Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume*: 16 *Issue*: 33 *Date: 7th & 8th November 2026

Thirty Second Sunday In Ordinary Time

Thought for the Day

Ready for Action

'It's a terrible thing, I think, in life to wait until you're ready. I have this feeling now that actually no one is ever ready to do anything. There is almost no such thing as ready. There is only now. And you may as well do it now. Generally speaking, now is as good a time as any.' Hugh Laurie

I'm not ready – we all think it or say it from time to time. It could be as simple as not being able to find your shoes to leave the house, or a more serious situation like being under-prepared for a work presentation. It can also refer to our emotional state – we might not be ready to talk about an experience, to change a habit, to enter into a relationship, or to let go of a loved one. No one else can tell us if we are ready for a situation or not. It is something only we know. But there is some wisdom in the quote above, in that sometimes we need to push ourselves, to just dive in.

The parable in today's gospel pits two groups in stark contrast – the foolish bridesmaids who failed to prepare, and the sensible ones who were ready with their lamps and oil. Both groups fell asleep on the job, but only one group had laid the groundwork and so were ready for action. Jesus tells us we need to be watchful and ready. As well as having the light of faith, we need the fuel – the actions – to keep it lit so we are ready when the Lord comes.

Some Light Humour – "Being a bridesmaid is an honour, an emotional journey, and a financial contribution to a colour palette you didn't choose."

The Pope's Monthly Intention - *For the proper use of wealth* – Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service of the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

A Lighted Candle - Often, we light candles as a sign of remembering and as we light the candle, we say a prayer for that person that they may be enjoying the marvellous light of heaven. The candle light reminds us that we too have the opportunity to share the light of hope, that we carry, with others.

When you are in a dark place, the warmth of a smile or a kind word can mean a lot. It may feel that our own light is very small and insignificant in times of much darkness but each time it is shared, it is not halved but doubled. Together we really can make a difference.

Prayer to St Martin de Porres for Pets and Animals - Feast 5th November

Gentle St Martin, you loved the animals God gives to us in the wonders of creation. Watch over the animals Our Loving Father has provided for our use and welfare. Bless also our pets. Intercede that all disease and harm may be averted since on them so much of our livelihood and joy depends. Help us never to be cruel to them or neglectful of them. May we always, following your example, attend our daily tasks with gratitude and with ever growing love for God and for one another. And may we know the joy of animals and pets kept safe by your powerful intercession. We make this and all our prayers through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Why Sunday Matters

From the very beginning, the early Christian communities realised the importance of Sunday. It is the day of Jesus' Resurrection, a day of joy and rest, as well as charity. Sunday is the Lord's Day, the day when we are called to remember what God has done and continues to do for us. This, then, is the day the Lord's people are called to keep holy, together. The observance begins with the evening of the preceding day. Early Christians did what Jesus had asked them to do; they gathered and celebrated the meal Jesus had shared with them, the Eucharist. We also know this as the Mass. This gathering of the community on a Sunday to celebrate the Eucharist gave rise to a basic principle of the Church: There can be no Sunday without the Eucharist and no Eucharist without an assembly of the faithful. This principle endures to this day. It led Voltaire to declare, 'If you want to kill Christianity, you must abolish Sunday.' As members of the Christian community, we are each called to gather with the rest of our faith community on a Sunday to celebrate the Eucharist. The Sunday Mass is the place where we gather as a parish, as a community, as the People of God. This is at the heart of the life of the Church. It is the highpoint of our Christian life, where God nourishes us to go out and live as Christians. *catholicbishops.ie*

Arranging of Flowers in the Parish Church - We are always grateful to those who arrange the flowers in our parish church. If you would like to get involved and help create a welcoming and beautiful space for our celebrations, new volunteers would be most welcome. No previous experience is needed—just a willingness to be part of a team.

Plenary Indulgence

The Church offers a **Plenary Indulgence** during these days for those who have died and who are awaiting purification – we refer to these as ***Souls in Purgatory.***

A Plenary indulgence is a remission of the punishment due to sins and is gained by our prayers for the dead.

