

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 16

Issue: 20

Date: 6th & 7th June 2026

The Most Holy Body And Blood Of Christ

The Thought for the Day:

Corpus Christi:

On the feast of Corpus Christi we celebrate the presence of Christ in our world today. In particular we celebrate his presence in the body and blood we share at the Eucharist.

Our Eucharist is a celebration of thanksgiving for what Jesus has done. Lest we forget what he has done, we assemble to hold that memory sacred. We keep the memory fresh. We remember the suffering passion and death. We recall Jesus' willingness to overcome sin. In receiving the body and blood of Christ we become his body in our world.

Ordination to Priesthood: Tiernan Burke was ordained a Priest for the Diocese of Cloyne on Sunday 24th June in St. Colman's Cathedral, Cobh. Fr. Tiernan is from Whitechurch and we wish him every blessing in his ministry in the Diocese.

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 Music Una Nolan and Choirs Guest Soloist Dana Rosemary Scallo.

Irish Bishops welcome Pope Leo's first encyclical 'Magnifica Humanitas'

Magnifica Humanitas: On Safeguarding the Human Person in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: On 25 May, on the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, Pope Leo XIV published his first encyclical *Magnifica Humanitas: On Safeguarding the Human Person in the Age of Artificial Intelligence*.

Irish bishops welcomed and reflected on the Holy Father's encyclical stating: Primate of All Ireland, Archbishop Eamon Martin of Armagh, said, "I believe Pope Leo XIV's first encyclical arrives at a historic crossroads as artificial intelligence increasingly shapes every aspect of our lives, from schools and workplaces to healthcare and public services. We are now faced with a choice between building a modern 'Tower of Babel', driven by power and control, or a 'City of God' rooted in dignity, solidarity and care for the vulnerable. While I welcome the benefits AI can bring in areas such as medicine, education and accessibility, I also believe we must recognise that technology cannot replace human wisdom, conscience or compassion. AI cannot care, love, forgive or hope as human beings can. Ireland now needs a serious public conversation involving government, technology companies, educators and wider society about how AI can be developed ethically and used for the common good,"

Archbishop Dermot Farrell of Dublin said, "The Holy Father's encyclical challenges all of us to think more carefully about the impact artificial intelligence is having on work, trust and human relationships. I am concerned that overreliance on AI systems could weaken critical thinking and deepen social isolation, particularly as chatbots and generative AI increasingly imitate empathy and human communication without truly understanding human experience. I also believe there is a growing danger posed by misinformation, deepfakes and political polarisation, which makes transparency in communication and the honest pursuit of

facts more important than ever. Technological progress must not come at the expense of workers or deepen inequality. Governments and businesses have a responsibility to ensure that innovation benefits society as a whole rather than concentrating wealth and power in the hands of a small number of interests.”

In his reaction, Bishop of Raphoe, Bishop Niall Coll said, “The growing unease surrounding artificial intelligence reflects a deeper public concern about who controls this technology and whose interests it ultimately serves. Many younger professionals now fear that AI could replace not only jobs, but also the sense of purpose and identity that meaningful work provides. While I do not believe Pope Leo rejects AI or technological innovation, I believe the encyclical makes clear that stronger ethical oversight and human responsibility are essential. Human judgement cannot simply be outsourced to machines. I am also concerned about the concentration of technological power in the hands of a small number of corporations and believe the public must have a greater voice in shaping how AI develops in the future. Trust will only be rebuilt if people feel included in decisions that increasingly affect their daily lives.” To read the full text of these reflections visit CatholicBishops.ie.

Reflection - Jesus himself practised open table fellowship, to express God’s unconditional love and acceptance. Before he died, he spoke words over the bread and wine, words which disclosed the meaning of his death and resurrection. When St Paul wrote to the Corinthians about the Lord’s Supper, he had to remind them that the sacrament is meant to be a communion among all who celebrate it and to have a practical effect in our lives. As Benedict XVI wrote: A Eucharist which does not pass over into the concrete practice of love is essentially fragmented (God is Love).

Prayer - Lord, as gather around your table, help to recognise you in the breaking of the bread and in each other. May we live the communion we receive by practicing both service and reconciliation. Amen.

Some Light Humour – The bus was very crowded and a very posh lady had to sit next to a very dirty and shabbily dressed little boy who kept sniffing all the time. Posh Lady: ‘Have you got a hanky?’ Boy: ‘Yes, but me Ma told me not to lend it to strangers.’

Masses during the week in the Parish Church – 8th to 12th June 2026

- **The Parish Office will be closed Monday 8th June.**
- Monday to Friday: Rosary: 9:30am Mass: 10am
- Friday: Divine Mercy: 3pm.

Confessions 13th June 2026

- Confessions in Parish Church: Saturday 12 Noon

Parish Masses on Sunday 14th June 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 may not always be available for all services due to GDPR Regulations.

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

Lay Ministry is Essential for Parish Life.

Co-responsibility was closely linked with lay ministry, particularly the need for meaningful training, support, and recognition of lay leaders, especially women and young adults. Lay ministry was recognised as essential, not only because of the declining number of clergy, but also to meet parish needs and to provide lay men and women with the opportunity to live out their baptismal call to mission and ministry. “The active role of the laity in ministry is vital

for parish life,” one comment affirmed, while another called for “training and commissioning lay ministers to serve in pastoral care, catechesis, and liturgy.” One group stating plainly, “lay people should be more involved in the decision-making of the Church” and another, “We need more lay-led services, especially in rural areas where priests are few.” Expansion of lay ministry was also seen as a corrective to clericalism, noting that “clericalism is a barrier to the gifts of the laity being recognised and used,” and that “greater humility and openness from clergy” is needed so that lay and ordained may truly work together in service of the Gospel.

