CLERGY:

V. Rev. Canon Fitzgerald P.P., V.F. Phone: 025-84090.
V. Rev. Canon O'Leary P.E., C.C. Phone: 025-84088.
Rev. Fr. Burke C.C. Phone: 025-84077.
Parish Office – Patricia Dwane: Phone: 025-84062.***Open 9am-12pm***

Fr. Burkeis on Sick Call this week;
Phone Number: 087 – 2524979

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS: mitchelstownparishofficechurch@gmail.com
DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER IS 10AM WEDNESDAY

●**There will be No Newsletter next weekend, 30th& 31st December.**

● **Feast days:** Tuesday - St. Stephen, Wednesday – St. John, the Apostle, Thursday – The Holy Innocents, Martyrs.

●**Christmas Offerings for the Priests:** will be taken up on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day. We thank you for your support.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

CHURCH OF OUR LADY CONCEIVED WITHOUT SIN:

Sunday 24th December - Christmas Eve Vigil of the Nativity: 7.30pm
Night Mass of Nativity: 10.00pm
Monday 25th December - Christmas Day: Masses: 8.30am, 10am & 11.30am

(Note the extra 10.00am morning Mass) N.B.: No Evening Mass on Christmas Day

Tuesday 26th December – **Feast of St. Stephen, 1st Martyr:** Mass at 11.00am.

Weekday Masses from Wednesday 27th December to Saturday 30th December at 11am only.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION will close on Saturday, 23rd December at 7.00pm and resume after the 11am Mass on Thursday, 28th December.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday: 12.00-1.00pm & 7.00-7.30pm
Eve of First Fridays & Eve of Holy Days: 12.00-1.00pm & 7.00-7.30pm

We encourage families to practice monthly Confession

EUCHARISTIC HEALING PRAYERS:Thursday Evening 8.00-9.00pm with special prayers for peace and Eucharistic Healing Blessing.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYERS: Friday at **3.00pm**. All welcome.

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, KILLACLUIG:

Sunday 24th December – Christmas Eve: Night Mass of Nativity: 9pm
Monday 25th December – Christmas Day: Mass 10.30am

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY, BALLYGIBLIN:

Sunday 24th December – Christmas Eve: Night Mass of Nativity: 9pm
Monday 25th December – Christmas Day: Mass 9.30am

JANUARY 2018: We thank those who collected during December. The Collectors for January take over the weekend of 7th& 8th January 2018.

Vigil 7.30pm: Seamus Carey, Bridget Sherlock, & Pat Manning.
8.30am: Neil Egan, Con Hogan, William Fox & Michael Boland.
11.30am: John Casey, Eddie Lynch, Seamus Mannix & Matt O'Sullivan.
7.30pm: Verling Fitzgerald, Tom Lucey & Ger Corbett.

EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST: We thank **Team "D". Team "A"** take over the weekend of 7th& 8th January 2018.

Mitchelstown Parish & Community Newsletter

Volume: 9 ***Issue***: 26***Date***: Sunday 24thDecember2017

Our Parish Community of Mitchelstown, Ballygiblin and Killacluig, is grateful for all those who volunteer in a special way, to help the running of the Parish throughout the year. There are so many groups of different people helping, that in making a list, you could risk leaving someone out, but at the same time, volunteers must be identified. Every parishioner makes his or her own contribution, but without the extra help of volunteers, you couldn't run a Parish.

We are blessed with three Secondary Schools and four Primary Schools, whose support to the Parish is second to none. Without their support to the faith formation of our young people, we would be at a great loss. We are also grateful to those who volunteer their time so generously in school Board of Managements and Parents Associations. The following is a list of our various volunteers: Choirs and their Directors, Organists, Readers and those who organise them, Extra-ordinary Ministers and those who organise them, our three Church Sacristans, Altar Servers, Collectors, Counters and those who organise them, those who take care of the Altar linen, those who arrange the Altar Flowers, those who do Church cleaning and take care of the Church grounds, St. Vincent de Paul volunteers, Legion of Mary volunteers, Pioneers and the Carmelite Lourdes Group, A.A. Group, Town Hall Caretaker and Committee, Home delivery distributors, Parish Secretary, Liturgical Co-ordinators, Faith Camp Committee, St. Fanahan's Well Committee, Youth 2000 Group, Cemetery Carers, Community Council and other Community Volunteers and Sports and Social activities, prayer groups, Eucharistic Adorers, Brass Band and Baptismal Team. We also acknowledge the help of various professional services and their staff.

The list could possibly go on, but an enormous amount of generosity needs to be acknowledged. For this reason the Parish Pastoral Council have arranged that the **7.30pm Mass on Saturday, January 13th**be offered for all our volunteers' intentions and in appreciation of their services to our community. All are invited to the Forrest Hall afterwards for light refreshments.

Great News for the Church in Ireland: On Monday, December 18th, Pope Francis signed the document recognising the heroic virtues of Fr. Patrick Peyton and so declaring him Venerable and furthering his cause for Beatification and Canonisation. Fr. Patrick Peyton was born in Attymass, Co. Mayo, on January 9th, 1909. Like many Irish people, he emigrated to America in 1928 with other family members. Patrick had a dream of becoming a priest and after various struggles he was accepted by the Holy Cross Order. Towards the end of his studies, his dream seemed shattered, when he became ill with tuberculosis and he was on the point of death. This crisis led him to dig deep to the faith he learned in his family home, praying the daily Rosary. Encouraged by his sister Nelly and an Irish priest, Fr. O'Flaherty, he prayed for a miracle and while at deaths door, he was miraculously cured. He believed through the intercession of Our Lady. ***Continued over the page***

There will be No Newsletter next weekend, 30th & 31st December.

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