

PARISH PERSONNEL:

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

(Closed Holydays and Public Holidays)

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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’

C.B.S. Primary Parents Council’s Cook & Style is a stylish evening of live cooking, colour analysis and entertainment at the **Firgrove Hotel, Friday, 27th March**. Featuring a live cooking demo with Sinéad Delahunty — cookbook author, food educator and regular contributor to Ireland AM and Newstalk FM — alongside colour analysis tips from Annie – The Style Nanny and expert wine pairing by Colm of Carry Out. It promises to be a fantastic night out in support of the CBS Primary Mitchelstown School Development Fund. Tickets €30. Available to buy on www.gr8events.ie/cookandstyle or directly from the School or Spar.

Mitchelstown Musical Society is turning up the volume this March, as they prepare to bring the worldwide hit musical **‘We Will Rock You’** to Mitchelstown Leisure Centre, for four unforgettable nights of music, energy and community spirit. The show runs from **Wednesday 18th March to Saturday 21st March 2026 at 8pm**, with doors opening at 7.30pm. Tickets for the Show are now on sale at <https://www.gr8events.ie/wewillrockyou-mms>. Opening Night on Wednesday 18th March is priced at €22 plus booking fee. Tickets for Thursday 19th to Saturday 21st March are €27 plus booking fee. Parental guidance is advised and strobe lighting will be used throughout the show.

FREE 1 Day Understanding Self-Harm Castletownroche - open to the public. Wednesday, 8th April '26 9:30am – 5pm. Avondhu Blackwater Partnership Ltd, The Old Mill, Ballyadeen, Castletownroche, Co. Cork, P51F9PX. 12 spaces available. For any enquiries please email: sp.enquiries@hse.ie. To Book a place please use the link below- <https://bookwhen.com/suicidepreventiontrainingcork/e/ev-ssuw8-20260408093000>

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 16

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Date: 7th & 8th March 2026

Third Sunday of Lent

Thought for the Day

“Anyone who drinks the water that I shall give, will never be thirsty again”: Jesus offers living water, the gift of the Holy Spirit.

How does it feel like to meet someone who knows everything you’ve ever done? Vulnerable for one thing, uneasy and slightly awkward for another. Who could stand up to such scrutiny? But the treasure of having, as a friend, someone who truly knows you and is still your friend!

It was such a friend that the crowd-avoiding Samaritan woman met at the hottest part of the day. It was like most of the deepest changes in life – a so-called ‘chance’ encounter. His thirst for her life changed a Samaritan woman with a chequered past into a follower. Most of us came to meet Christ in less dramatic ways than she did. Yet there was a path, however obscure or winding that led us to some well, where we realised that our thirst was deeper than anything earthly could ever satisfy.

‘Hunger is a good sauce’ is a saying that describes how desperate need can make us satisfied with what we have, inadequate though it may be. Jesus wants a full life, not a mere existence for his followers. ‘If you only knew what God is offering...’ (Gospel – John 4:10).

Two people went out of their way in the Gospel. The woman to a remote well, and God, who will always go out of His way to encounter us and offer us a life of renewal.

Welcome to Our New Parish Website - <https://mitchelstownparish.ie/>

We are delighted to welcome you to our newly launched parish website. This platform has been created to keep our parish community informed, connected, and engaged with all the latest news and updates. We encourage you to subscribe to the website, so you never miss out on important announcements or parish events.

By subscribing, you will receive a single email around 8:00am, no more than once per day, featuring all new articles that have appeared on our homepage. If there are no new articles published within a 24-hour period, you will not receive an email. Stay connected and be the first to know what’s happening in our parish!

Lenten Calendar

This Lent, you are invited to pray with a line of God’s Word each week and to express that Word in action each day...

3rd Sunday of Lent: *Lord, you have the message of eternal life*

Mon:	Notice signs of new life around you and give thanks
Tues:	Give to those who are in need
Wed:	Pray for those who feel unloved
Thurs:	Fast from what does not bring life
Fri:	Pray for the gift of trust in God
Sat:	Cherish the unexpected moments of wonder

Masses during the week in the Parish Church – 9 th to 14 th March 2026	
•	Monday to Friday: Rosary: 9:30am Mass: 10am
•	Friday: Divine Mercy: 3pm.
Confessions 14 th March 2026	
•	Confessions in Parish Church: Saturday 12 Noon
Parish Masses on Sunday 15 th March 2026	
Parish Church – Vigil 7:30pm; 8:30am and 11:30am.	
Ballygiblin; – 10:00am.	
Please note Mass times are displayed on Church Noticeboards.	
<i>Live Streaming may not always be available for all services due to GDPR Regulations.</i>	
<u>When writing Cheques to the Parish, please issue them to ‘Mitchelstown Parish’</u>	

Saint Maximilian’s Story – Feast Day – Friday 14th March

We have an early, almost unembellished account of the martyrdom of Saint Maximilian in modern-day Algeria. Brought before the proconsul Dion, Maximilian refused enlistment in the Roman army saying, “I cannot serve, I cannot do evil. I am a Christian.”

