MASS TIMES:

CHURCH OF OUR LADY CONCEIVED WITHOUT SIN, MITCHELSTOWN:

Sat & Eve of Holyday: 7.30p.m. Sunday & Holyday: 8.30am. 10.30am. 12noon & 7.30p.m.

1st Friday: 7.30p.m. - Weekday: 8.30a.m. & 10a.m.

Morning Prayer in Parish Church: Mon. to Fri. at 8a.m.

Rosary in Parish Church: Mon. to Sat. at 9.45a.m. Before: 10a.m. Mass

Perpetual Adoration: Sunday 12.30p.m. & Saturday 7p.m.

Eucharistic Healing Hour of Adoration: Every Thursday night from 8p.m. to 9p.m.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY, BALLYGIBLIN:

Sunday & Holyday: 9.30a.m. - 1st Friday: 7.30p.m.

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, KILLACLUIG:

Sunday & Holyday: 10.30a.m. - 1st Friday: 8.15p.m.

CONFESSION TIMES:

MITCHELSTOWN: Saturday, Eves of Holydays: 12 - 1p.m. & 7p.m. - 7.30p.m.

1st Thursday of month: 12 - 1p.m. & 7p.m. - 7.30p.m.

NEW: After Saturday Evening Mass on the **1**st **Saturday of the month.**

BALLYGIBLIN: 1st Friday 7p.m. **KILLACLUIG:**

CLERGY:

V. Rev. Fr. Fitzgerald P.P. Phone: 025-84090. V. Rev. Canon O'Leary C.C. V.F. Phone: 025-84088

Rev. Fr. Greene C.C. Phone: 025-84077.

Parish Office: 025-84062

before 1st Friday Mass.

Rev. Fr. Greene C.C. Phone: 025-84077. Parish Office: 025-84

E-MAIL: mitchelstownparishoffice@eircom.net <u>DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS 12 NOON WEDNESDAY</u>

Office Open: 9 am to 12 noon – Monday to Friday. Parish Website: www.mitchelstownparish.ie

Priest on Sick call this week is: Fr. Greene C.C.

Sick Call Phone Number: 087 - 2524979

Pharmacy Rota:

All Pharmacies open this Sunday, 23rd December from 11a.m.

MITCHELSTOWN GATHERING:

Enter a relative / friend abroad in a free draw to win a flight home up to €350 value in 2013. Entries of named persons abroad ~ e-mail **address**, **postal** address, **telephone** number to Ballyhoura office, Baldwin Street or email to mitchelstowngathering@gmail.com.

DISPLAY a picture of your house /shop front as it looked up to century ago. Attend CLAN GATHERING Workshops taking place in the New Year. Celebrate over 50 events in Mitchelstown with clans meet, music, school reunions, tracing workshops, Characters / Ship passenger list Display, Caves, Walks/cycle/runs, Hurling faction fight, Sports, festivals, tug-o-war, High Nelly Cycle, Old Style Dance, Irish Night, Point to Point, Talent show, dances, Community Games, Car Rally, Tea Party, Mystery Tour, Carnival, Writers, storytelling & culture, choirs, National Welly throw, Heritage week, Model Mania , St. Fanahan's Well Novena, cemetery tours: E-mail ideas to mitchelstowngathering@gmail.com, See Mitchelstown pages at Facebook/mitchelstowngathering2013. www.thegatheringireland.com.

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 4 Issue: 30 Date: Sunday 23rd December 2012

Confession

The greatest attribute of Almighty God is His Mercy. He understands how weak we all are, despite our best efforts we offend Him and drift away from Him. But He is always calling us back to humbly repent of the sins we have committed and He is always ready to forgive. This was why He sent His Son Jesus, born in the stable at Bethlehem. This is the merciful God reaching out to us and calling us to turn our eyes to our Creator and Saviour.

Our first and greatest sin is idolatry, the worship of what God has given us and the things we have made ourselves. We all must worship God in first place in our daily lives. We do this by giving time for worship and prayer: Daily prayer, morning and evening, attendance at Mass every weekend, Eucharistic Adoration, reading the Bible.

Our second principal sin is our selfishness and our failure to really and truly love each other, love ourselves and love those who are troubled and in need. When we put God first our ability to love one another is greater.

Let us begin anew this Christmas time of Grace and New Year to follow the Lord and to serve Him in one another.

Expert Groups:

In September 2007 an independent group recommended that all Government ministers be given a €30,000 rise in pay. It was madness, the ministers of the time were embarrassed into refusing it. The whole suggestion was madness. Now we understand where that madness led us.

Another expert group has now recommended our Government should legislate for abortion in our country – this too is madness. The protection of all life, mother and child must never be weakened by our legislation – to do so would destroy our society and greatly displease Almighty God. Let's not be mislead by expert groups and others who do not realise the damage they will do to our society. Let us support our T.D.'s in maintaining an abortion free country. Other nations in the world have huge guilt hanging over them by the approval of abortion – let's lead them, not follow them. "You shall not kill" is one of the Commandments of God, the giver of life.

