Children's Liturgy:

All children from junior infants up to second class are invited to partake in the children's liturgy, which is held during the **12 O'clock Mass on Sundays.** The children are asked to go to the Blessed Sacrament Chapel (which can be accessed through the baby chapel) at the start of mass and return to the main congregation after the prayer of the faithful. The children's liturgy provides children with an opportunity to explore the Gospel of the day through discussion, worksheets and activities.

Ballygiblin Community Church Choir

Ballygiblin Community Church Choir was established last year and has revived the wonderful tradition of church music in Ballygiblin. We are recommencing practice in the next couple of weeks. If anyone would like to join us either as a musician or singer please contact Carol on (086) 8561347.

Under 14, U16, Minor and Juniors training on Friday night: Training for under 14, under 16, Minor and Junior players is on Friday night in St. Fanahan's at 7pm. **Next Meeting**: We are holding our next meeting on next Monday 21st September in the Ozanam centre at 9pm. All welcome.

BENEFIT CONCERT in aid of the Excel Theatre on *Sunday 4th Oct. at 8pm.* Many well known local & national artists, including Soprano Emma Walsh will be performing that night. An event you can't miss. Booking opens 14th Sept. Phone: 062 / 80520

National Adult Literacy Awareness Week 21^{S1} – 25TH September 2009. Would you like to improve your reading, writing and number skills? Freephone NALA 1800 20 20 65 or 086 8238733 FREE and CONFIDENTIAL.

Ballyhoura Advocacy Service (Disabilities)

Are you a carer? Do you have queries about your rights and entitlements as a carer or those of the person you are caring for? By working in partnership with you the advocate can help you access information about your rights, entitlements and services in relation to your disability. The advocate can also support you to make decisions, help make your wishes heard and will represent you if necessary. <u>You can meet with the advocate by appointment</u> on Thursday 24th Sept in the Ozanam Centre in Mitchelstown.

If you would like to make an appointment or have any queries about the service please do not hesitate to contact Mary Carroll - Tel: 063 30532; mobile: 087 2499090 or email: m.carroll@ballyhoura.org.

Newsletter printed in the **Parish Office**, **Parochial House**, **Convent Hill, Mitchelstown** E-mail: <u>mitchelstownparishoffice@eircom.net</u>, Phone or Fax: 025 / 84062 <u>Deadline is 12 noon Wednesday</u> Office Hours: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Monday to Friday

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

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Tax Refund Scheme:

We have all heard the saying "It takes money, to make money". Please read on and you will see how this can be achieved every weekend in your parish. In other words, how existing donations in your parish can be transformed, to increase parish income, without any parishioner giving any more money.

In a nutshell, if you are a PAYE tax payer and the total contributions you make to your parish during the calendar year come to €250 (or over), the parish can obtain a tax refund on what you pay. The parish will completely organize the tax refund. (this process is fully approved by the Revenue Commissioners per section 848A of the Taxes consolidation Act, 1997). It includes, regular contributions to Sunday Mass collections, donations for Church maintenance, Stations offerings, seasonal collections, such as, priests' dues at Easter & Christmas. Also occasional diocesan collections like, Sick priests' fund, Education of seminarians etc. While priests' dues collections such as the Stations, plus Christmas & Easter offerings are included, it is the parish and not the priest that gets the tax refund on such funds. (Non church charity collections, such as Trocaire do not come within this tax refund system in your parish).

To satisfy the Revenue Commissioners, parishes must keep record of all income received. Even the Sunday Mass collections, will be by way of your individual envelope. Whenever your parish decides to participate in this scheme, each parishioner will receive your own personalized little box of envelopes for your Sunday Mass contributions. At the moment, when you put ϵ_5 in the basket on Sunday, it is still ϵ_5 on Monday morning. BUT, under the new envelope system, if you are a higher bracket PAYE tax payer, when your ϵ_5 is counted out of your personal envelope on Monday morning, it is worth $\epsilon_8.60$. Even if you are on the lower tax bracket, your ϵ_5 is worth ϵ_6 under the envelope scheme. (These calculations are based on 2006 tax rates).

