

CLERGY:

V. Rev. Canon Fitzgerald P.P., V.F. Phone: 025-84090.
V. Rev. Canon O'Leary P.E., C.C. Phone: 025-84088.
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DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS 10AM WEDNESDAY

Office Open: 9 am to 12 noon – Monday to Friday.

Parish Website: www.mitchelstownparish.ie

Canon O'Leary is on Sick Call this week - Phone Number: 087 - 2524979

DO SOMETHING SPECIAL THIS LENT:

(1) Short Term Pledge for Lent

Many people choose to abstain from alcohol for Lent and offer this challenge as a prayer for someone suffering from problems with alcohol or other drugs. You can do likewise. Why not consider taking the short-term Pioneer Pledge this Lent? If interested please give your names to Pat McEvoy, the Parish Church Sacristan or any of the Pioneer Council members.

(2) Would you like to make a difference in someone's life? Would you consider becoming a Pioneer? Through prayer and this self-sacrifice, you can help someone. If you would like any information on becoming a Pioneer and what it entails, please give your name to Pat McEvoy, the Parish Church Sacristan and one of the Pioneer Council members will contact you.

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Looking for a career in freight transport, warehousing, distribution, or logistics?? Then Ballyhoura Development in conjunction with Cork Education and Training Board has the ideal course for you! The Logistics and Distribution Training Course FETAC Level 5 offers participants the experience and skills needed for a career in the area. The course offers work experience, as well as modules in Warehousing, Safety and Health at Work, Purchasing and many more! The highly successful full time course will commence in Mitchelstown this September over 9 months. If you are interested in applying or are looking for further information, please contact Coote Hall on 063 20517.

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Want to get an insight into Traveller Culture? TCAT is a two hour Traveller led workshop. The workshop is generic and is open to anyone with an interest in learning more about the uniqueness of Travellers and their culture. It aims to promote a better understanding of Traveller culture among the wider community in Cork.

DATE: Tuesday 10th March. **TIME:** 10.30am. **VENUE:** Mercy Centre, Mallow.

To book a place or find out more please contact: Bec Fahy, (Travellers of North Cork) on 022 71035 e-mail: travellersnorthcork@live.com or Bridget Horgan, on 087 1114 6585 email corktcac@gmail.com

Closing date for applications is Thursday 5th March 2015.

Places are limited so please book early to ensure a place. There is a cost of €30 to participate and CPD points are available to nurses/ health professionals taking part.

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 6 Issue: 34 Date: Sunday 15th February 2015

The Holy Mass: Lest anyone persuade you that attendance at Mass is not important, remember what St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio) once said: "It would be easier for the world to do without the sun than to do without the Holy Mass". For fifty years he bore the wounds of Jesus on his hands, feet and side (The Stigmata), he truly understands that the Mass is the Holy Sacrifice of the Saviour on Calvary. Did not Jesus say at the last supper "Do this in memory of Me". Have no doubts the Mass is really important in the practice of our faith. If we really love Jesus, then we won't skip Mass.

Ash Wednesday & Lent: The secular world, that is the world that doesn't need the help of God, would like us to think of Ash Wednesday as "Give up smoking day". For us, believers in God, it is a day to turn anew our hearts to Him and renounce some things we lawfully enjoy. Jesus gave up His life for us, on Ash Wednesday we want to do something special for Jesus.

Throughout Lent, as followers of Jesus, we try to focus our lives more on Him and on His great promise of Life Eternal in the Kingdom of Heaven. The Liturgy calls us to renew prayer, almsgiving and fasting in view of the glorious promise of Jesus to bring us to Heaven.

The secular world would like us to forget about eternal life and to entertain ourselves and to forget about Jesus and what He did on Good Friday. But the secular world leads nowhere, let us not be taken in.

Mitchelstown Parish Gathering: The working group preparing for the introduction of the Parish Pastoral Council have brought preparations forward. We are going to have three special evenings in March in the Parish: to pray, discuss, listen and share on our future Parish Pastoral Council.

You are invited to gather in the Presentation Primary Hall on **Monday & Tuesday, March 9th & 10th from 8pm – 9pm.** The Dominican Community, Ennismore, Cork will lead the Gathering (Fr. Cummins & Fr. Hegarty). On **Wednesday evening the 11th March**, we will have **Mass in the Parish Church at 7.30pm** and we hope some of the Secondary School pupils will participate.

We hope that Parishioners from Ballygiblin, Killacluig and Mitchelstown and all areas of the Parish will participate in this very special time for the Parish.

Following these evenings of reflection nomination forms will be distributed, to begin the election process. Please keep these dates in your diary and pray especially for the Parish at this time. It is a time to open our minds and hearts to the wonderful plans of the Holy Spirit for the Parish.

The Parish Office will be closed next Thursday & Friday, February 19th & 20th.

Cloyne Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 1st – 6th June 2015. Booking for pilgrimage is now open with Joe Walsh Tours, 117 Patrick Street, Cork, Telephone: (021) 4277979. Sick / Assisted Pilgrim application forms are available from The Parish Secretary, 27/28 Bank Place, Mallow, Tel: (022) 20276.