Dion replied: “You must serve or die.”

Maximilian: “I will never serve. You can cut off my head, but I will not be a soldier of this world, for I am a soldier of Christ. My army is the army of God, and I cannot fight for this world. I tell you I am a Christian.”

Dion: “There are Christian soldiers serving our rulers Diocletian and Maximian, Constantius and Galerius.”

Maximilian: “That is their business. I also am a Christian, and I cannot serve.”

Dion: “But what harm do soldiers do?”

Maximilian: “You know well enough.”

Dion: “If you will not do your service I shall condemn you to death for contempt of the army.”

Maximilian: “I shall not die. If I go from this earth, my soul will live with Christ my Lord.”

Maximilian was 21 years old when he gladly offered his life to God. His father went home from the execution site joyful, thanking God that he had been able to offer heaven such a gift. St. Maximilian’s liturgical feast is celebrated on March 12.

Reflection - In this celebration we find one inspirational son and one incredible father. Both men were filled with strong faith and hope. Let’s ask them to help us in our struggle to remain faithful.

Camp Creideamh, Catholic Faith Camps for teenagers, boys and girls, will take place again in Knockadoon (East Cork) over the dates 7th – 13th June. For those who are Post-Primary school age. Activities will include catechesis, prayer, sports, hillwalking, kayaking, swimming, music, arts and crafts and other activities. For booking go to website: www.campcreideamh.ie . For more info ring Fr Eamon Roche on 086 9972539.

Epilepsy - In Ireland today, over 45,000 people live with epilepsy. For further information, please visit www.epilepsy.ie. Purple Day (or Epilepsy Awareness Day) will take place on Thursday 26th March.

Some Light Humour – A journalist asked Blessed John XXIII (Pope from 1958 – 1963) how many people work in the Vatican. The Pope paused, thought for a bit and replied, “About half of them.”

Carrigtwohill Parish Pilgrimage to Fatima - 7th - 14th September 2026. Full Board, Cork to Faro return with Bus to and from Fatima included. Limited number of places. €1045, single supplement extra - limited single rooms, insurance also extra. 20kg baggage included with Aer Lingus flight, 7 nights Hotel Styler, guided tours and full spiritual programme. Make enquires to Fr. Winkle 021 4882439 or Joe Walsh Tours. 01 241 0800 or 021 242 7190. Book direct <https://joewalshstours.ie/private-tours/carrigtwohill-parish-fatima-pilgrimage>

Trócaire, last year, worked with over 40,000 people in at-risk communities across Rwanda, helping vulnerable families build resilience against climate change by:

- Supporting over 2,500 women to receive training in sustainable resource management
- Providing over 20,000 families with fuel-efficient cookstoves to reduce firewood use
- Planting over 320,000 trees across the country

Trócaire boxes are available at the back of each Church.

Helpers Needed for Mitchelstown Carmelite Lourdes Pilgrimage. The Mitchelstown Carmelite Lourdes Group is currently seeking volunteers to act as helpers on their upcoming pilgrimage to Lourdes from 23rd to 28th September. Helpers provide essential support to Assisted Pilgrims during the pilgrimage, offering practical help, encouragement, and companionship. The role is both rewarding and meaningful; giving volunteers the chance to make a real difference in the lives of others while being part of a supportive and welcoming group. No previous experience is required — just a willingness to help, a caring attitude, and a commitment to working as part of a team. Helpers must be over 18 years of age and complete Garda Vetting. Anyone interested in volunteering or learning more about the role is encouraged to get in touch. For further information or to apply, please contact Gerard on 087 291 5295. Email: Mitchelstowncarmelitelourdes@gmail.com

SPRING STATIONS 2026 - Town & Country Stations:

The Station Masses are offered for the families of the Station area to invoke God’s Blessings in all we do. We encourage you all to participate in the Station Masses. It is also an opportunity to make an offering towards the income of the Parish Clergy

Thursday, 12th March 2026, Killaclug Church at 7:30pm	Glenahulla & Cloughleafin	Michael Dennehy
	Marshallstown & Baunanooneeny	Thomas & Helen O’Keeffe
	Corrogurm & Tangresa	Martin & Catherine Fox
	Derrynanool, Killee & Drough	Eileen Sheehan
	Knockagarry	Eily McGrath
	Boolakelly, Gurteenatarriff etc.	Marcus Clifford
	Derrylahan	
	Ballyarthur	Denis Coleman
	Gortroe, Gortnamina & Killaclug	

Contemplative Dominican Monastic Vocation Discernment Weekends in the Monastery of St. Catherine of Siena, The Twenties, Drogheda, Co. Louth. A92 KR84, from the 20th – 22nd of March 2026 and the 17th – 19th April 2026. For single women between the ages of 18- 35 years old. Please contact: Sr. Mairéad O.P. at: sienavoc@gmail.com Tel: 041 9838524.