



Mount Argus Bulletin

The Parish of St Paul of the Cross

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

15th March 2026

Mother's Day

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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

Fourth Sunday of Lent – Laetare Sunday

Before we enter the darker days of Holy Week, we celebrate *Laetare* ('Rejoice!') Sunday. Today we are reminded of the joy of the presence of Jesus, the light of our world, and of the love of God shining through our lives.

Both the First Reading and the Psalm speak of the shepherd caring for the flock. Despite David's youth and outward appearance. The Psalm speaks of the certainty that I can rely on the Lord as *my* shepherd, keeping me safe from harm whatever happens in my life

St Paul in the second reading reminds the Ephesians, and us, that God's light in us shines out for others when we live in *goodness and right living and truth*.

In the Gospel, the blind man's sight is restored and he comes into the light. Not only is he physically able to see for the first time, but he also recognises Jesus as the Son of Man. In contrast, those around him remain in the darkness of un-belief, trapped by their unwillingness to see Jesus as he really is.

This week, we pray for those who have yet to allow the light of Christ into their lives. We pray that we will carry Christ's light to others as we walk beside them, sharing their hardships and sorrows

St Patrick - Patron of Ireland

Patrick was born in 5th-century Britain into a Romanised family. Aged 16, he was captured by Irish raiders from the villa of his father, Calpornius, a deacon and minor local official. He was taken into slavery in Ireland where he would spend six years as a shepherd on Slemish Mountain, in Co Antrim. It is during this time that he discovered his faith. Upon dreaming that the ship in which he was to escape was ready, he fled his master and returned to Britain. After being reunited with his family, Patrick had a dream in which one Victoricus delivered him a letter headed "The Voice of the Irish."

In his *Confessio*, Saint Patrick writes: "*I saw a man coming, as it were from Ireland. His name was Victoricus, and he carried many letters, and he gave me one of them. I read the heading: 'The Voice of the Irish.'* As I began the letter, I imagined in that moment that I heard the voice of those very people who were near the wood of Foclut, which is beside the western sea - and they cried out, as with one voice: '*We appeal to you, holy servant boy, to come and walk among us.*'" The dream prompted young Patrick to apply for the priesthood. He was ordained by St. Germanus, the Bishop of Auxerre, and was later ordained a bishop and sent to take the Gospel to Ireland. He arrived in Slane, Ireland on 15 March 433. The rest is history.

St Patrick's Day

St Patrick's Day is a holy day of obligation. Masses for the feast day are the vigil Mon 6:15pm; Tues 11:00am – no 6:15pm Mass.

Parish Review

Members of the Provincial Council visited Mount Argus parish on the evening of Tuesday 10th March.

The Provincial explained that the review was prompted by the reducing number of active Passionists in the Province, and the challenges to continue serving the current missions and ministries in both Ireland and the UK.

He advised that he had been in liaison with the Archbishop and explained the situation in which the Passionists find themselves.

There was keen discussion from the floor. The main themes which were raised were:

- the Passionists do not have the personnel with the energy to sustain parish ministry in Mount Argus, with all the inherent pastoral, spiritual, sacramental and catechetical demands;
- Mount Argus has a long Passionist history, which will continue in some form;
- the Church of St Paul of the Cross is the only church in Ireland with the tomb of a saint – focus on and promote St Charles;
- invest in the maintenance of the Church, re-configure the museum and make better use of the Centre.

Fr Martin Coffey assured all present that the meeting was the start of a process of discussion, and that nothing will change imminently. He noted that this is an exercise in which the Diocese and other religious orders are continually engaged, in response to ongoing pastoral demands and fewer personnel.

Suggested Lenten Exercises

- Mass during the week (10am and 6:15pm)
- Praying the Rosary (after 10am Mass daily)
- Adoration (Exposition on Wednesday and Friday 4 – 6pm)
- Stations of the Cross (after 10am Mass on Fridays)
- *Lectio Divina**
- Spiritual Reading (The Practice of the Presence of God)**

* 2nd – 5th Wednesdays of Lent at 7:30pm in St Charles Centre

** by Brother Lawrence as recommended by Pope Leo

St Vincent de Paul [SVP]

The monthly SVP Collection will take place outside the Church after the Masses next weekend **21/22 March**

Drive & Drop

Donate essential baby supplies, and help a mother in need on **Sunday 15th March** 9:00am – 1:00pm, at Three Patrons car park, Rathgar.

Tax Relief on Donations

We would ask individuals, who have made contributions in excess of €250.00 to the Parish, to complete the relevant CHY forms to enable us to process a tax relief claim. Fr Aidan will be available after all the Masses next weekend to offer his assistance and advice.

Holy Week Services

Monday 30th, Tuesday 31st and Wednesday 1st
Masses at 10.00am and 6.15pm

Holy Thursday, 2nd April

10.00am Morning Prayer

7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

The Church will be open for adoration until 9.00pm

Good Friday, 3rd April

10.00am Morning Prayer

3.00pm Liturgy of the Passion and Death of the Lord, with Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion

7.30 pm Seven Last Words

(Music by the Male Voice Choir of An Garda Síochána)

Holy Saturday, 4th April

10.00am Morning Prayer

9.00pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday, 5th April

Masses at 8:00am, 11:00am and 4:00pm

We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish; we remember those who have **died recently**: Sandra Walker and Vera Butler; and those whose **anniversary occurs at this time**: Breda Kelly, John O'Brien, Mary Bennett, deceased members of McCabe Family, Mary Rose Brady, James and Eithne Hickey, Cora Morris (MM), Pauline Murray, Joe Byrne and Peggy Reilly.

Financial Update

Last week's collection

€1,130.00

Bank Standing Orders (approx.)

€250.00

Donations via website
and card machines

€185.00

€1,172.00

Mother's Day

*We wish all mothers, including godmothers,
a blessed and happy Mother's Day.*

