



Mount Argus Bulletin

The Parish of St Paul of the Cross

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

Phone: 01 4992000 Email: office@mountargusparish.ie

Website (including Bulletin online): www.mountargusparish.ie

Interim Administrator: Fr. Pat Fitzgerald C.P.

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

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

Third Sunday of Easter

COMMON SENSE?

I know many of you won't particularly be interested in hearing this, but I promise it's leading somewhere, eventually! Golf is a game I have played for close on 60 years. Despite what some might be inclined to think, I'm not really a fanatic about it. For instance, I don't have any inclination to bore people to death with detailed accounts of how I got on during my last round, or about the time I got a hole in one, and other such riveting subjects! For me, basically it fulfils a two-fold role – a way of relaxing, and a way of getting some healthy exercise and fresh air – and the occasional basis for a bulletin article. (Maybe that's three-fold?)

Anyone who plays golf will tell you that it's a frustrating game. One round you're driving well but can't sink a putt for love nor money. The next round you've sorted out the putting, but you're driving is almost criminal. Personally it doesn't worry me too much – it's part of what keeps the sport interesting and makes it a constant challenge and fascination. And the handicapping system keeps it competitive – and believe me, I am fairly handicapped when it comes to golf! (Everybody is.) But what does frustrate me are the rules fanatics. I agree, anybody who tries to cheat should be penalised. Yes, people should be considerate of others and not do things that impede other people's enjoyment of the sport. But when it comes to penalising honest mistakes when nothing was gained and no one was discommoded – like not realising the ball has moved one millimeter as you addressed it, or having an extra club in the bag that hasn't been used and is discarded as soon as noticed (real cases where people were penalised), then one shouldn't be afraid to use common sense. Surely it's the spirit, rather than the letter, of the law that we should be concerned about?

I mention the above because our first reading today draws our attention to the same mentality at work in the time of the early church. The High Priest knew all the rules about who could and who couldn't approve of preachers in the name of God, but failed to apply common sense to the

situation. If only they'd asked themselves what was the result of allowing these men to preach in the name of Jesus; if only they had seen and appreciated the thousands flocking to hear them and be blessed by them, they would have realised that what they were witnessing was actually the fulfilment of their own hopes as they awaited the coming of the Messiah, expressed, for instance in the words of Isaiah in the Old Testament – "He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken".

I know it may sound simplistic – but simplistic isn't necessarily always the domain of simpletons – and when Jesus emphasised, as He did on many occasions, that there were only two really important rules/laws – love God and love one another – He wasn't simply recalling the teaching of the Old Testament, but was using plain common sense. In reality, following those commandments is the only guaranteed way of achieving happiness and inner peace and contentment. Ask any true lovers – their greatest happiness comes in bringing joy and happiness to their loved ones. It's true of life in general, and it's even true on the golf course! Making my fellow competitors happy by letting them win, makes me happy – that's my story and I'm sticking to it!

-----oooooOOOoooo-----

Bank Holiday: This coming Monday is the May Bank Holiday. There will be just the one mass here, at 11.00 am. The church will remain open until around 5.00 pm. Please note, also, that our reception office will be closed for the day.

Papal Conclave: As the Cardinals of the Church gather in Rome this week in order to elect a successor to Pope Francis, we keep them very much in our prayers. We ask the Holy Spirit to guide them in their deliberations, and pray for a truly charismatic Shepherd to guide our Church in these very difficult times. (We would appreciate it if on Wednesday you only made critically essential calls to our reception – it might be wise for us to keep our lines free just in case)

The Rosary during May: Every day during the month of May, the Rosary is prayed at 5.00 pm at the statue of Our Lady on Priory Road. Everyone is welcome.

May Procession: The Legion of Mary are hoping to have a May Procession on Tuesday, 13th May (Feast of Our Lady of Fatima) at 5.30 pm from the Legion House on Sundrive Road to Mount Argus – arriving in time for the 6.15 Mass.

Our Mass for the Sick with the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated in Mount Argus on Saturday, 24 May at 11.00 am.

Triduum of Hope: This year's Triduum of Hope in honour of Mary, Mother of Hope and St Charles will take place from Monday, 26 May to Wednesday, 28 May. The Triduum Mass will be at 10.00 am each day. The evening service of Rosary, Homily and Eucharistic Benediction will be at 7.30 pm. This year the Triduum will be led by Fr. Aidan Troy, whom many of you will already know.

Our Lady's Hospice and Care Services are looking for volunteers to assist them on their Sunflower Days in the various shopping centres around South Dublin, on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th June. Further details on notice board at back of church, or fundraising@olh.ie

-----oooooOOOoooo-----

We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish.....; we remember those who have died recently – James Donovan; and we remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time – Michael Devereux, Noreen McGann, Thomas Fletcher, Enda, Mattie & Eileen McDermott, Mario di Tofano, Sean Hogan, Maureen O'Donoghue, James & Margaret Ross & Family, Pat McInerney, Margaret Kearney.

Financial Update – 4 May 2025: Collection last Sunday, €1688. Standing orders for week, approx. €250. Donations via website, €138. Payments via credit card machines past week, €587.

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.