

PARISH PERSONNEL:

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Parish Office Open 9am -11.30am Monday to Friday only.

Sick Call Phone No.: 087 – 2524979

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Office Phone: 025 / 84062 Open: Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

Office e-mail: mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT SCHEME VACANCIES

Caretaker – Town Hall, Mitchelstown

General Operative - Parish Church, Mitchelstown

Required Skills:

- Enthusiasm and a desire to work within a Community Environment
- Enjoy working as part of a Team
- Full training provided
- Applicants must be over 21 years of age, be eligible to participate in a Community Employment Scheme.

If interested, please contact Kathleen Johnson, Awbeg Funcheon

Recreation CE Scheme Supervisor;

kathleenjohnson@awbegfuncheonrecreationce.ie Tel 087 4458582 with a copy of your CV and PPS Number.

Parish Radio – The Parish Radio has been away for repair for a couple of months. Parts have been very difficult to obtain due to old technology and Covid 19. We are not happy with the coverage of the repaired radio and we are investigating a new system that may work. Unfortunately, we have no guarantees. Will keep you posted.

St Fanahan's Well. The Well Committee would like to sincerely thank everyone who contributed to the Church Collection for St Fanahan's Well recently. The Novena to St. Fanahan's began on Tuesday 16th November. The Well path will be lit each evening between 4pm and 12 midnight. There will be Rosary at St Fanahan's Well on the Feast of St Fanahan at 3pm, 25th November. We encourage you to participate in the Novena. Mass celebrated at 7.30pm in the Parish Church.

Glenhulla National School Annual Clothing Collection now on. All donations to be dropped at the school during school hours and before December 13th. No Duvets or pillows please.

CONVERSATIONS in ENNISMORE PROGRAMME 2021 - 2022

Topic 1: Post-Pandemic Ireland: Back to normal?

29th November - Fáinche Ryan, Loyola Institute, TCD:

Synodality: What to expect?

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 12 Issue: 50 Date: Sunday 20th / 21st November 2021

Thought for the Day

Today is the Feast of Christ the King and this Gospel certainly gives us an opportunity to lay aside a lot of cultural baggage we may have about kings, leaders and kingdoms. The Jewish leaders want Jesus executed and so they bring him to Pilate who engages in a debate with Jesus on 'kingship'. Jesus is accused of claiming to be a 'king' and this passage plays on both the political and religious meaning of that word. Pilate is concerned with whether or not Jesus poses a threat to Roman rule, while the Jewish religious leaders are worried about the type of 'Messiah king' Jesus claims to be. Through his ministry Jesus has shown them that His kingdom is unlike the one that Pilate, or many other earthly leaders know. It is a kingdom built on love, service, justice, reconciliation and peace. Few 'kings can measure up to this. Jesus is a servant King, a beacon light for today's world. Who do you know in our world today who is the more living example of this type of kingship? When you look at the world's political leaders, do they shine like a beacon of light striving for peace, justice and care for the earth? On this Feast of Christ the King we celebrate a type of kingship that is a display of radical love. What a different world we would have if all those who hold power and authority led in such a way. Let us pray today that all leaders will be open to listening to the Spirit and strive for a more just world.

Cemetery Prayers

Prayers will be offered in **The Convent Cemetery** on **Sunday 21st November** immediately after the **11.30am Mass**.

November Masses - Names for the November **Masses for the Dead** should be handed in at the church, parish office or to the priests' houses. Twelve Masses will be offered for all on the November Dead list. **Envelopes at the back of Church.**

The **AGM of Mitchelstown Church Flower Group** will be held on **Monday 22nd November at 7.00pm in the Parish House, New Square**. New members always welcome. Contact details can be found on the noticeboard at the back of the Parish Church.

Feast of Christ The King - this year we celebrate this important Feast on **today, Sunday 21st November**. It concludes the Church's year. Public Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the Parish Church beginning after 11.30am Mass and concluding at 6pm with Benediction. We encourage people to spend some time with the Lord on this special day.

The Parish Office will be closed
next Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 23rd, 24th & 25th November.

Masses for the Week

Monday – 8.30am and 10.00am.

Tuesday – 10.00am.

Wednesday – 10.00am

Thursday – 8.30am, 10.00am and 7.30pm.

Friday – 8.30am and 10.00am.

Saturday – 10.00am.

St. Colman – Feast Day – 25th November 2021.

Saint **Colmán of Cloyne** (530 – 606), also **Colmán mac Léníne**, was a monk, founder and patron of Cluain Uama, now Cloyne, County Cork, Ireland, and one of the earliest known Irish poets to write in the vernacular.