From; www.synod.ie - *Baptised and Sent #15*

Corpus Christi Procession: **Corpus Christi Procession** will take place after the 11.30am Mass today **Sunday 7th June**. In honour of the Eucharist we would ask houses and businesses on the route to decorate a window etc. appropriately for the occasion.

The Feast of *Corpus Christi* (Latin for Body of Christ) celebrates the reality of the Body and blood of Jesus Christ Son of God in the Eucharist. Corpus Christi is one of the most important Catholic feasts. It is celebrated with processions in which priests lead their congregations through the streets with song and prayer, holding the Eucharist aloft in a special container called a monstrance.

The Route will be: Chapel Hill, Main Street, Lr. Cork Street, Baldwin Street & Thomas Street and finishing in the Town Hall Grounds with Benediction.

Story of The Feast of Corpus Christi: Sr. Juliana of Liege (in Belgium) was a nun who had a deep devotion to the Blessed Sacrament- Jesus' Body and Blood. After Jesus gave her a mission through visions, she set out to make the church recognise a special feast of the Body and Blood of Jesus. But how? She was a nun in the middle ages without any power or influence. Enter Fr Peter of Prague. He was wrestling with the debate of the time about just how real the Real Presence of Jesus was. All his questions were answered when he was celebrating Mass and blood began seeping from the consecrated host (bread). Fr Peter brought this miracle to the Bishop, who was also aware of Sr. Juliana's visions. That same Bishop soon became Pope Urban IV who proclaimed the Feast of Corpus Christi to the whole Church.

Prayer: O Lord Jesus Christ, You who have given us Your precious Body and Blood to be our meat and drink, grant that through frequent reception of You in the Holy Eucharist, I may be strengthened in mind and body to do Your holy will. Amen. Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, have mercy on us.

“I am the living bread which has come down from Heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.” Corpus Christi is an important feast day for Catholics, which we celebrate today. During this feast we give thanks for the gift of Christ's Body and Blood. Through receiving Jesus' Body and Blood at Mass, Catholics are strengthened spiritually and reminded of the great sacrifice Jesus made for us through His Crucifixion and Resurrection.

Jesus, Body and Blood, we are grateful for the gift of your life and the way it strengthens us to live ours. Teach us to draw on the gift of your Body and Blood for energy, renewal, strength and grace. May we never take the gift of your presence for granted. Amen.

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

Collection for Sick and Retired Priests: The annual collection for retired priests will take place at all Masses the weekend of June 20th/21st **June 2026**. The retirement age for priests of this Diocese is 75 years. A generous response to this collection will help the Diocese to continue to be able to care for our retired priests, many of whom have given over fifty years of service to us. You may also help to support our retired priests in the following ways: 1) Make a donation directly to the fund. 2) Consider making a bequest for this purpose in your Will. The Cloyne Sick Priests Benevolent Fund is a registered Charity and its accounts are audited each year and submitted to the Charity Regulator. Your support for this collection would be greatly appreciated by our sick and retired priests.

Dates for your Diary:

- **Mass at St. Fanahan's Well Thursday, 11th June** weather permitting. If the weather is unfavourable, the Mass will be in the Church at 7:30pm.
- **Marshalstown Cemetery: The Annual Mass will be held in the Cemetery on Monday, 6th July at 7.30pm.**

Irish Blood Transfusion Service - The Firgrove Hotel, Mitchelstown, from Monday 8th to Wednesday 10th June, 3:50pm to 8pm. Check your eligibility on our website, www.giveblood.ie and call 1800731137 to book. All past & present donors who have donated in the last 5 years will receive a text message letting them know we are back, but we are always looking to welcome new donors. The blood supply is currently low and with a high demand for blood from our hospitals nationally, it is imperative that we continue to maintain the blood supply.

Farmer Health Check Day: Cork Marts, Corrin Event Centre, Fermoy, Co. Cork, P61 EE37. Hosted by Avondu Blackwater Partnership CLG, in partnership with the Rural Community Health Project and a range of support organisations, Tuesday, June 9th, from 11am. This free event is aimed at supporting the health and wellbeing of farmers and the wider rural community. **For more information see noticeboard or contact: lorna@avondublackwater.com**

Ballygiblin NS School Fete will take place Sunday 14th June 2026, from 1.30pm to 4.00pm at the school Eircode P67 PK30. This is a great family fun day out and assists in raising money for the school. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

What's on at Mitchelstown Library in June?

Adults: •ADHD Parenting Workshop . •Mitchelstown Library Knitting & Craft Group Felting Workshop. •Garden Ideas and Skills Workshop. •Sleep Well, Live Well: Sleep Workshop. •Researching Your Family History

Kids: •Cruinniú na nÓg Story-time •Library story-time. •Summer Stars reading challenge: •My Little Library Bag:

Exhibitions: Kilbehenny Art Group. For more information on any of these, contact the Library. Telephone: 02541939 | mitchelstown.library@corkcoco.ie | www.corkcoco.ie

Please note - The Parish Office will be closed Monday 8th June.

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,

Subject to change over July & August. (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