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

**Find us on Facebook: Mitchelstown Parish**

**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](http://mitchelstownparish.ie), on Wednesday evenings from 8pm. Eighth 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.

**Some light Humour!**

A girl asks her father, " Why does it rain? Is it God sweating or crying?" " No," says her father, " it rains to make the plants grow. Do you understand?" " Not exactly," says the girl. " Why does it rain on the footpath?"

**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.

**Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter**

**Volume: 11 Issue: 47 Date: Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup> June 2020**

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**Office e-mail:** [mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com](mailto:mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com)

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

**Thought for the Day**

**God On Our Side**

*Fear less, hope more;*

*Eat less, chew more;*

*Whine less, breathe more;*

*Talk less, say more;*

*Hate less, love more;*

*- and all good things will be yours.*

It’s no accident that ‘fear less’ is top of the list. It was high also on Jesus’ list of priorities. But for all his reassurances, our guts have this sinking feeling. It’s worse when we can’t even pinpoint the fear.

Men and women are afraid of a variety of things: families falling apart, of losing our jobs, of not having enough. We fear being robbed or assaulted. We’re afraid of sickness, especially cancer. We fear death, our own or that of a loved one.

When these causes of fear are mentioned, something starts to happen in our ‘gut’. Concerns and memories start clicking in our experience. Trust and faith are the only response.

Jeremiah (First Reading) heard the critical voices outside, but also listened to the one within. As the lengthy June days just start to dwindle, we do well to hear what is said in the dark moments of life. It is only when we face our fear that we can ‘proclaim from the roof-tops’.

**Tuesday (June 23) is St. John’s Eve** (‘Bonfire night’).

**John the Baptist**

John the Baptist's life between birth and his preaching - like the life of Christ - is unknown to us. It is generally thought that he was a member of the Qumran community which lived a kind of "monastic" life on the shores of the Dead Sea. Marriage was not allowed and goods were held in common. Much of their life was spent studying the Law of Moses.

As a member of this very strict community John would have reflected deeply on the Messiah and the kind of man he would be. And so he was able to point out Jesus.

## RETURN TO THE PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF MASS AND THE SACRAMENTS

**Weekday Masses recommencing on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June, 8.30am & 10.30am.**

**Sunday Masses recommencing on 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> July, in all three Churches per usual times.**

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.

**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 as 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 from Monday to Friday from 9.00am – 12noon.

We ask for your cooperation and patience, as we all adjust to new ways of doing things and above all, in keeping people safe from the Coronavirus.

**KnockShrine** continues as a Place of Pilgrimage during the Covid-19 crisis, pilgrimage Masses have been broadcast online from Knock Basilica every Sunday at 3.00 pm. each weekend there has been a special welcome for the pilgrimage groups that traditionally travel to the National Marian Shrine for their own celebrations. Pilgrims have been able to place their petitions online on the Knock Shrine website in advance, so that they can be placed on the altar for the Mass. Many pilgrims light candles during their visit to Knock Shrine. This service has also been made available online: a candle is lit at the outdoor candelabra for each request received.

**CHURCH LEADERS THANK THOSE CARING FOR THE SICK AND THOSE CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY.** Following their weekly video conference on 17 April, the leaders of the Church of Ireland, Methodist Church in Ireland, Roman Catholic Church, Presbyterian Church in Ireland and the Irish Council of Churches have expressed their appreciation for those working on the frontline during the Coronavirus pandemic. They stated that they looked forward to a time when the pandemic abates: ‘We will also have a renewed and strengthened sense of community on this island and a new understanding and deeper appreciation of one another.’ ‘To be a community,’ the Church leaders said, ‘means that as individuals we acknowledge our interdependence and work together to achieve something for the greater good, which will benefit us all. In the last number of weeks, we have witnessed the vast majority of people on this island working together, in a way

**Marshalstown Cemetery: The Annual Mass will be held in the Cemetery on Monday night, 6<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm.**

<b>Weekly Services</b>			
<b>(All services will be Live Streamed and can be accessed through Mitchelstown Parish Website <a href="http://www.mitchelstownparish.ie">www.mitchelstownparish.ie</a>)</b>			
<b>Monday– Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> June</b>			
<i>Mass:</i>	10.00am	<i>Rosary</i>	10.30am
<b>Thursday,</b>			
<i>Holy Hour</i>	8.00pm – 9.00pm		
<b>Every Friday</b>			
<i>Divine Mercy Prayers</i>	3.00pm		
<b>Saturday</b>			
<i>Sunday Vigil Mass</i>	7.30pm		
<b>Sunday</b>			
<i>Mass</i>	8.30am	<i>Mass</i>	11.30am

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** The sympathy of the Parish Community is extended to the family and friends of –  
Michael (Mick Joe) Condon, Curraheen.  
Frank Murphy, formerly of Robert Street.  
Who died recently. *May They Rest In Peace*