

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 16

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Date: 27th & 28th June 2026

Thirteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

PARISH NEWSLETTER WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED IN JULY AND AUGUST.

Thought for the Day

Hospitality:

People like to think of themselves as friendly and welcoming. But at least in the spontaneous, instinctive sense of hospitality, times have changed. Today's would-be casual visitor should ring first, dodge the various TV soaps and sports, while being aware of the growing 'early-to-bed' regime. From gated developments to security lighting to doorbells that beckon fetchingly through a locked porch door, the edge has gone off 'Ireland of the welcomes'.

But turning to the neighbour is simply turning to the Gospel: 'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me'. We may think that unlike Elisha's day (First Reading), Christianity is a non-prophet organisation – but we're very wrong. Look closer and you will see Christ gazing back at you in every face and culture.

Ultimately hospitality is about attitude more than plenitude. The 19th century writer Thoreau put it this way: 'I sat at a table where rich food and wine ...but sincerity and truth were not; and I went away hungry from the hospitable board. They talked of the fame of the vintage; but I thought ... purer wine, of a more glorious vintage, which they had not got, and could not buy.'

Christian hospitality is much more than cups of tea; it's about buckets of tolerance and understanding that satisfy the deepest thirst.

Livestreaming of Masses – Mitchelstown Parish

We have changed our Livestreaming Provider during the week. We advise that you access Livestreaming by accessing the Mitchelstown Parish Website (<https://mitchelstownparish.ie/livestream>) and clicking on the link for Livestreaming. The new service provides the same service for the parish but at a reduced cost.

Masses during the week in the Parish Church – 29th June to 4th July 2026

- Monday to Friday: Rosary: 9:30am Mass: 10am
- Friday: Divine Mercy: 3pm.
- Saturday: Mass: 10am followed by First Saturday Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Confessions 4th July 2026

- Confessions in Parish Church: Saturday 12 Noon

Parish Masses on Sunday 5th July 2026

Parish Church – Vigil 7:30pm; 8:30am and 11:30am. **Ballygiblin**; – 10:00am.

Please note Mass times are displayed on Church Noticeboards.

Summer Holidays: As our Primary Schools break for the summer holidays and Secondary School students come to the end of their exams, we wish everyone a blessed, enjoyable and safe summer. We thank our students and staff for the wonderful work they do throughout the year. We hope the sun shines on all of them and may The Lord keep them safe in all their activities.

We also welcome those who come to visit our Parish over the coming months.

Dates for your Diary:

- **Marshalstown Cemetery:** The **Annual Mass** will be held in the Cemetery on **Monday, 6th July at 7.30pm.**
- **The Annual Mitchelstown Community Council Mass** will be held at **Brigown Cemetery** on **Tuesday, July 21st at 7.30pm,** for all the deceased of Mitchelstown and the surrounding areas. All are welcome to attend. Weather permitting.

Eucharistic Adoration: Fr John Keane, Spiritual Director for Eucharistic Adoration in the Cloyne Diocese will be coming to the Church of Our Lady Conceived without Sin, Mitchelstown on **Monday 29th June** to lead a Holy hour before the Blessed Sacrament from 7.30pm to 8.30pm. All are invited to come.

Life in the Spirit Talks – facilitated by MIR Ministries in Glanworth Church on Friday nights at 8pm. Started Friday 12th June to Friday 17th July. Everyone warmly welcome. Followed by light refreshments. For further information contact Geraldine 086-1610330.

Annual National Grandparents Pilgrimage celebrating the world day for grandparents and the elderly. **Sunday, 26th July 2026-** Knock Shrine commencing at 2.30pm with the anointing of the sick. A day of grace and blessing for the whole family as we honour grandparents and the elderly. All are welcome. Visit our website for resources: www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org. Celebrant Archbishop Eamon Martin, Primate of All Ireland. Director of Music Una Nolan and Choirs. Guest Soloist Dana Rosemary Scallo.

Saint Oliver Plunkett's Story - Feast Day – Thursday 2nd July

The name of today's saint is especially familiar to the Irish and the English—and with good reason. The English martyred Oliver Plunkett for defending the faith in his native Ireland during a period of severe persecution.

Born in County Meath in 1629, Oliver studied for the priesthood in Rome and was ordained there in 1654. After some years of teaching and service to the poor of Rome he was appointed Archbishop of Armagh in Ireland. Four years later, in 1673, a new wave of anti-Catholic persecution began, forcing Archbishop Plunkett to do his pastoral work in secrecy and disguise and to live in hiding. Meanwhile, many of his priests were sent into exile, schools were closed, Church services had to be held in secret, and convents and seminaries were suppressed. As archbishop, Plunkett was viewed as ultimately responsible for any rebellion or political activity among his parishioners.

Oliver Plunkett was arrested and imprisoned in Dublin Castle in 1679, but his trial was moved to London. After deliberating for 15 minutes, a jury found him guilty of fomenting revolt. He was hanged, drawn, and quartered in July 1681. **Pope Paul VI** canonized Oliver in 1975.

Points to Ponder - We are rarely asked for a cup of water. But the rewards promised by Jesus extend beyond individual almsgiving to those who work for others in a thousand hidden ways, for instance maintaining a city water system, or caring for public hygiene, as civil servants, plumbers, engineers, scientists, street-cleaners or parents of families. We live in a more complex society, but the same care and generosity are found in all walks of life, wherever people devote themselves to the service of others.