Any payments being made to the parish by cheque, should be made payable to "Mitchelstown Parish"

Anniversary Mass for Veronica O'Meara (nee Doyle), Kilbehenny & Cahir, this Sunday, December 23rd in Cahir Church at 10am.

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C.B.S. Primary School Choir:

Monday, 24th December, Christmas Eve

7.30pm Mass in the Parish Church.

Pioneer Magazine is published monthly and is full of interesting and informative articles and features. If you would like to get a copy each month, please contact any council member. Price per copy €1.55. Wishing all our friends and supporters, every Blessing of the Christ Child this Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

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CHRISTMAS CONFESSION TIMES:

PARISH CHURCH:

Monday 24th Dec (Christmas Eve) – 12noon to 1pm & 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

PARISH CHURCH:

Monday 24th Dec - Christmas Eve - Vigil of the Nativity: 7.30 p.m.

Night Mass of Nativity: 10.00 p.m. Carol Recital: 9.30 p.m.

Tuesday 25th Dec - Christmas Day: Masses: 8.30a.m., 10a.m., 11a.m. & 12

N.B.: No Evening Mass on Christmas Day

Wednesday 26th Dec – **Feast of St. Stephen, 1st Martyr -** Mass at 11.00 a.m. Weekday Masses from Thursday 27th to Saturday 29th December at 11 a.m. only.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION will close on Christmas Eve before the 10 a.m. Mass and resume after the 11 a.m. Mass on Thursday, 27th December.

KILLACLUIG CHURCH:

Monday 24th Dec – Christmas Eve: Night Mass of Nativity: 9 p.m.

Tuesday 25th Dec – Christmas Day: Mass 10.30a.m.

BALLYGIBLIN CHURCH:

Monday 24th Dec – Christmas Eve: Night Mass of Nativity: 9 p.m.

Tuesday 25th Dec – Christmas Day: Mass 9.30a.m.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS FOR THE PRIESTS:

You can use the Offering envelope which was delivered to your homes.

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Mitchelstown Flower & Garden Club wish all our member's old and new a very Happy Christmas and a Merry New Year.

Eucharistic Adoration - we are looking for adorers for the following hours

Thursday 8 – 9am Thursday 7 – 8pm Friday 8 – 9am Friday 9 – 10am

MITCHELSTOWN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Would like to wish their members, organisations of the Parish and all the people of Mitchelstown and the surrounding areas, a very Happy and Holy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year

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PARISH OFFICE will be <u>CLOSED</u> from FRIDAY 21st DECEMBER until THURSDAY 3rd JANUARY 2013. I would like to wish you all a very Happy, Holy Christmas & a Peaceful New Year.

The Roche Family are hosting a Coffee Day, in aid of St Francis Hospice Raheny and Marymount Hospice Cork, on Saturday 5th January 2013 at Peter and Eilís Watson's home, Knockanevin, from 10am - 5pm. Please join us for a cup of coffee or tea in support of such a worthy cause. All donations will be gratefully received.

C.B.S. Primary Annual Christmas Raffle success adds to Festive Cheer!

The draw for prize-winners of C.B.S. Primary Parent Council Annual Christmas Raffle was held at the school on Friday, 14th December. The Parent Council would like to thank all those who supported and helped out in any way, particularly the school secretaries; Kathleen Cott and Patricia Dwane. All families and everybody who contributed in these recessionary times, helped raise a massive €4,100!!

These monies are already being put to good use. All class groups at C.B.S. Primary are heading this week on their own Christmas trips. First and Second classes will be heading to Santa's Village at Leahy's Open Farm; Dungourney. Third and Fourth Classes have a cinema trip to the Gate Complex, Mallow. Fifth Classes will catch this year's Pantomime at the Opera House; "Alice and Wonderland", while the Sixth classes will head to the Grand Canal Theatre, Dublin to see the West End production of "Oliver". These boys will also visit the National Museum at Collins Barracks. The Parent Council will cover all transport costs. The Council will also fund the annual Christmas Disco for the third to sixth classes. Monies raised will also go towards additional works to the school; which the new extension will bring.

Congratulations to the winners, of the 2012 Raffle - 3rd €100 Shane O'Mahony, 2nd €200 Joseph Clancy & 1st €300 Meabh Cahill. CBS Primary Parent Council wishes the people of Mitchelstown and the surrounding areas, a

happy and peaceful Christmas. We look forward to 2013 - pencil these dates in your diaries! **25**th **January 2013, Table Quiz at The Hunters Rest & 5**th **March 2013, Annual Fashion Show at the Firgrove Hotel**. We thank you for your ongoing support of the school and its endeavours.