



# 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](mailto:office@mountargusparish.ie)

Website (including Bulletin online): [www.mountargusparish.ie](http://www.mountargusparish.ie)

Temporary 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

## First Sunday of Lent

### Start at the End!!

Would it be unfair to ask, even at this early stage, how the Lenten resolutions are going? Or would it be fair to ask if one even made a Lenten resolution? Let's be honest, for many people that kind of idea can be dismissed as being part of a different age – no longer relevant in our modern computerised world. And there's no denying that there is a certain truth in that – there are not too many areas of life where we are doing things the same way now as we were, say, fifty years ago. But for those who are well-grounded, they will recognise that while many of the externals have changed, the basic principles remain the same. We want our children to have a healthy diet, for instance, but it's not likely to be the same food as in our younger days. We want them to have the best education possible, but it's not going to be in a school like the ones we went to. And so on.

And the fact that you are coming to Church, and reading this, is probably an indication that you want them to live their lives by the best set of values, which we believe come from the teaching of Jesus. But how best to do that? I came across the following story during the week, which may highlight one aspect of the answer, and which is also relevant to our celebration of Lent -

*One day a mother found a six pack of beer in her daughter's closet. When her daughter came home, she asked her daughter what is this? The daughter responded, "It looks like a six-pack of beer." The mother responded, "Don't get smart with me, young lady. You tell me about this." The daughter thought for a moment and then said that she was hiding it for a friend. The mother didn't believe her. The girl ran off to her bedroom and slammed the door.*

*The mother sought advice from a good friend. The friend said to her, "Why were you so concerned with finding the beer in her closet?" The mother replied, "Because I don't want her to get into trouble." The friend said "I understand that, but why is it you don't want her to get into trouble?" The mother responded, "Well, because I don't want her to ruin her life." Her friend said*

that she understood that, “but why don’t you want her to ruin her life?” Finally the mother got the point and replied, “because I love her.” The friend then said, “Do you think she got that message?” The mother thought for a moment and said, “Of course not.”

Then the friend said to her, “what do you think would happen if you started with that message? If you had told her that you love her very much and were scared when you found the beer hidden in her room and could we talk about this? With this approach you begin by being vulnerable instead of conducting an inquisition that inevitably leads to denial. Starting from the position of love, which is your goal, provides the focus so that the child can then open up and work together with you on some kind of solution.”

I suspect many of us will identify with elements of that story, but even for those of us who are not parents, and who find ourselves struggling to remain fresh in our commitment to our faith and what that faith asks of us, there is sound advice there. Keeping the intended goal in sight can be a very effective motivation – no less during Lent than any other time. It’s not our Lenten resolutions that are important so much as what we are trying to achieve through them. If everything we do during Lent is with this end in mind, then we will all find the realisation of our Lenten goal when we come to celebrate with the Risen Christ at Easter.

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**Trocaire Lenten Boxes:** Lenten Boxes for Trocaire are available on the tables at the back of the Church.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock – April 26<sup>th</sup>:** (Maybe some experienced hands in the Parish might like to take on being our local representative to investigate/organise participation from Mount Argus Parish?) This pilgrimage has grown significantly in recent years. In 2024, over 3,000 people from throughout the Archdiocese of Dublin took part. This year the theme of the pilgrimage will focus on the Jubilee year, and we are inviting partnerships of parishes to join us from throughout the Archdiocese. The pilgrimage takes place on Saturday, April 26, and will include workshops, outdoor walks, the Sacrament of the Sick and our pilgrimage Mass, which will be celebrated by Archbishop Farrell. We hope to welcome more young people this year. It’s a good time to consider booking your Partnership bus. The Choir of Many Voices from throughout the Archdiocese will be back for a third year under the able direction of Ciaran Coll. If you would like to join the choir (previous members will be contacted separately), or have any queries about the pilgrimage, please email [knockpilgrimage@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:knockpilgrimage@dublindiocese.ie).

**Arrangements for distribution of Holy Communion in Church:** With the restoration of the seating in the church to its normal format, this affects 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 our notices in recent weeks ..... *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:** Included below are funerals celebrated here in the last week plus any scheduled for next week, in the ‘died’ category; and mass intentions in this coming week are in 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 then please either phone or, preferably – in order to avoid the possibility of getting a name not quite right - , email them to us by Thursday evening.

**We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish.....; we remember those who have died recently** –Christine Gavigan; **we remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time** – John O’Brien, Breda Kelly, Thomas Leonard (month’s mind), Geraldine Kenny, Jimmy, Tom and Madeline O’Mahony, Michael Maloney, Jim & Eithne Hickey, deceased of McCabe family.

**Financial Update – 9 March 2025:** Collection last Sunday, €1370. Standing orders for week, approx. €250. Donations via website, €148. Payments via credit card machines past week, €719.

#### **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.