



Mount Argus Bulletin

The Parish of St Paul of the Cross

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

18th January 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

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

The first reading and the Gospel of the Mass are 'paired'. They are integral parts of the liturgy, often reflecting a shared thematic or theological connection. The first reading is generally taken from the Old Testament and foreshadows, or prepares us for, the Gospel message. For example, themes of salvation, mercy, and covenant in the first reading can find their fulfilment or echo in Jesus' teachings or actions, as described in the Gospel. This connection helps us to see the continuity and progression of God's revelation throughout Scripture and deepens our understanding of the liturgical celebration.

The main events of Christmastide are now behind us, and until Lent, we follow the Sundays of 'Ordinary Time'. This Second Sunday in Ordinary Time returns to the event of Jesus's baptism, which we celebrated last Sunday. In the Gospel, John the Baptist recognises *Jesus the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world*. John bears witness that Jesus truly is the eternal ('a man coming after me who ranks before me') Son of God and is anointed '*the man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest ...*'. Jesus is the Christ.

In the First Reading, the Prophet Isaiah speaks of the Servant, whom Christians have long identified with Jesus, and who has been the focus and culmination of the Advent and Christmas seasons. *He will be a light for the nations, so that salvation can reach the end of the earth. [Is 49:6]*

We, as Christians, might reflect on the witness that we ourselves give through the living out of our baptism, by our co-operating with the Holy Spirit gifted to us and our sharing in the mission of Jesus to be a light for the nations.

MOUNT ARGUS PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to be a living parish where all will feel welcome, everyone will be appreciated and encouraged to use their gifts, and people and priests work together to develop a community of faith and compassion

Parish Review

During 2024/25 the Passionists undertook a Province Review (in Ireland, Scotland, England and Paris). The Review delivered a number of recommendations, one of which is to review our commitment to the parishes for which we care.

Members of the Provincial Council and appointed facilitators propose to visit Mount Argus parish in early March (date to be announced) 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 Monastery Reception, or via email: office@mountargusparish.ie

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins on **Sunday, 18 January**, and continues until 25 January which is the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2026 extends an invitation to draw upon this shared Christian heritage and to delve more deeply into our fellowship in Christ, which unites Christians worldwide.

The theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity for 2026: *'One hope, one calling'* - comes from Apostle Paul's letter to the Ephesians: "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling" (Eph. 4:4). In a world with diverse and often divided traditions and expressions of Christian faith, Ephesians 4:4 reminds us that all believers are part of the "one body" of Christ.

The opening service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2026 takes place this **Sunday, January 18, at 8pm** in St Thomas' Indian Orthodox Church, Malankara House, Old Lucan Road, Palmerstown D20 VP97

Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week 2026 also begins on **January 18**. This is a week to celebrate and acknowledge the wonderful contribution that our Primary Catholic schools, both primary and post-primary, make to the mission of the Church in our local faith communities and throughout the wider Church. The theme of Catholic Schools Week 2026 is *Normal Lives, Called to Holiness*. Catholic Schools Week Resources are available for download at www.catholicschools.ie

Parish Collection Envelopes

Parish Envelopes for 2026 are available for collection from the office in the monastery. Parish envelopes are a means of tracking regular payments to the parish and, where desired, can assist tax/charitable purposes.

If you do not have a set and would like one, please let us know.

We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish....; we remember those who have died recently: Sr Carmel Murphy LSA, Tom Henry, and Patsy McKeever (Fr Brendan's mother); **and those whose anniversary occurs at this time:** Thomas and Angela O'Brien, James McGrath, Kathleen and Thomas Quinn, Mary Jane Sheldreck and her son Lar, Denis Scanlon, James and Kate McNerney, Brian and Stacia Ward, Betty Behan, Tom Condron, Maeve Fletcher, Sheila Versey, Mary Lyons, John O'Connell, Nancy, William Jonny Gallagher, Patricia McDermot, and John Carpenter.

Financial Update

Last week's collection *

€1,590.00

Bank Standing Orders (approx.)

€250.00

Donations via website
and card machines

€96.00

€837.00

* includes the Epiphany

Volunteers

Hopefully, in the not-too-distant future, the Parish Pastoral Council and I can more clearly highlight the many areas (in addition to below), in which your help and support would be greatly valued, and where a lending hand will be greatly welcomed and appreciated.

Already we have volunteers serving as/in: Parish Pastoral Council, Parish Centre Management Team, Baptism Team, Religious Education Team, Special Family Mass/Liturgy, choir members, readers, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, welcome & hospitality, counters, florists, cleaners.

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 to approach me.

Fr. Aidan