see each human being as a child of God created to fulfil a special mission in life.
- Recognise that there is good and there is bad in every group.
- Stress the things we have in common.
- Don't generalise from isolated incidents.
- Speak up when confronted by prejudice; avoid jokes and expressions which stereotype people.
- Learn as much as you can about the culture of another group.
- When children show prejudice, take action, do nothing to indicate approval.

Feast of Corpus Christi (The Body and Blood of Christ) takes place on **Sunday 14th June 2020**. Normally the Parish would be preparing for the Annual Corpus Christi Procession. This year is very different. **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place from after the 11.30am Mass – 6.00pm**. This will facilitate people to drop into the Church to pray for a short time, while respecting social distancing and taking care of other Parishioners. No formal prayers will take place. After the Church is closed at 6pm, a formal blessing with the Blessed Sacrament will take place by live streaming.

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 seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling [0818 222 024](tel:0818222024).

Lough Derg pilgrimage season delayed, but voice of prayer will not be silenced - Father La Flynn, Prior of Lough Derg, has said that while the island pilgrimage season is delayed, the voice of prayer will not be silenced. Father Flynn was speaking as he departed alone from Pettigo in the Diocese of Clogher to the island place of pilgrimage also known as Saint Patrick's Purgatory.

The beginning of June each year marks the start of the traditional Three Day Pilgrimage Season at Lough Derg. In normal times the June holiday weekend on Station Island would be busy with hundreds of pilgrims crossing over to take off their shoes and begin their 'Station'. This year the Prior, Fr La Flynn, has moved alone to the island to keep a prayerful presence there until pilgrims are able to return.

Commenting on the delay of the pilgrimage season, Father Flynn said, "We have to go back almost 200 years to the 1820s, 1828 to be exact, to find a time when the summer pilgrimage season was last suspended, but today, 1st June 2020, my journey across to the island is a solitary one. While in the coming weeks I may not yet be able to welcome pilgrims due to Covid-19, I can at least in a humble way ensure that the voice of prayer does not fall silent in this place that has so long been faithful to the way of St Patrick, the young man who in his time of trial found hope and new purpose in his lonely place among the mountains. This unique tradition of prayer, handed on by pilgrims who have come here season by season from century to century, will be sustained until I can welcome them here again. www.loughderg.org

Saint Barnabas' Story – Feast Day - 11th June

Barnabas, a Jew of Cyprus, comes as close as anyone outside the Twelve to being a full-fledged Apostle. He was closely associated with Saint Paul—he introduced Paul to Peter and the other Apostles—and served as a kind of mediator between the former persecutor and the still suspicious Jewish Christians.

When a Christian community developed at Antioch, Barnabas was sent as the official representative of the church of Jerusalem to incorporate them into the fold. He and Paul instructed in Antioch for a year, after which they took relief contributions to Jerusalem.

Later Paul and Barnabas, now clearly seen as charismatic leaders, were sent by Antioch officials to preach to the gentiles. Enormous success crowned their efforts. After a miracle at Lystra, the people wanted to offer sacrifice to them as gods—Barnabas being Zeus, and Paul, Hermes—but the two said, "We are of the same nature as you, human beings. We proclaim to you good news that you should turn from these idols to the living God" (see Acts 14:8-18).

Barnabas is spoken of simply as one who dedicated his life to the Lord. He was a man "filled with the Holy Spirit and faith. Thereby, large numbers were added to the Lord." Even when he and Paul were expelled from Antioch in Pisidia—modern-day Turkey—they were "filled with joy and the Holy Spirit."

Baptisms in the Parish with restrictions.

All bookings through the Parish Office on 025 84062.