NET Young Women's / Men's Groups

Women meet every Monday night, men meet every Tuesday night!
Both nights: 7.00 - 8.30 pm in the Town Hall, for 1st - 6th years.

TOWN HALL: A new **Booking System** in place for all space at Town Hall. Ring Aileen Lane, Awbeg Office (DSP), Baldwin Street. Telephone No: (025) 86956 during office hours Monday to Friday, 9am – 1pm & 2pm to 5pm.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Fatima 9th to 16th September 2015. Contact Pilgrimages Abroad Lauri Duffy Travel, Dublin, Telephone: (01) 6359300

Bernadette Bohan, twice cancer survivor & Author will deliver a 3-day Wellness Programme - February 27th – March 1st. @ Grove Health Spa, Shanballymore. This unique and inspirational programme is the only one of its kind in Europe, offering nutritional tools to transform your health, lose weight, defeat heart disease, relieve arthritis, ease depression and overcome cancer. Bernadette, now 15 years cancer free, will inspire, motivate and teach how to fight and prevent cancer and disease by following her simple lifestyle & dietary changes. Please call Jacqueline O Farrell. 022 25518 / 086 8135805 for a free consultation. www.grovehealthspa.com

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock is on Sunday 10th May. Parishes to make their own travel arrangements.

Mitchelstown Community Playgroup: Enrolments are now being taken for the School Year 2015/2016. If you wish to enrol your child, please contact the school at 087–3377 618 or Mary Milward at 086-883 2533.

Pilgrimage to Fatima & Garabandal:

10th – 18th June inclusive. Contact 087-2313762 for more details.

SPRING STATIONS: Town and Country Stations will commence on **Thursday, February 19th.** We encourage you all to participate in the Station Masses.

Spring Courses at Ozanam Centre 025 84733 www.ozanamcomputers.com

E-Banking: Tuesday Morning 17th February

E-Bay & Pay Pal/Internet Security: Tuesday Morning 24th February

Introduction to Facebook: Tuesday Morning 3rd March

Introduction to Twitter: Tuesday Morning 10th March

Payroll Fetac Level 5: Wednesday Night 1st April

Business Admin: Thursday Night 16th April

KIDS EDUCATIONAL COMPUTER LESSONS

English/Maths projects suitable for 4-8 years. A new group starting 24th/25th February afternoons. We aim to bring your child to a higher level at Maths and English. Classes €8 for 45 minutes. For more info and bookings call Kids Computer Lab at Bright Sparks Mitchelstown, 025/86799 or 086/2653839

Mitchelstown Macra are hosting a **Mental Health Awareness Talk** on **February 23rd at 8pm in the Firgrove Hotel Mitchelstown.** Guest speakers on the night, the talk is free and open to everyone. Our aim is to promote Positive Mental Health, so come along and help us stamp out the stigma!!!
For more details contact Mairead – 0877501033

Prayer in the Christian Life – A Series of Lent Reflections: Bishop William Crean is delighted to announce the Diocese of Cloyne 2015 Series on Prayer. You are invited to come, inform and deepen your spiritual life during the season of Lent.

Dates and Venues: *The reflections will take place during the season of Lent 2015 in Central Locations in the Diocese – Youghal, Blarney and Charleville. They will last for one hour with time afterwards for refreshments and chat. The concluding night will take place in Mallow on March 25th.*

YOUGHAL: Holy Family Hall 8pm

(Directions: Coming from Cork take R634 to Youghal town: pass Perks on left, then pass Amber Petrol Station on right and shortly after take a left, up Golf Links Road: keep on this road passing St. Raphael's Centre on left and then come to Holy Family Church/Hall)

♦Monday February 23rd ♦Monday March 2nd ♦ Monday March 9th

BLARNEY: Scoil Mhuire Gan Smál Secondary School (close to Blarney Filling Station) 8pm

♦Wednesday February 25th ♦ Wednesday March 4th, ♦Wednesday March 11th

CHARLEVILLE: Charleville Park Hotel 8pm

♦Thursday February 26th ♦Thursday March 5th ♦Thursday March 12th

Over the course of three evenings in each venue we will reflect on:

- Introduction to Christian Prayer
- Praying through Storms and Calm
- The Greatest Prayer

MALLOW: Church of the Resurrection 8pm – 9:30pm Wednesday March 25th. Evening Prayer for the Solemnity of the Annunciation and Talk with the Papal Nuncio, **Archbishop Charles Brown: Prayer in the Christian Life – Bringing the Catechism of the Catholic Church into Focus.**

Looking forward to seeing you.

Physiotherapy-led Pilates classes in the **Ozanam Centre commencing Wednesday 25th February for 6 weeks.** Classes at 6.30pm and 7.30pm, all levels catered for. Please contact Catherine on 085-7076585 to pre book.

THE SACRED HEART MESSENGER

Local promoters is: ANNA MARIA RUSSELL, (025) 84151

Copies are on sale in the Porch of the Parish Church or direct from Messenger Publications, 37 Lower Leeson Street, Dublin 2. Phone (01) 6767491