



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

Parish Priest: Fr. Aidan O'Kane 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

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Love That's Not Artificial!

I'll be honest – I'm not a huge fan of the phrase 'artificial intelligence'. In my experience it tends to refer to the extraordinary processing speed of modern computers, which is truly impressive, rather than any independent ability to make intelligent decisions. But let's not go into that – hardly the most relevant topic on a week-end in Mount Argus. That said, having been away all week, I found myself on return having to produce our Parish Newsletter in double-quick time. At this time in my life "double-quick" is not where I feel most at home! A little bit of help and inspiration on-line would not go amiss. A google search on "the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross" seemed like a reasonable procedure. Below is the artificial intelligence response I received.

A reflection on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross involves recognizing the cross as a symbol of God's life-giving love and victory over sin and death, rather than just suffering. It's about contemplating how Jesus' suffering on the cross led to salvation and eternal life, transforming a symbol of misery into one of triumph. The feast connects to the biblical story of Moses lifting a bronze serpent for healing, showing how the cross serves as a spiritual antidote to the "poison" of sin for those who believe.

To be fair, that is a pretty good summary of many of the key points that the Church would want to highlight in relation to this feast. All too easily when we see reference to the cross we are inclined to focus on the sufferings that Christ underwent on our behalf, whereas we really need to be focusing on the reason why Christ should undergo such suffering – which of course was His infinite and eternal love for us. In drawing attention to the transforming of a symbol of misery – the cross – to one of triumph we can be reminded that in joining our sufferings with those of Christ our sufferings can be transformed into opportunities for growth and openness to Christ in our daily lives.

Parish Council Meeting:

There will be a meeting of our Parish Council this coming Tuesday, 16th September, in the Upper Room. If you have any matters you would like to have considered, please let either Fr. Pat, or a member of the Council know in good time.

Sacraments to the Housebound:

Unfortunately, for a multiplicity of reasons, this is an area of Parish Ministry that has been seriously neglected over the past while. For some that has meant that they have had no access to Holy Communion and the sacraments of reconciliation and of the sick. I would very much like that it should be a priority going forward – I certainly promise that with my lesser role in parish leadership I will commit to attempting to visit the housebound – those who wish it – at least once per month. I would appreciate if those who would wish a visit could let me know afresh. ('Housebound' need not mean they can never get out, but rather that getting to, and being in church for extended periods, is not really feasible or advisable.)

St. Vincent de Paul monthly collection:

The St. Vincent de Paul monthly collection will be taking place after all the masses next week-end – 20th and 21st of September.

Bethany Bereavement Support:

Bethany Bereavement Support Group is a voluntary community and parish-based service. Our objective is to support the bereaved through the grieving process and our services are totally free of charge and confidential within the law. The name Bethany is derived from the story of Jesus' friends Martha & Mary who lived in a village called Bethany and grieved over the death of their brother Lazarus. Visit <https://bethany.ie/>.

Why Sunday Matters:

"As we journey together through this Jubilee Year of Hope, we, the Irish Bishops, warmly invite all Catholics to reflect on the profound gift of Sunday Mass. This special year offers a unique opportunity to rediscover the heart of our faith and, for those who have been away, to return with renewed joy to the celebration of the Eucharist."

A limited number of copies of the Irish Bishops' new pastoral message, *Why Sunday Matters – An Invitation to Reflect on Sunday Mass* are available at the back of the Church. Copies of the message, as well as an introductory video and a four-part video series titled *Sunday Mass – Digging Deeper* can be found at catholicbishops.ie.

Tour to Knock etc.:

Jubilee Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 05th October 2025. €799.00 pps. Price includes return train/bus, 4 nights in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport, with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Full use of leisure facilities. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock Shrine, Ballintubber Abbey, Fr. Peyton Centre & Kylemore Abbey. Irish music nightly. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact 094 900 6426 or 087 1890 236 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

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We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish.....; we remember those who have died recently – Kevin Rutledge; and we remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time – Kathleen Gaul, Jim Smyth.

Financial Update – 14 September 2025: Last week's collection was €1766; Standing orders, approx. €250. Donations via website €136. Payments via credit card machines, €738.

Child Safeguarding: Mount Argus Parish is committed to ensuring the highest level of protection for all children who engage with our parish in any way. For information about the work of our Child Safeguarding Team or for the Dublin Diocese Statement, Procedures and Guidelines, see the poster at our Church notice boards or go to www.mountargusparish.ie/child-protection To speak to a member of the Mount Argus Child Protection Safeguarding Team, please call 0851876203. A copy of the "Child Safeguarding in the Archdiocese of Dublin: Statement, Reporting Procedures and Good Practice Guidelines 2018" is available at the reception desk in the monastery.