



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

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sowing the Seeds of Faith

I like the story about the tight-rope walker – let's call him Joe - who took on to walk across a 250 yard wide canyon. He first walks across it, apparently almost nonchalantly. Then he walks back, but this time he's blindfolded. And finally, to a massive ovation from the onlookers, he once again crosses, this time pushing a wheelbarrow full of sand. After his exploits Joe was mixing with the crowd of onlookers, and was approached by one in particular who was fulsome in his praise. "You're the greatest I've ever seen," he said. "You really can do anything on that high wire." "You really believe that?" Joe asked. "Certainly" was the reply, "As I said, you're the greatest." "Great", said Joe, "you're just the person I've been waiting for. I've been looking for someone to help me with my last trick. Would you mind if I took the sand out of the barrow and you sit in it instead while I wheel you across the canyon?" "You're kidding! Do you think I'm mad?" "So you don't really think I'm that great – you're not prepared to trust my ability when it gets personal for you."

Our gospel today tells us about the power of a true faith – it is tested by the action it leads to. Our faith isn't simply something we profess, it's also something that we must live out in our lives. Over the past number of weeks we have been getting many requests for baptism certificates, generally for children who are starting out on First Communion or Confirmation programs in their schools. As we have no schools directly attached to our parish here, I have no idea what these programs entail. But I'm pretty certain that they don't involve learning their catechism off by heart as I had to do many moons ago! But that's not something I regret. The general emphasis in educating children in their faith is on establishing a relationship between them and God, and particularly Jesus. There's a limited amount schools can achieve in that. It would not be good if children's sole experience of Jesus should be through school. Then it can easily become – leave

school, leave Jesus. It must extend to the home, primarily, and then to their spiritual family – the one they joined when they were baptised.

I fully understand that bringing children to church, and helping them to be involved, is not the easiest of tasks - and we do fully appreciate that any child is capable of having an 'off-day', but please don't give up on them! With the good example of committed parents they will eventually learn to appreciate the sacredness of what they are participating in. One needs only look around and see the many children who live up to Jesus' invitation – "Let the little children come to me." It's like Joe, above – it's about getting the balance right!

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Volunteers Evening:

The Parish Team and Parish Pastoral Council invite all our parish workers, ministers and volunteers to the annual volunteer evening which this year will take place on Friday, 10th October. The format this year will be somewhat modified, with the entire event taking place in the St. Charles Centre, beginning at 7.30pm. A brief period of prayer and reflection will be followed by some light refreshments. This is our way of saying Thank You for all the work that is graciously and willingly done by so many kind and devoted volunteers, ministers and parish workers in the service of God and on behalf of the whole Mount Argus parish and faith community.

Family Mass Sunday 12th October:

We will be celebrating our next Family Mass this coming Sunday, 12th October at the 11.00am Mass, followed by the usual light refreshments in the St. Charles Centre. All are welcome.

We would ask parents at Family Masses to please bring their children to the front of the Church – in fairness, it's hard for them to feel any involvement if they are far away and can't see past the backs of people in front of them. We're aware too that the children who come here attend various schools. We don't want anyone to feel excluded, and would love if they could be actively involved. Please let Maria, or one of the priests, know if they would like to do a prayer, reading, sing, etc.

St. Clare's Primary School enrolment:

St. Clare's Primary School enrolment for 2026/27 opened on 1st October 2025 and will close on Friday 24th October 2025. The school opens from 8:20am and there is aftercare is available on site. Parents and guardians are warmly invited to submit applications. Application forms and further details are available from the school website, www.stclares.ie.

Anam Cara Support:

Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on Monday 13th October at 7.30pm in the Maldron Hotel, Whitestown Way, Tallaght. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, how recent their death was, or the circumstances of their death. You don't need to register in advance. We also offer an online support group meeting. To find out more call 01 4045378 or email info@anamcara.ie

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We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish.....; we remember those who have died recently –Elizabeth Mooney, Mary Halpin, Cornelius Gregg (Funeral Tuesday, 10.00am.), Phyllis Farrell (Funeral Wednesday, 11.30am.); **and we remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time** – John P. Kearney, John Lysaght, Ian Hazley, Kathleen Morrison, Al Griffin, Bernie Winters, Maura, Thomas, Brigid, Margaret, Tommy & Paddy Maher, Marie Delahunt (month's mind), Kevin Rutledge (month's mind) Sr. Ann Thomas L.S.A., T. J. O'Mahony.

Financial Update – 5 October 2025: Last week's collection was €1430; Standing orders, approx. €250. Donations via website €238. Payments via credit card machines, €790.

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.*