



# *Mount Argus Bulletin*

## *The Parish of St Paul of the Cross*

-- *Saint Paul's Retreat, Mount Argus, Dublin 6W (Eircode: D6W XR66) --*

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*Temporary Administrator: Fr. Pat Fitzgerald C.P.*

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### **Masses at Mount Argus**

Sunday: 8.00 am, 11.00 am, 4.00 pm

Monday to Friday: 10.00 am, 6.15 pm

Saturdays: 11.00 am, 6.15 (Vigil Mass)

Working Holydays 6.15 pm Vigil, 10.00 am, 6.15 pm

### **Church Opening Hours**

Sunday: 7.30 am to 5.00 pm

Monday to Friday: 9.30 am to 6.45 pm

Saturday: 10.30 am to 7.00 pm

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### **Blessing with the Relic of St Charles**

Monday to Friday after 10.00 am Mass

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday at 4.00 pm

Saturday after 11.00 am Mass

Sunday after 11.00 am and 4.00 pm Mass

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday:

11.00 - 11.30 am, 4.00 - 4.30 pm

Saturday: 4.00 to 5.30 pm

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

**St Charles Novena Mass:** Saturday, 11.00 am

Wednesdays and Fridays: 4.00 to 6.00 pm

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## **Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### **“How Happy Are You”**

The trip to the garage that I mentioned last week proved to have been very worthwhile. I brought my old car – not the new one I paid for! – to the NCT centre early on Tuesday morning. To my relief, it passed with flying colours – not even a comment from the mechanic. Many of you will know the procedure better than I – after checking in, the mechanic takes the car into the testing area, and I go to the waiting area. Not a lot to do there, other than pray for a successful result. Or think about next Sunday's bulletin!

Well the appropriate thought might be – what if there were a National Christianity Test? And, to a certain degree, one might suggest that our gospel passage this Sunday is providing us with some indications of what such a test might entail. We need our brakes tested – you know, the ones we need to put on when we're tempted to judge or condemn others. And of course our headlights need to be properly focused – on things like our need to “love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly” and “be compassionate as your Father is compassionate”.

And of course we'd get nowhere fast if our wheels weren't properly aligned – you know, the ones that get us to those who need our help; the ones that steer us clear of temptations that can be very attractive; the ones that bring us to church to remind us that we are not isolated individuals, but part of a community of prayer and good works. And as for safety belts – how fortunate we are to have ready access to sacramental forgiveness, which is all the more powerful because we have learnt “to forgive those who trespass against us”.

I'll let you use your own imagination on windscreen wipers, correct pressure in tyres, and all those other elements in our cars/lives that help to keep us safe on our journey through life, and ultimately bring us to where we “will have a great reward”, because we are children of the Most High.

You'll be grateful by now that I won't have another of those tests for another two years!

**Arrangements for distribution of Holy Communion in Church:** I mentioned last week that with the restoration of the seating in the church to its normal format, this would necessarily affect the distribution of Holy Communion. By and large it has seemed to go pretty smoothly. For the benefit of those who may not have picked up on last week's notice ..... *For the present, for the distribution of Holy Communion if there are two people distributing, they will both be at the top of the centre aisle; if there are three ministers there will be one each at the tops of the centre and two side aisles.*

**Prayers for sick and housebound, and for the deceased:** Since I mentioned including the above in the bulletin there has been an extensive and positive response. Just to get it moving, I am going to include below funerals that have been celebrated here in the last week plus any already scheduled for next week, in the 'died' category; and those mass intentions asked for in this coming week for the 'anniversaries' category. People need to submit names for 'the sick and the housebound' – and again I stress it must always be with the agreement of the person named. If you have names that you would wish included in any of those categories – sick, housebound, recently deceased or anniversaries – then please either phone or email them to us by Thursday evening.

**Celebrating Baptism in our Parish:** During the Covid era the celebration of baptism was one of those celebrations that was greatly affected by regulations in relation to numbers gathering, spacing etc., which necessarily resulted in the celebration becoming a rather isolated, individual occasion, rather than a communal welcoming of new members into our parish community. At a recent gathering of our reconstituted Parish Baptism Team it was agreed that as a temporary measure we reorganise the Baptism schedule as follows:

Baptisms will normally take place on the First Sunday of every month, at 12.00 noon.

Except in exceptional circumstances, a maximum of four baptisms will take place at the one time. Ideally 2 months, but a minimum of one month's notice should be given for a baptism.

A meeting will be arranged with the priest, to get details of names, any documents needed etc.

Parents and godparents will meet the Baptism Team on the Thursday evening before the baptism.

These arrangements will come into effect for the first Sunday in April.

For any baptisms already arranged, those arrangements will be honoured.

As always, these arrangements are somewhat experimental – any suggestions you may have in relation to modifying them will be much appreciated.

**St. Vincent de Paul Monthly Collection:** There will be a collection outside the church after all masses this weekend in aid of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. We urge you to continue your generous support of the wonderful work they do in support of those in need in our area.

### **Jubilee Year of Hope**

Unfortunately, with everything else that has been going on in this transitional period in our parish, we haven't been able to give prominence to the Jubilee Year of Hope announced by the Pope for 2025. You will see some leaflets at the back of the church that will give you some information, particularly on the idea of being Pilgrims of Hope here in our own city. There are two different leaflets with some very interesting information and ideas for how to celebrate. Please take them home with you and read at your leisure.

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**We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish.....; we remember those who have died recently** – James Donovan, Dorothy Murphy, Noeleen Murray (funeral Monday 11.30), Ann Marie Power (Funeral Monday 1.30), Deirdre Lawlor (Funeral Tuesday, 10.00); **we remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time** – Michael Cullen, Carmel Gaffney, Norman Hanley, Maeve McDonald, Marie McBride, Marie O'Mahony, Anthony Behan, John & Carmel Crowley.

**Financial Update – 23 February 2025:** Collection last Sunday, €1535. Standing orders for week, approx. €250. Donations via website, €231. Payments via credit card machines past week, €666. The collection for Accord amounted to €765.

### **MOUNT ARGUS PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

Our mission is to be a living parish where all will feel welcome, everyone will be appreciated and encouraged to use their gifts and people and priests work together to develop a community of faith and compassion.