

PARISH PERSONNEL:

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

(Closed Holydays and Public Holidays)

Emergency Calls only Phone No.: 087 – 2524979

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’

C.B.S. Primary Golf Classic

We are excited to announce the **C.B.S. Primary Golf Classic** and would be truly grateful if our local community, especially our past pupils, would rally behind our recent venture of works to enhance our pupil’s facilities in the school.

Event Details - Dates: Thursday, 18th & Friday 19th June 2026.

Venue: Mitchelstown Golf Club.

You can support us by **Entering a Team:** Gather your friends or colleagues and enter a team of 3 players for **€150 (Includes meal)** or by **Sponsoring a Tee Box: €50.** For more information, contact us via office@cbspmitchelstown.com.

We would be delighted if you could help us spread the word and encourage your friends and family to get involved.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us build a brighter future for our boys in C.B.S. Primary.

National Epilepsy Week 2026 takes place on 18th May - 25th May. For further information, please visit www.epilepsy.ie/content/national-epilepsy-week-2026-epilepsyweek.

Mitchelstown Tidy Towns meet every Tuesday at 6pm in the Square and would be delighted if anyone wants to come along to give a hand to help improve the appearance of our town. It is very sociable; a chance to meet new like-minded people and no experience is required.

Mitchelstown Brass Band - James Fitzgerald Memorial Brass Band (JFMBB).

Join your local Brass Band! Open to all – children, beginners, past members and all instrumentalists. Instruments and training provided. No experience needed. Fun way to learn music, make friends and be part of your community. Come along and make some noise with us! Contact Marie on 086-8409615 or email jfmbbmitchelstown.com

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 16

Issue: 15

Date: 2nd & 3rd May 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Thought for the Day

Trust in God still

It’s the word *still* that catches the eye. *Still* hints that our world abounds with conflict and division, with repeated cases of injustice, discrimination and intolerance. Faced with this, it can be increasingly hard to trust anyone or anything. *Still* asks us to cling on.

It reminds us that in the end, all will be well. Yes, He will come back. Everyone will see him – you will, I will. It means the dead will push back the dirt of the earth and break the surface of the sea. Numberless generations will behold their God.

But *still* means more. It speaks of the heavenly reassurance to earthly disciples. Jesus must have wondered at times at his choice of apostles. Think of the endless hours of explanation he could have saved himself had he chosen more brilliant men.

And yet because Thomas needed reassurance we have Christ’s beautiful words, ‘I am the way, the truth and the life.’ Because Philip needs to have things spelled out, Christ reminds that ‘whoever has seen me has seen the Father’.

For the cream of the crop, these apostles were a bit thick: sceptical Thomas, obtuse Philip, hot-headed Peter. And yet, they found favour with Christ. Can we, in all our muddled lives, not hope for as much?

‘You are a chosen race, a holy nation, a people set apart...’ (From today’s Second reading)

Knock Pilgrimage to Pray for Peace in the Holy Land - People from all over Ireland are invited to Knock Shrine on Saturday May 16, for a special pilgrimage to pray for peace in the Holy Land. The pilgrimage – organised by the papal charity Aid to the Church in Need – will be led by Bishop William Shomali from Bethlehem. Bishop Shomali will offer a message of hope at 11am, and celebrate Mass at 3pm. All are welcome. More information at www.acnireland.org

Prayer to Blessed John Sullivan SJ • 8 May - Blessed John Sullivan (1861-1933) was the first ever beatification celebrated in Ireland on 13 May 2017 at St Francis Xavier Church, Gardiner St, Dublin.

Blessed John Sullivan, patron of the Missing, pray for us. Blessed John Sullivan, man of Prayer, pray for us. Blessed John Sullivan, carer of the Sick, pray for us. Blessed John Sullivan, priest who understood Presence, pray for us.

If your troubles aren’t big enough to pray about.
Then they certainly aren’t big enough to worry and fret about.

Masses during the week in the Parish Church – 4th to 8th May 2026

- Monday, 4th May – Bank Holiday: Mass: 11am only
- Tuesday to Friday: Rosary: 9:30am Mass: 10am
- Friday: Divine Mercy: 3pm.

Confessions 9th May 2026

- Confessions in Parish Church: Saturday 12 Noon

Parish Masses on Sunday 10th May 2026

Parish Church – Vigil 7:30pm; 8:30am and 11:30am.

Ballygiblin; – 10:00am.

Please note Mass times are displayed on Church Noticeboards.