No hagiographical *Life* is known to have been written for Colmán, but various aspects of his life are presented in different types of sources, such as Irish annals, genealogies and martyrologies. An early origin tale known as *Conall Corc and the Corco Loígde*, which survives only as part of the Irish genealogical tract in MS Laud 610, includes a few brief notes on the saint. This text was probably written at St Colmán's foundation of Cloyne and though it cannot be precisely dated, a rough approximate of c. 700 or earlier has been suggested.

Irish genealogies generally agree that Colmán had a father called Lénín. Through his father, Colmán appears to have been descended from the Rothrige, an obscure people who are known elsewhere as a subject people of the Déisi of Munster. Irish genealogies, however, go some way to associating Colmán's lineage with the Éoganachta, the leading ruling dynasty in Munster. The saint's genealogies later come to trace Colmán's ancestry to Mug Nuadat through seven generations. This prominence accorded to the Éoganachta in the genealogies is to be seen in the light of Colmán's monastic career and the position of Cloyne after his death

Colmán is remembered as the founder of the monastery at Cluain Uama, now Cloyne (Co. Cork, Ireland), in Munster. Cloyne appears to have been his earliest settlement. Patron Saint of the Diocese of Cloyne and of its cathedral in Cóbh.

St. Fanahan – Feast Day – 25th November 2021

Saint Fanahan is the patron saint of Mitchelstown. 1400 years ago this warrior saint built his abbey in Brigown (literally “Smith’s Hill” which is quite near where the well is located). The Holy Well is situated where three streams meet, which was considered a very sacred space in pre-Christian times. Therefore, it is reasonable to suppose that prior to Saint Fanahan’s tenure in the locality, it was a place of Water Worship.

The well is accessed primarily from Mulberry, by a three-step stile. Half a mile (approx) of a path, on a double-banked ditch leads you to the bridge. At this juncture you turn left and the Holy Well is clearly seen.

There are many traditions associated with the well. In decades gone past, cures were associated with the healing properties of the water. Saint Fanahan is revered in the locality. His feast day, 25th November, is observed as a special day. The path is lit up until midnight for a couple of weeks around his feast day. There is a horseshoe-shaped path around the well. Traditionally people “did the rounds”, travelling around the path near the well three times, praying each time between rounds at the well.

Mass on St. Fanahan’s Day will be celebrated at 10.00am and 7.30pm in the Parish Church.

Pointers for prayer

1. The feast we have today and the gospel give us an opportunity to reflect on the different ways in which we, and others, exercise influence and leadership. The authority of Pilate came from position and power. The authority of Jesus came from his integrity and what he stood for. Recall leaders you have known whose influence was like that of Jesus.

2. The values of the kingdom of God cannot be imposed. It is never a matter of fighting battles, or forcing others into compliance. Perhaps through experience you have learned the limitations of the use of force, as a parent, a teacher, a group leader. What has been the good news, the learnings for you, in this?

3. Jesus came to bear witness to the truth and we are all created for a purpose. What do you believe is the purpose of your life? Recall times when you have been able to bear witness to this. What fruit has this witness had for yourself and/or others?

Some Light Humour – A School teacher said to her children, "We have been learning about how powerful the kings and queens were in Biblical times. But there is a higher power. Who can tell me what it is?" Tommy blurted out, "I know, Aces."

Do you know your Eircode? Do you know that in an emergency, a First Responder or an Ambulance can attend to you much quicker, if you know your Eircode. You can find your eircode at www.eircode.ie. Ask someone to help you get it, if you have no access to technology. It can save a life.

Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father, we praise you and thank you for all you have done for us. We thank you especially for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, to visit and save us. We ask you to bless our family and all the people of our parish, especially those who are suffering in any way.

Encourage those in our parish whom you invite to become priests, religious and permanent deacons, and grant them the generosity of mind and heart to follow your call. May they bring good news to our world today. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for After Communion

Lord when we receive you in Holy Communion you are present to us as really as you were to the Twelve at the Last Supper. May we always appreciate the closeness between us in these moments. May we also realise that all those around us in this congregation are now intimately linked to you as well. We are now your body as you have made us your brothers and sisters. As You reached out in love and support to countless others, may we recognise your face in those who come to us in daily life. As you served others may we serve you in them. As you have become living bread for others may we in our turn become bread to nourish those in need in this our world. Amen

By Declan O’Loughlin, Dromintee, Co Armagh