Thank you, Lord, for the opportunities I have to serve others.
sacredspace.com

Alzheimer Society of Ireland are currently recruiting for a Care Worker at their Mitchelstown Day Centre. 1 to 2 days a week. Experience working with older people desirable, training will be provided.

Please contact Geraldine on 0872073719 or email geraldine.ogrady@alzheimersociety.ie

Summer Workshop at Nano Nagle Birthplace, Killavullen (P51 CV91): Sr Mary Franzmann pbvm will lead a day of prayerful reflection entitled “From Breakdown to Breakthrough” on **Saturday, July 4th from 9.30am-12.30pm**. All are welcome. To reserve a place email secretary@nanonaglebirthplace.ie or call 022-26411.

Women’s Participation and Leadership

Women’s participation in ministry and leadership drew strong support and frustration over slow progress. Many saw this as a matter of justice and credibility rooted in baptismal dignity and co-responsibility. *“Women - despite being central to the mission of Jesus, women’s role in the Church is diminished compared to their male counterparts - there is a need for equality, diversity and an increase in leadership roles for women.”* There was a strong and repeated call for women to be more fully included at every level of Church life. Some voiced, *“progress [is] needed on equality. There was a strong expressed view by women and men that women do not have equal dignity in the Church,”* and others affirmed that *“the role of women in Church, and in society, needs to be looked at in relation to co-responsibility and ministry, and with particular emphasis on the use of inclusive language.”* It was noted that the subject of women keeps coming up. *“This recurrence was felt to be action of the Holy Spirit.”* Women’s voices in decision-making were highlighted as essential: it is *critical that women make and are seen to make decisions at the highest level*” and that *“women need to be consulted by professional researchers to establish their attitudes to the Church.”*

From; www.synod.ie - *Baptised and Sent #18*

Young People and the Future of the Church

There were many expressions of hopes and concerns for young people and the future of the Church. In the context of belonging and inclusion, concern for young people was pronounced. Many highlighted the sharp decline in youth engagement. Strong calls emerged for creative outreach and meaningful involvement in liturgies, mission, and leadership. ‘Young people specifically express a desire to belong, to have a home.’

Feedback repeatedly affirmed that ‘young people are the future of our Church’ and that ‘young people should be a special mission of the Church.’ Their absence was seen as an urgent challenge, with concerns for young men ‘educated by social media’ and vulnerable to suicide. Youth engagement was not just about attendance but about listening to their experiences and creating opportunities for meaningful leadership. The call was for a Church where young people are active participants shaping its life and mission.

From; www.synod.ie - *Baptised and Sent #19*

Some Light Humour – An executive was making a presentation to the company board. “Computers have allowed us to cut costs,” he explained. “We expect even more dramatic improvements as computers become increasingly self-sufficient.” He unveiled a large chart showing a man, a dog and a computer. “Here is our organization plan of the future.” “What kind of plan is that?” demanded a board member. “It’s simple,” replied the executive. “The man’s job is to feed the dog; The dog’s job is to bite the man if he touches the computer.” AI here we come!!

St. Fanahan's Rosary Group meet every Thursday night at 6:30pm in Marian Hall.
All welcome.

Radio Maria - Thank God and sincere thanks also to our many listeners and supporters as RADIO MARIA IRELAND continues to grow. As an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station we enjoy commercial free broadcasting - Prayer, Catechesis, Uplifting music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies – do join our growing faith family! Here's how you can listen:

1. Via Digital TV - Saorview Channel 210
2. Download our FREE App "RADIO MARIA IRELAND"
3. Streaming on our WEBSITE - www.radiomaria.ie
4. Via our 'Listen Live Radio' link on our Facebook Page.
5. Via PHONE – get live radio feed by calling +353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply).
6. Via DAB Radio in Leinster area.

Why not drop a line to our Spiritual Director, Fr Des Farren by text on 089-4672000, by phone on 01-4123456, or come and pay us a visit at Radio Maria Ireland, St. Anthony's Business Park, Ballymount Road, Dublin 22. D22 R7W2

Parish Donations: For anyone who would like to make a contribution to the upkeep of our Parish, these are the Bank Details. Mitchelstown Parish Church 1A/C.

IBAN NO: IE93 BOFI 9029 4412 1426 12

BIC NO: BOFIE2D

Please put your name and address on the Reference, or if you have a parish envelope number, please put that in the reference section and we can add it to your account on our envelope system.

If sending in a cheque, please make it out to 'Mitchelstown Parish'.

PARISH PERSONNEL:

Canon Michael Leamy P.P. Phone: 025-41765.

Fr. Tommy Lane C.C. Phone: 087-0660615

Parish Secretary – Patricia Dwane: Phone: 025-84062.

Emergency Calls only.: 087 – 2524979

**Parish Office Open 9am -11.30am Monday to Friday only,
(Closed Holydays and Public Holidays)**

Parish office opening hours may vary over the summer months.

Parish Office, Convent Hill, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork, P67 E303

Office e-mail: mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com

Parish Website: www.mitchelstownparish.ie

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

- All Anniversary/Months Mind Masses and Weddings must be booked directly with one of the Priests of the Parish; they are not booked through the Parish Office.
- All Baptisms must be booked directly with Patricia in the Parish Office.
- Signed Mass Cards for all occasions are on sale in the Parish Office (Cash only).
- When writing Cheques to the Parish, please issue them to 'Mitchelstown Parish'