



Mount Argus Bulletin

The Parish of St Paul of the Cross

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

18th October 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
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

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Render unto God

When Jesus ascended into heaven, as we celebrate on the Feast of the Ascension, you may remember the angels then appearing to the disciples and asking them – “Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky?” It was a natural enough reaction on their part – the Jesus whose company they had shared over the previous three years or so, was suddenly gone. Their looking into the sky was basically a version of “what next?” Many people in our parish over the last couple of weeks have expressed similar feelings of “what next?” – “where do we go from here?” Our Passionist superiors, who have the task of staffing our parish, I’m sure are also feeling something similar. Until they get things sorted out, they’ve asked me to take temporary responsibility for us providing the best service we can, in the circumstances, for our parishioners – and all who form the greater Mount Argus community.

In such situations I tend to look for hopeful signs in whatever is happening at the moment. And our Gospel reading today doesn’t let me down! It’s that passage which ends with the famous saying “give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God”. It comes at the end of a passage in which his opponents have tried to trip up Jesus with a question about taxes to the Romans. But He has reversed the trap, by getting them to produce a coin with Caesar’s image on it – something they should never have had, as any one of them that remembered the story of the Golden Calf, and the ban on carrying images, would have fully understood. Their hypocrisy wouldn’t allow them to acknowledge that they knew, as well as Jesus did, that “giving to God” and “giving to Caesar” were not two different coins, as it were, but were two sides of the one coin.

And that’s the challenge in today’s Gospel - the recognition that there are no areas of life that are irrelevant to our relationship with God. It can be easy nowadays to get caught up in political discussions on the state of society; the colossal abuse of power and wealth; and what governments

should be doing – and rightly so! – but it should never divert us from the more immediate questions around our own household, as it were, and how much we are doing ourselves to “give to God what belongs to God”. Truth, justice, honesty, love, thanks, etc. etc. They say money talks! I wonder what our money says about us?

“Giving to God” is going to have different meanings for each of us. In some cases it might look like a very little – but remember the “widow’s mite”, it was all that she had! – some maybe need to be challenged to give a little more. And, of course, I’m not talking church collections. I suggest we can’t just wait to see what the next chapter in the life of Mount Argus will bring – we need to be the ones making sure that the next chapter is positive, enriching, drawing us ever closer to one another and to the Lord. I’m appealing for people, where reasonably possible, to become more involved in the life of our parish community. If you have time you could give, ideas you could share, then please do. We have a Parish Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday. If you have any suggestions that you think can help us going forward, then please let us know – email to office@mountargusparish.ie – or drop a note into reception. And, of course, please be patient. I promise to do my part to move things along as quickly as possible, but resources – especially human resources – are limited, so all that one might hope for might not be readily achievable.

But what we all **can** do is pray. We can thank the Lord for all the blessings He has poured down on our parish in the past. We can ask Him to send His Spirit on us to guide us as we struggle to find the way. And we can ask Him to send labourers into His harvest.

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Mission Sunday:

This Sunday, 18th October, is Mission Sunday. A collection will be taken up after all the masses in support of overseas mission. Right now, missionaries desperately need your help. In many poorer parishes in Africa, Asia, and Latin America missionaries are serving on the front line. They already do so much, walking hand-in-hand with marginalised communities, long before and after any emergency. You can show missionaries you care by supporting World Mission Sunday. Your prayers and generosity will change lives.

NATIONAL SYNODAL ASSEMBLY

The Working Document for the Irish National Synodal Assembly, taking place in Gormanston, Co Meath, on October 17, brings together the fruits of five years of prayer, listening and discernment and will guide delegates as they consider and vote on suggested actions to be presented to the bishops of Ireland.

While the Assembly marks an important moment in the journey, the Synodal Pathway is now moving towards a new phase of implementation. **Everyone** is invited to read, pray with, and reflect on the Working Document and the question:

“What does God want from the Church in Ireland at this time?” Please pray for all those taking part in the Assembly and for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. [Click here to access the Working Document.](#)

THEWAY.IE :

TheWay.ie is a digital platform set up by the Irish Catholic Bishops’ Conference dedicated to sharing the Good News and the witness of the Catholic Church in Ireland. It is intended to help people discover the faith, live the faith and pass on the faith. It is for both seekers and followers. Visit www.theway.ie.

We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish; we remember those who have **died recently:** Fr. Aidan O’Kane C.P., Maureen Walsh ... and those whose **anniversaries occur at this time:** Paddy Field, John Kelly (Month’s mind), Anne Kelly, Mary Carey, William Herbert.

Financial Update

Last week’s Collection
Standing Orders (est.)
Donations via website
Card machines

€1,375.00
€250.00
€110.25
€1218.00