



# St. Paul's Parish Ayrfield

Second Sunday of Advent – A 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019

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## Pastors Desk



SECOND SUNDAY  
OF  
*Advent*

Today, the call of both Isaiah and of John the Baptist is "Prepare a way for the Lord". We are challenged to sweep away the mountains of Sin, fill in the valleys of evil that cover our world.

As we continue our journey through this season of Advent, we are encouraged to take stock of our lives and to ask ourselves how best we can prepare spiritually for the forthcoming season of Christmas. We can be so busy preparing for Christmas on many levels but the most important thing for all followers is to make space for the Lord to come into our hearts, to heal those parts of our lives that need it.

Families are also under extra pressure on many levels right now. With additional financial burdens and homelessness for example. In those situations, it's so easy to lose hope that things will improve in the foreseeable future and that Christmas will be happy and a peaceful time for all.

Today's Gospel challenges us to prepare a way for the Lord by keeping hope alive in our hearts.

*Fr. Gerry.*

*Today we have the **Annual indoor Christmas collection** for the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul**. It replaces the usual Share collection. It is our opportunity to support the work of our local Conference of the Society as they reach out to the most vulnerable in our community on our behalf.*

Envelopes are available on the church stands at both door.



### Christmas Remembrance discs

Remembering is a fundamental dimension of our Christian tradition, which we call 'the communion of saints'. We believe that our loved ones have only departed this life but are very much alive in another life.

One way to remember our loved ones at Christmas is to write their names on one of the Remembrance Discs to be hung on the Christmas tree in the Church in time for the Carol Service. Christmas Remembrance Discs will be available from **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December**.

### Annual Christmas Carol Service



Our Annual Christmas Carol Service, which is a festive highlight for many, will take place on **Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December at 7:30pm** in St. Paul's Church, Ayrfield. This Carol Service heralds the arrival of Christmas with classic carols, seasonal reflection, nativity play "I'm Gonna Shine" performed by 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> class children from St. Paul's Senior school and our parish choirs will be singing a selection of seasonal favourites.

### Mass Times

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

### Contact:

<b>Fr. Gerard Deegan</b>	<b>Co - Parish Priest</b>	01 8674007
<b>Fr. Gerry Corcoran</b>	<b>Moderator, Co-P.P.</b>	087 24 08 428
<b>Fr. Matthias Jjooga</b>	<b>Curate</b>	089 94 10 262
<b>Rev. Gerard Reilly</b>	<b>Deacon</b>	01 847 9822
<b>Parish Office:</b>	<b>01 - 8160984</b>	<b>Sacristy: 01 - 8160981</b>



### You Shall Be My Witnesses

This Sunday, at the 12:30pm Family Mass, we welcome the children who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. We also welcome their families, friends and teachers for the **Enrolment Ceremony**. This is their first step in the **"You Shall Be My Witnesses"** programme in preparation for receiving the **Gift of the Holy Spirit** at **Confirmation on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020**.

### Christmas Carol Service.

**St John the Evangelist Church, Tonlegee Rd.**

The annual Carol Service takes place on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30p.m., to be followed by refreshments in the parish hall. All are welcome.

### Ayrfield Parish

#### Grand Christmas Hamper Draw

Lots of Turkey & Ham Prizes

**Draw Takes Place on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>**

**December 2019**



Tickets €5 each or Book of 5 for €20, available from the sacristy and Parish Office.

Please take a book between family and friends.

**All Proceeds go to our Local St. Vincent De Paul.**



### A Time to Remember

#### Hospice Tree of Life at Christmas

**St. Francis Hospice Raheny**

**Tree of Light Ceremony** will take place on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7:30pm**.

You can remember a loved one by dedicating a light on the Hospice Christmas Tree; €6 per light. Contact the Hospice on 01-8327535 for further information.

### Thank You

**From Fr. Matthias Jjooga**



Fr. Matthias would like to thank you for the response towards the appeal for the reading glasses which he took to Uganda on his visit in October.

An Eye-camp was held in his home village of Nsanvu-Kibula, which involved testing more than 400 people of all ages. The main aim behind organizing these **eye camps** is to create awareness among the people and provide them with various services like **eye care education**, full **eye checkups**, medical care etc. More than 300 people benefitted from the glasses that came from the parishes of St. Paul's Ayrfield and Holy Trinity, Donaghmede.



*We remember at Mass  
and in our prayers  
those who  
have gone before us*



Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>

(Vigil Mass)

6:00 pm

**Joanna Foley**

Anniversary

**Harry James**

Months Mind

**John Curley &**

Anniversary

**Deceased Members of the Curley Family**

**Michael & Ester McKenna**

Anniversaries

**Jean & Martin Leavey**

Anniversaries

**Willie Donohue**

Anniversary

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>

12:30 pm

**Deceased Members of the Lyons Family**

**Shauna Dowdall**

Birthday Remembrance

**Paddy Murphy**

3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

Monday 9<sup>th</sup>

10:00 am

**Mark Velente**

Birthday Remembrance

**Maureen & Liam Doherty**

Anniversaries

*May they rest in peace. Amen*

**Eucharistic Adoration** has been **cancelled** for next **Monday morning** and **Wednesday morning & evening** due to the preparation and presentation of the Annual Christmas Carol Service

**Reminder:** Next Sunday at the 12:30pm Family Mass is the next mass in the **Do This In Memory** programme for the children preparing for their First Holy Communion.

As the 8<sup>th</sup> Dec falls on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent this year,

the Feast of **The Immaculate**

**Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

will be celebrated on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup>**.

This is not a Holy Day of Obligation, mass at 10am.



**The evening mass for the Feast will be at 6 pm on Monday night in Ayrfield and at 6:30pm in Holy Trinity.**

**Notice to Coeliacs:** *If you have been advised to abstain from Gluten, at communion time, there will be a ciborium placed on a small table at the side of the altar containing consecrated hosts with very low traces of gluten in them. You are invited to help yourself to receive this instead of the congregation hosts.*