



Mount Argus Bulletin

The Parish of St Paul of the Cross

Saint Paul's Retreat, Mount Argus, Dublin D6W XR66

24th May 2026

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

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
Sf Charles Novena Mass: Saturday, 11.00 am

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

Wednesdays and Fridays: 4.00 to 6.00 pm

Feast of Pentecost

THAT'S PUSHING IT!

As some of you may know, I worked for a number of years in our Parish in Paris – my lack of French wasn't too much of a handicap, as all our services were in English, as we served the English-speaking community in Paris. In fact it was there than I had to endure being locked-in during Covid – I know, tough! Having the Champs Elysee all to myself for my brief exercise outing each day!

But before covid ever happened I realised that if I was ever going to get to play golf – and surprisingly, the region around Paris abounds in golf courses – I would need to get used to driving on the 'wrong' side of the road! Actually, once one has the properly laid-out car, it's not really all that problematic. Which brings me to an incident I was involved in one day. I needed some petrol in the car. I usually went to the petrol station that was under a street nearby, and I was just heading down the somewhat narrow one-way ramp, when I spotted a motor cyclist coming up against me. (When I say 'coming', I mean 'trying to come'.) To anyone driving in Paris, that in itself wouldn't raise even an eyebrow – pavements, pedestrian crossings, one-way streets, are all fair game to many of them.

The difference with this guy was that he wasn't **on** his bike, but was attempting, rather unsuccessfully, to push his bike up a pretty steep slope. The fact that it was a scorching hot day, and he was dressed for the North Pole, wasn't helping his cause any. His mood didn't seem to be helped by the fact that at the top of the ramp there was a pretty young lady astride her own bike, who, while offering lots of verbal advice, clearly had no intention of helping in any practical way. While I was taking all this in, maybe 5 seconds, a whole line of vehicles had assembled behind me, and were already beginning to impede the junction on the main avenue. The infamous horns were already giving a few speculative toots!

I do have some appreciation of the world of the motorcyclist, having myself used one for a considerable number of years, and I do remember they're not fun to have to push on level ground,

never mind up a slope. There was only one thing for it! Out of the car, down the slope, behind the bike, and heave! At first I think the guy thought I was going to attack him, but once he realised I was relatively harmless, (he probably sensed I was a naturally peace-loving Irishman!), he steered and I pushed, and twenty seconds later, problem solved, call off the horns, traffic moving again!

I'm not pretending to be a saint – I know I wasn't really helping the motor-cyclist – I was actually helping myself! I needed petrol, and that was the only way I was going to get it within a reasonable time-span! And isn't that the way at times with our 'kind deeds' - they can so often be self-interest, disguised as concern for others? But when Christ shows concern for us, it is **totally** our best interests that are involved. When He promised to send the Holy Spirit it was so that we wouldn't be left on our own. He wanted to 'breathe new life' into us – His life.

I can't imagine the guy on the ramp saying to me 'buzz off, I want to do this on my own'! Today we're reminded that neither do we have to do life on our own – the Spirit is on hand at all times. It's in our truly best interests to let him help! Anything else might be, as they say, 'pushing it'. (Apologies!)

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Special Celebration of St. Charles

We are delighted to be part of the Harolds Cross festival this year as a satellite event celebrating the life and legacy of Saint Charles of Mt Argus. We aim to promote St. Charles among the wider community and give those already familiar with him an opportunity to learn more and reflect on his life. On Saturday Mass for the Sick took place including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick at 11am..

On Sunday, May 24th, the 11am Mass will have the usual blessing with the relic of St Charles. After Mass the St Charles Centre will be open from 12 to 3.30pm. There will be a brief presentation including a short video narrated by Father Paul Francis. A second presentation will inform people on the life of Saint Charles and finally the third presentation consists of nine photographs depicting the various stages of the life of Saint Charles. There will be an opportunity to browse and purchase devotional items such as keyrings, candles, books, relics, pendants.. People are then invited to go to the church for a tour of the shrine and other significant locations within the Church. Finally people are welcome to return to the centre where there will be tea, coffee and light refreshments. We look forward to welcoming as many people as possible to this wonderful event showcasing St Charles of Mt Argus, Ireland's only canonised saint who died in Ireland and whose entire remains are buried within an Irish Church.

Pastoral Letter from Archbishop Farrell

Archbishop Farrell has issued a Pastoral Letter to mark the feast of Pentecost. It can be downloaded from the Diocesan website -

<https://www.dublindiocese.ie/>. An enlarged version is available in the notice boards at the back of the church.

Triduum of Hope

It is with great regret that, for reasons beyond my control, I have to announce that there will be no preached Triduum of Hope this year. On the scheduled days – 25th to 27th May – the triduum prayers will be incorporated into the morning and evening masses.

Pray for Life Novena

The Pray for Life Novena is an invitation to join thousands of people across Ireland to pray for the protection of human life, from Saturday 23rd May to Sunday 31st May. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life in Ireland. Visit www.prayforlife.ie for the daily novena prayers. The prayers will also be posted on Facebook and Instagram. This is an initiative of the Council for Life of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference.

We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish; we remember those who have **died recently**: ... and those whose **anniversaries occur at this time**: Eithne & James Hickey, Maura Cullen-Ryan, Mary & Kenneth Sweeney, James Ford, John & Margaret Hynes, Sean Mulvihill, Eva Kennedy, Patrick Hickey, Jane Reilly.

Financial Update

Last week's Collection	€975.00
Bank Standing Orders (approx.)	€250.00
Donations via website	€129.00
Card machines	€998.69