It may be gained in two ways:

1. Once by visiting a church between midday November 1st and midnight November 2nd and there say one Our Father and the Apostles Creed and also pray for the Pope's intentions.
2. Once each day by visiting a cemetery from midday November 1st to November 8th and praying for the dead.

Both these indulgences require that the Sacraments of **Holy Communion** and **Reconciliation** be received within twenty days.

Cemetery Prayers

Sunday 8th November - Prayers will be offered in the **Presentation Convent Cemetery** immediately after the 11.30am Mass and in **Marshalstown Cemetery** at 2.30pm.

Afterglow

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.
I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.
I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways,
of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun;
of happy memories that I leave when life is done.

St. Fanahan's Well - The Novena to St. Fanahan, our local Saint begins on Monday 16th November. The Novena is for 9 days before St Fanahan's day and 9 days after. The Well path will be lit every night and for a time each morning of the Novena.

- ❖ Rosary on Sunday 22nd November at 3pm at the Well.
- ❖ Rosary on St. Fanahan's Day 25th November at 3pm at the Well.
- ❖ Mass at 7.30pm on St. Fanahan's Night in the Parish Church.

Holy Hour in remembrance of our deceased loved ones, **Sunday 22nd November 4pm to 5pm, Mitchelstown Parish Church.**
Remembrance Mass for the Dead, Thursday 19th November – 7.30pm, Mitchelstown Parish Church.
Those who died during the past year will be remembered at the beginning of the Mass.
Night lights will be lit during the ceremony in remembrance of all our dead. (Night lights provided)

November Masses - Names for the **November Masses for the Dead** should be handed in at the Church or to the Parochial House. Twelve Masses will be offered for all on the November Dead list. **Envelopes are available at the back of the Church**.

Series of Talks for Neocatechemal way - Mondays and Thursdays at the Town Hall at 8pm. Come and listen. God does not abandon us.

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

Save the Date! Raising Hope, Caring for Our Common Home Together - Join us for a Laudato Si' conference exploring how parishes can respond to the cry of the earth at this time. Practical initiatives, eco-spirituality and more, do save the date! Where? Clayton Silver Springs Hotel, Cork, T23 E244
When? **Saturday 21 November, 10am – 4pm.** 'May our struggles and concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope.' (LS 244) More information on the parish notice board, register by emailing maria.murphy@trocaire.org

C.B.S. Primary Parents Association will be hosting an Adult Table Quiz in **Jackie O'Brien's / Tavern, Friday, 20th November,** to raise funds to support the school. €40 per table of 4. There will be Finger food and a Raffle. So please join us on **Friday 20th November, at Jackie O'Brien's / Tavern, at 9pm**. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Mitchelstown Musical Society - Don't miss the opportunity to see Europe's and the UK's Number 1 ABBA Tribute Band - "The Bjorn Identity", at **The Firgrove Hotel, on Saturday, 28th November!** This event is brought to our area by Mitchelstown Musical Society, as its major fundraiser for the 2026/2027 Season. It promises to be a fantastic pre- Christmas night out, featuring an amazing live band, playing all the ABBA hits, followed by Disco.
Tickets, €27.50, are now on sale from Spar and The Favourite.
Mitchelstown Musical Society sincerely thanks you all for your ongoing support.

Masses during the week in the Parish Church – 9th to 13th November 2026

- Monday to Friday: Rosary: 9:30am Mass: 10am
- Friday: Divine Mercy: 3pm.

Confessions 14th November 2026

- Confessions in Parish Church: Saturday 12 Noon

Parish Masses on Sunday 15th November 2026

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

Please note Mass times are displayed on Church Noticeboards.

Live streaming of Masses in the Parish Church, please use the following link:
https://mitchelstownparish.ie/livestream

The Parish Office will be closed
Wednesday 11th November.

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.: **Phone: 087 – 2524979**

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

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Free 4-week Stress Management/Mindfulness Course run by Ballyhoura Development started on Tuesday November the 3rd at 10am in the Town Hall. There are still spaces available. If anyone is interested, please contact Eugene O'Donnell on 083 3084398, email eodonnell@ballyhoura.org.

Those we love don't go away,
they walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard but always near,
still loved, still missed
and held so dear.