



Mount Argus Bulletin

The Parish of St Paul of the Cross

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

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1st February 2026

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
St 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

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's readings invite us to follow a lifestyle focused on humility, righteousness, integrity and mercy, challenging the worldly ways of success and happiness. They encourage us to trust in God's protection and the promise of reward in heaven

In the first reading, Zephaniah urges people to be humble and do what is right; to be people of integrity and humility. The Lord will protect those living honest and just lives. The Psalmist celebrates the Lord's faithfulness and concern for the poor and oppressed. God acts by giving food, freedom, sight, and hope, bringing justice and lifting up those bowed down.

In the Gospel, Jesus teaches the Beatitudes, revealing a portrait of his own core attitudes and values. He expects his disciples to have these same qualities, which lay out the way to follow him.

St Brigid, Patroness of Ireland

St Brigid, born in Faughart, Co. Louth in 450AD, is known as one of Ireland's three patron saints. She is celebrated for her compassion, leadership, and miracles, her feast day being 1st February, marking the start of spring. She is associated with healing, poetry, learning, blacksmithing, livestock, and dairy, and is famous for founding monasteries, keeping a perpetual flame at Kildare, and the tradition of weaving rush crosses for protection.

Traditionally, people make the crosses out of reeds/rushes, which they place inside the house, above a door or window, to welcome the spring season and her feast day. People believe it protects the home from evil, fire, and hunger.

The story behind St Brigid's Cross is that Brigid was asked to comfort a dying pagan chieftain, possibly her father. When she arrived at the sick man's house, he was raving, thought to be beyond consoling and saving. St Brigid calmed him down and began weaving a cross for him from rushes she found on the floor. Watching her work, he asked what she was doing and she explained the story of the Christian cross and the story of salvation to him. Through her story, he became a Christian and asked to be baptised before he died.

St Brigid died at the age of 75 in 525AD and was buried in the church she founded. Her remains were later exhumed and brought to Downpatrick to be buried alongside Saints Patrick and Columcille. Her skull, however, was brought to Lisbon where it remains today.

Bank Holiday – Monday 2nd February

Monday is a Bank Holiday. There will be only **one Mass at 11:00am**, and the parish office/Monastery reception will be closed.

Candlemas and St Blaise

On **Monday, 2nd February** we celebrate Candlemas Day, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Candles will be blessed at the **11.00am Mass**. If you wish to have candles blessed, please bring them to Mass on the day.

In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted the Feast of the Presentation as a special day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life – sisters, brothers and priests who are members of Religious Orders and Congregations. Pray in the words of Pope Francis:

“Today we celebrate the feast of the encounter: may the Virgin Mary obtain for us the grace that the lives of consecrated persons will always be a feast of the encounter with Christ; in this way, like her, we will be able to bring the light of his love to everyone.”

On **Tuesday, 3rd February**, the Feast of St Blaise, the Blessing of Throats will be celebrated at the **10.00am Mass**.

Parish Review

Members of the Provincial Council and appointed facilitators propose to visit Mount Argus parish on **5th - 6th March** to meet with parishioners to ensure that the process of deliberation is informative, engaging and participative. In advance of the visitation, the Provincial Superior has made available the excerpt of the Province Review report pertaining to Mount Argus, copies of which are available at the back of the church (*blue sheets*), at the Monastery Reception, or via email: office@mountargusparish.ie

Special Family Mass

Next Sunday, **8th February** at the **11:00am Mass**, the liturgy will be led by the children of Scoil Mológa. Following the Mass, there will be tea/coffee in the St Charles Centre – everyone welcome.

Mount Argus Parish Centre (179 Lower Kimmage Road) will host a Coffee Morning on **Friday 6th February** from 10.30 am to 12.00 noon. Please come along - everyone welcome.

Bank Standing Orders

To financially support the parish, we recommend a regular direct payment into our bank account. To this end, at the back of the church are blank **Standing Order Forms** to set up a regular payment directly from your account into the Parish account.

We would kindly ask people who have a direct payment in place, to review and renew their standing order.

Please note that a contribution of €21.00/month (or €5.00/week) paid consistently over the year will become eligible for tax relief, payable to the Parish by the Government.

Tax Relief on Donations

We are drawing together the records of receipts we have. In due course we would hope to ask individuals, who have made contributions in excess of €250.00 to the Parish in the calendar year 2025, to complete the relevant CHY forms to enable us to process a tax relief claim.

We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish....; we remember those who have **died recently**: Bro. Peter CP (England); and those whose **anniversary occurs at this time**: Collette McParland (BR), Joy Stokes, John and Bride McCarthy and the deceased McCarthy and Rice Families, Jennie and Peter Campbell, Brendan Kelly, Eugene Charles Brennan (MM), Ned, Kathleen, Monica, Daniel, Bernard Liam, Marie and Edward Purcell, Hilda Lawless (MM), Lucy McDonald (MM), Elizabeth Mooney (BR), Harold Rigdon and Mary Foley.

Financial Update

Last week's collection	€1,341.00
Bank Standing Orders (approx.)	€250.00
Donations via website	€163.00
and card machines	€640.50

Volunteers

We thank all who have come forward to date to offer a lending hand. We will begin to meet the **new** volunteers, beginning with **Readers** (only) on **Thursday 12th February** at **7:30pm** in the St Charles Centre, to complete the diocesan paperwork and for initial induction.

In the meantime, if you think you would like to volunteer in any capacity, offering your skills, talents, ability, or time to the parish community, please do not hesitate make yourself known.