

Contact:

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St. Paul's Parish Ayrfield
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - B
4th February 2018
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You Shall Be My Witnesses – Confirmation 2018



Next Saturday we will welcome the children who are preparing for their Confirmation. The families have been invited to a special enrolment ceremony that will take place on **Saturday 10th** at the **6 pm Mass**.

You Shall Be My Witness

You Shall Be My Witness is the Parish Preparation Programme for Confirmation which will be commencing on Monday 12th February for all children being Confirmed this year.

For those of you who have volunteered to be Leaders in the programme we say a big thank you. This programme will give you the opportunity to get more actively involved with your child's preparation for Confirmation.

The programme for the children will take place in the Pastoral Centre over four weeks, on the following dates:

- **Monday 12th February 2018 8 pm - 9 pm**
- **Monday 19th February 2018 8 pm - 9 pm**
- **Monday 26th March 2018 8 pm - 9 pm**
- **Monday 5th March 8 pm - 9 pm**

We are looking forward to seeing you all again, and remember you will get much more from this than you will ever give!

We are very grateful to Lee Redmond who is co-ordinating this programme. If you have any queries regarding the programme you may contact him at 086 159 8294.

Outdoor Family Offering Collections

The outdoors collection envelope boxes are available in the Parish Office for collection and distribution. *A sincere thank you to all our dedicated collectors, counters and contributors each year. Thank you also to those who contribute by standing order, this method is most convenient.*

This collection, as you know, is crucial for the practical running of our Parish and its maintenance and assistance to the Schools. If any parishioner would you like to contribute to the Family Offering Collection, either by a **Family Offering Envelope** or by a **Standing Order**, please contact the Parish Office on 01-8160984.

There are spare blue envelopes at the entrances to the Church for any person who may not be from the parish but would like to contribute to this collection as it is the only collection where funds stay in the parish.

Pastors Desk

In the television series 'The Meaning of Life' the Actor Stephen Fry, who is an atheist, caused some controversy when during the interview, Gay Byrne asked him what he would say to God at the gates of heaven, should he have gotten it wrong and this all be true. His immediate response was, I would say to him (God) 'How dare you, how dare you create a world to which there is so much misery that is not our fault....' These words were regarded as blasphemous by some and made headlines for some time after.

Today, we hear how Jesus goes with James and John to Simon and Andrew's house. He heard that Simon's mother-in-law was unwell. As he enters and takes her by the hand we are told that the fever leaves her, and she is well once again. Rather than rest, she immediately begins to wait on all those around her. Having been healed by Jesus she feels called to minister to others and share her experience of being cured of her illness.

The presence of sickness and pain in society can often cause us to question or doubt Gods love or his very existence. Our faith can be tested or even disappear entirely in the aftermath of a major tragic event we witness personally or see and hear of in the media.

In today's story we see through Jesus healing of the sick who were brought to him that God is not indifferent to suffering in the world.



Fr. Gerry

Mass Times

- Saturday : 6 pm Vigil**
- Sundays : 10:30 am & 12:30 pm**
- Weekdays : Mon, Wed, Thu & Fri. 10 am**
- Service of Word : Tuesday 10 am**

Fr. Tom Colreavy R.I.P



On behalf of the Parish, Fr. Liam Murtagh blessed a special memoriam at the grotto prior to **Fr. Tom's 1st Anniversary Mass held on Saturday, 3rd February 2018 in Ayrfield.**

Light refreshments served in the Pastoral Centre after 6pm mass. All are welcome.

On the first anniversary of his death, his sister Kathleen, his brothers Hugh, Mick, Jack and Seamus and extended family wish to thank most sincerely all those who sympathised with them on their sad loss. To those who attended his reposing at his home in Ayrfield, his funeral mass in St. Paul's Church, Ayrfield, and his requiem mass and burial in St. Mary's, Gortletteragh. To all who travelled long distances, especially Fr. Emilio Bortolini who came from Brazil. To the people who sent mass cards, letters of sympathy, posted condolences and tributes on the rip website and donated to St. Francis Hospice Raheny.

To Archbishop Diarmuid Martin and his fellow bishops and priests who attended his funeral in Ayrfield and Gortletteragh. To Frs. Dermot Clarke (deceased), Seamus Conway, Pdraig O'Coilain, Liam Murtagh, John Quinn, Gerry Corcoran and Paddy Boyle who made both masses so meaningful and consoling. The choirs of St. Paul's, Ayrfield and St. Mary's, Gortletteragh. The teachers, pupils and choir of St. Paul's National School, Ayrfield. The parishioners of St. Paul's Parish and Ayrfield Community Centre who did the catering. Thanks to the Gardaí, O'Tooles and Gortletteragh GAA clubs who provided traffic control, stewarding, and Guards of Honour. To Jennings Undertakers, Coolock and John McKiernan Undertakers, Gortletteragh.

Special thanks to Sean and Madeleine Tully, Capetown, South Africa who cared for Tom in his final illness, and the parishioners of St. Paul's, Ayrfield who were so good to Tom over the previous nineteen years he had spent with them. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass has been offered for your intentions.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

*We remember at Mass
And in our prayers
Those who have gone before us*



Saturday 3rd	<i>(Vigil Mass)</i>	6:00 pm
Fr. Tom Colreavy		1st Anniversary
Sunday 4th		10:30 am
Gosie, Sunny & Tommy Fitzgerald		Anniversary
Sunday 4th		12:30 pm
Richard, Elizabeth & Baby Patrick Flood		Anniversaries
John Cassels Snr., John Cassels Jnr. & Michael Hannah		Anniversaries
Wednesday 7th		10:00 am
Kathleen Fitzsimons		8th Anniversary
Thursday 8th		10:00 am
Liam Byrne		3rd Anniversary
Friday 9th		10:00 am
Frances Daly		Anniversary

May they rest in peace

Monday 5th February is the 1st Monday. 10am mass will be offered for all on the Mass Bouquet List.

Tuesday 6th February is the 1st Tuesday. Service of Word with Eucharist and devotion to St. Pio at 10am

St. Vincent De Paul

The society will be taking up their monthly collection after all masses next weekend, 10th & 11th February. They would like to thank all parishioners for their continued generosity throughout the year and especially at Christmas time.

Cake & Bread Sale

The Parents' Association of St. Paul's Senior School would like to invite you to a Cake & Bread sale on **Friday 9th Feb, from 9am – 12noon** in **Room 16.**



Notice to Coeliacs: *If you have been advised to abstain from Gluten, please contact the Priest before Mass so that we can try to accommodate your requirements.*