

PARISH PERSONNEL:

V. Rev. Canon Michael Leamy P.P., V.F. Phone: 025-41765.
Rev. Fr. Tommy Lane C.C. Phone: 087-0660615
Parish Secretary – Patricia Dwane: Phone: 025-84062.

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

Closed on Bank and Church Holidays.

Emergency Calls only Phone No.: 087 – 2524979

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

Office e-mail: mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com

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'

Community Employment Vacancies Mitchelstown

- General Worker/Day Care Assistant – Tearmann Ui Chaoimh
- Administrator Tidy Towns/Tourism
- Administrator Forrest Hall, Mitchelstown
- Caretaker – Mitchelstown Parish Grounds
- Caretaker – Mitchelstown GAA Club
- Caretaker – St Georges Arts & Heritage Centre/Kingston College
- General Worker – NCBI Charity Shop
- General Worker – St Vincent de Paul

For further information – contact Kathleen Johnson, Supervisor on 087 4458582

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 – A husband stepped on one of those scales that tell your fortune and weight and dropped in a coin. "Look at this", he said to his wife, showing her a small white card. "It says I'm energetic, bright and resourceful, and a great lover". "Yeah", his wife nodded, "and it's got your weight wrong, too".

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

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Date: 24th & 25th January 2026

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Thought for the Day

You may have heard this story before: 'An old Cherokee is teaching his grandson about life. "A battle is going on inside all of us," he said to the boy. "It is a terrible fight and it is between two wolves. One is evil – anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego. The other is good – joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion, and faith. This same fight is going on inside you – and inside every other person, too." The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather, "Which wolf will win?" The old Cherokee simply replied, "The one you feed".'

In a way, it is as simple as that. Each one of us faces hundreds of choices every day. Mostly, they are minor decisions that may not seem important at the time. But they all add up to something. They make us the person we are. Do our choices make us the kind of person who follows Jesus, or the kind of person who goes in the opposite direction?

We can stay stuck where we are, repeating the same old patterns, or we can leave it all behind and choose a new path, like Peter, Andrew, James and John did. They were called, and they took decisive action. This initial choice to follow Jesus was reinforced and remade, day in and day out, during their discipleship journey, just as it is on ours.

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD – 25th January 2026

In his first major communication as bishop of Rome, The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis wrote the following words:

The study of the sacred Scriptures must be a door opened to every believer. It is essential that the revealed word radically enrich our catechesis and all our efforts to pass on the faith. Evangelisation demands familiarity with God's word, which calls for dioceses, parishes and Catholic associations to provide for a serious, ongoing study of the Bible, while encouraging its prayerful individual and communal reading.

This strong invitation was followed by two initiatives. In 2019, Pope Francis established the Sunday of the Word of God, to be marked on the Sunday when we begin our consecutive reading of the Gospel for the year.

In 2020, he set up the Synodal Pathway, a vast unlocking of energy across the whole Catholic world. This powerful and participative initiative is explicitly rooted in Scripture and prayer. While there are different voices, I am convinced the Synodal Pathway has to work if there is to be a church into the future. And if it is to work, it has to be founded on the Word of God.

No longer forward nor behind I look in hope or fear;
But, grateful, take the good I find, the best of now and here.

(John Greenleaf Whittier.)

**Masses during the week in the Parish Church
26th to 31st January 2026**

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

Confessions 31st January 2026

- Confessions in Parish Church: Saturday 12 Noon

Parish Masses on Sunday 1st February 2026

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

**Please Note – The Parish Office will be closed the following dates;
Monday, 2nd & Friday, 6th February.**

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

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MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND - Catholic Marriage Encounter in Ireland.
Dates: 20 -22 March 2026. A weekend like no other. Venue: “St Marys” Knock, Co. Mayo.
Online: www.marriageencounter.ie

Divine Mercy Conference 2026: this years' conference will be held in the RDS, Dublin on Friday evening 27th February, Saturday 28th February and Sunday 1st March. This year's theme is "This is my Body This is my Blood, given up for you." A bus will be going from Mitchelstown on the Saturday, 28th February. The bus will leave from the Square at 7.30am. Speakers at this years' conference are Fr James Blount S.O.L.T., Fr John Keane, Fr Leon Pereira OP, Carol Nolan and Roisin Doherty.
Contact Eileen 087 245 4697 or Catherine 087 7727496.

Monday 2nd February (Bank Holiday) – Feast of Candlemas – candles are blessed at the 11am Mass and offered for use in the Church and home. If you wish to have candles blessed for use at home, please bring them with you and place on the table provided in front of the Altar. Donations towards Church candles would be greatly appreciated.

Tuesday 3rd February – Feast of St. Blaise – Traditions tells us that he was a doctor before becoming a Bishop. He is said to have cured a young boy who was choking and because of this he has become the patron saint of those who are ill with diseases of the throat. On the Feast of St. Blaise a blessing of throats is offered to all who wish to receive it. Blessing of throats will take place at the 10am Mass.

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.

Spring Station Masses will commence **after Ash Wednesday (18th February) and continue throughout Lent.** 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.

Canon Leamy will be contacting the next person on the distribution rota for giving out the envelopes, for their Station area, in the coming days. The envelopes will be ready in the next few weeks. If you would like your name to be included on the distribution rota for your Station area, please contact Patricia in the Parish office 025 84062 during office hours.

Mitchelstown Library are highlighting the Cork County Library monthly newsletter. The news and events from all 25 libraries are compiled into a newsletter, along with stories, book recommendations and interviews with staff and book clubs. This month's newsletter highlights our centenary and includes an amusing story *Pig Out: An Uninvited Visitor to Newmarket Library* by Kieran Wyse of our local studies library. To sign up and receive this newsletter into your email every month, you can click the following link to bring you to the Cork County Council

website: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/IECORKCOCO/subscriber/new> then enter your email address and select which areas you would like to hear about e.g. libraries.

Secondly, we are promoting the Cork County Library 'From the Well' short story competition. This year's competition will open today, 16th January at 9am and will run until 5pm on Friday 27th February. Twenty stories will be shortlisted by Patrick Holloway and this year the shortlisted writers will also have their stories edited by Patrick, which is a fantastic opportunity. The winner will receive a place on a short-story workshop in Bantry as part of the West Cork Literary Festival and a one-to-one with Patrick. The winner and two runners-up will read their stories in Bantry Library at the launch of the collection during WCLF. More information is available at: <https://www.corkcoco.ie/en/news/from-the-well-2026-short-story-competition-open-for-submissions>

Contact the library for more details; Mitchelstown Library, Sutton's Court, Clonmel Road, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork. P67 A663. Telephone: +353 (0)25 41939.

E-mail: MitchelstownLibrary@corkcoco.ie Website: www.corkcoco.ie

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