Live Streaming may not always be available for all services due to GDPR Regulations.

When writing Cheques to the Parish, please issue them to ‘Mitchelstown Parish’

Why is May the Month of Mary? The ways Mary is honoured in May is as varied as the people who honour her. It’s here. May, the month in which the earth springs into bloom (at least in the Northern Hemisphere) and we start thinking about planting gardens, family picnics and making vacation plans. It’s also the Month of Mary.

For centuries, the Catholic Church has set aside the entire month of Mary to honour Mary, Mother of God. Not just a day in May, mind you, but the entire month. The custom spans both centuries and cultures, with roots going back as far as the Ancient Greeks. In early Greece, May was dedicated to Artemis, the goddess of fecundity. In Ancient Rome, May was dedicated to Flora, the goddess of blooms, or blossoms. They celebrated Ludi Florals, or floral games, at the end of April and asked the intercession of Flora for all that blooms.

The ways Mary is honoured in May is as varied as the people who honour her. The rosary being recited. May Altars with a statue or picture of Mary as a reminder of Mary’s month. Additionally, it’s a long-standing tradition to crown the statue of Mary during May – a custom known as May Crowning. Often, the crown is made of beautiful blossoms representing Mary’s beauty and virtue. It’s also a reminder to the faithful to strive to imitate our Blessed Mother’s virtue in our own lives.

For May, give Mary a special spot in your prayer corner. It can be a statue or picture, but place there some representation of our Blessed Mother. Make it appealing and a real tribute to her beauty and virtue. Why? Do it because Mary is Mother – your mother, my mother, everyone’s mother – and because she cares for all of us day-in-and-day-out without fail, interceding for us in even the tiniest matters. For that, she deserves an entire month in her honour.

Rosary at the Grotto: In honour of Our Lady, for the month of May, there will be Rosary at the Grotto, Cahir Hill, Mitchelstown, each night at 7pm. All are welcome to come. We pray the rosary in honour of Our Lady but also to ask for her intercession for our needs.

Ballyhoura Rural Services - are currently seeking volunteers and an eligible person for a Community Employment Programme to join our Befriending Service in the Mitchelstown area. They provide companionship to individuals experiencing loneliness or isolation. Befrienders may also assist with small tasks such as collection shopping or medication. For further Information please contact Rachel on 0851661625.

Baptism as the Foundation of Identity and Mission.

Baptism was repeatedly cited as a reminder that every member of the Church has a value and role. ‘There is growing concern that the importance of Baptism is being overlooked.

We must rediscover and deepen our understanding of our baptismal calling.’ This vision of Church identity, anchored in baptism, was seen as foundational for dignity, mission, and inclusion.

Another submission affirmed that ‘Baptism is the foundation of our faith-life and calls us to share our gifts within the Church, that is: laity and clergy sharing responsibility.’

A greater understanding of baptism was sought to support participation in ministry, inclusion of the so-called marginalised, and to recall the Church’s identity as the Body of Christ where all are equal in dignity and called to holiness.

Some named it as the Sacrament of Initiation that ‘welcomes us into the family of Christ’ and ‘opens the pathway to living a Christian life and serving the Church, whether as ordained ministers or as lay people.’

Renewing this baptismal awareness was seen as essential to revitalising parish life and ensuring that ‘shared responsibility within the Church should emerge naturally’ from this common foundation.

From; www.synod.ie - *Baptised and Sent #10*

Considering a Postgraduate Programme in 2026? - For those interested in Parish and Community work, St Patrick’s Pontifical University, Maynooth offers Diploma, Higher Diploma and Master’s programmes specialising in education and formation in the fields of Theological Studies, Pastoral Ministry, Healthcare Chaplaincy, Youth Ministry, Liturgy, and Liturgical Music. For more visit www.sppu.ie.

Pre- Marriage Courses – www.accord.ie

Counselling: Accord offers a safe, professional and confidential process facilitating couples and individuals to explore, reflect upon and resolve difficulties in their marriage & relationship. For appointment, please ring Carolyn at our Fermoy Office - 025-31899.

Parish Donations.

For anyone who would like to make a contribution to the upkeep of our Parish, these are the Bank Details.

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’.

Some Light Humour –Seán was minding his one week old brother who was crying. Seán: ‘Mammy, did baby Brian come from Heaven?’ Mother: ‘Yes, love.’ Seán: ‘He is so noisy it’s not surprising God threw him out.’

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. Put it on your fridge door.