The parish gets this refund annually, direct from the Revenue Commissioners. You as PAYE tax payers, have no involvement in the administration of this scheme. If you are a SELF ASSESSMENT tax payer, you contribute a total of ϵ_{400} per annum, you can offset this amount against any tax liability. Then your contribution of ϵ_{400} will only cost you a net ϵ_{232} . Self Assessment tax payers, like the PAYE payer, must also contribute over the ϵ_{250} threshold to benefit from the scheme.

In a self assessment situation, it is the parishioner who gets the tax benefit, not the parish. So, how can the parish gain from the self assessed parishioner? As explained earlier, if this self assessed tax payer gives a total ϵ_{400} to the parish, they benefit from a ϵ_{168} tax refund. BUT, if they only contribute ϵ_{240} i.e. below the ϵ_{250} ceiling, they get no tax refund. So, in reality, it costs the self assessed payer less to give ϵ_{400} than it does to contribute ϵ_{240} . In this way the self assessed parishioner will see, that the more they contribute to their church, the more they and the parish benefit. The necessity for the use of envelopes is so your parish can aggregate/record all monies donated by an individual towards, hopefully achieving at least the ϵ_{250} threshold. If you have any questions you can contact John Hurley from Macroom Parish at 026 42367. *More details next week.* God Bless **Fr. Michael**

CLERGY:

Rev. Fr. Fitzgerald P.P. Phone: 025-84090 Canon O'Leary Phone: 025-84088 Fr. Greene Phone: 025-84077 Parish Office: 025-84062 **Priest on Sick call this** week is: Canon O'Leary

Emergency Contact Number: 087 - 2524979

Eucharistic Healing Hour of Adoration: A public hour of Adoration will be held in the Parish Church. Every Thursday night from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. Special Prayers for Healing For the Community & the World.

CONFESSION TIMES:

Mitchelstown: Sat, Eves of Holydays & Eves of 1st Fridays. 12 noon to 1 p.m. & 7 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Ballygiblin: 1st Friday 7 p.m. Kilacluig: before 1st Friday Mass.

MASS TIMES:

Church Of Our Lady Conceived Without Sin, Mitchelstown: Sat & Eve of Holyday: 7.30 p.m. Sunday & Holyday: 8.30 a.m. 10.30 a.m., 12 noon & 7.30 p.m. 1st Friday: 7.30 p.m. Weekday: 8.30 a.m. & 10 a.m. *Church of the Holy Family, Ballygiblin:* Sunday & Holyday: 9.30 a.m. - 1st Friday: 7.30 p.m. *St. Joseph's Church, Killacluig:* Sunday & Holyday: 10.30 a.m. - 1st Friday: 8.15 p.m. <u>Morning Prayer in Parish Church:</u> Monday to Friday at 8 a.m. <u>Rosary in Parish Church:</u> Mon. to Sat. at 9.45 a.m. Before 10 a.m. Mass

Mitchelstown Heritage Society are having an outing to Fethard on Sunday October 4th, there is a bus arranged, which will be leaving the Pump in Kingston College at 9am. To book a seat & for more details please ring 087/8289613 or 086/2607573

C.B.S. Primary Parent Council AGM:

We the parents council of CBS primary school Mitchelstown are holding our upcoming AGM at CBS primary school on **Tuesday night 22nd September at 8.00pm.** We would be greatful for your attendance which enables us to build an effective partnership of home and school. We would also like to invite you to come and see our newly built classroom where the old lunchroom previously stood. All monies raised by the parents council is spent for the benefit for our boys. Some examples of the monies spent include interactive whiteboards, projectors, funded activities, computers and upgrading computers and computer tables. Due to the tremendous support of parents, friends and local businesses we have highly successful fundraising events but due to the high costs imposed on schools and budget cutbacks monies also raised goes towards the upkeep of the school. Our rental book scheme has been a success which effectively reduces the burden of high costs imposed on parents in purchasing school books and our funded free lunches which the boys benefit every day from carambolakidz.

We look forward to your attendance at the AGM and to show your interest in your childs' education and any opinions or views on helping and supporting us will be welcomed. Refreshments will be served after meeting.