



# St. Paul's Parish Ayrfield



Fourth Sunday of Advent – A      22<sup>nd</sup> December 2019

Webstreaming : [www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-paul-s-church](http://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-paul-s-church)

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## Pastors Desk

Contracts are an important part of life today. The most familiar ones we know are the ones for utilities, like gas and electricity or television and internet. They, like mobile phone service providers want us to sign up for a period to avail of some special rate or package. Marriage is another contract that is often under pressure in society. Sometimes walking away seems like the only option. Today's story about Joseph and Mary may give hope to couple's facing a similar difficulty.

The discovery that Mary was pregnant would have presented Joseph with a dilemma. As a devout Jew, he knew that per the letter of the law he could not proceed with the marriage. He was caught between keeping God's law and his love for Mary and doing what was right for her. Then Joseph has a dream. We are told that 'An angel of the Lord' appears and tells Joseph 'not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife' because she has conceived her child by the Holy Spirit and he must be called Jesus. He will be the one to save his people from their sins. So out of his initial thoughts of scandal and shame, Joseph discovers that this is all part of Gods plan for the salvation of the world.

Mary and Joseph are an inspiration to us all, especially in times of doubt and stress. Joseph, even though he would have initially found it difficult he then welcomed all that was happening as an opportunity for increasing in holiness and Mary for her acceptance of all that was to happen to her as part of Gods plan for all of humanity. May we never lose sight of the fact, Emmanuel...God is with us. Always!

*Fr. Gerry.*

### Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December : Confessions

Holy Trinity Church, from 10am - 11am &  
St. Paul's Church from 11am - 12pm and 2pm - 2:30pm

### St. Paul's Church Christmas Mass Timetable

#### Christmas Eve 24<sup>th</sup> December

5 pm Family Mass	Cool Side of God & Ayrfield Youth Choir
7 pm	St. Paul's Community Choir

#### Christmas Day 25<sup>th</sup> December

10:30 am	St. Paul's Folk Group
12:30 pm Family Mass	Cool Side of God & Ayrfield Youth Choir

### Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> December, St. Stephen's Day, Mass in St. Paul's Church at 10 am.



Weekday masses will be held at 10am  
and will be offered for all those on the  
Christmas Mass Bouquets List.

### 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:

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

## 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 and are very much alive in another life.

One way to remember our loved ones at Christmas time is to list their names on any of the **Remembrance Discs** that are available in baskets at the doors of the church. These are hung on the Christmas tree in the Church over the advent and Christmas period to help us remember our departed loved ones.

**Eucharistic Adoration** is finished for the Christmas period and will begin again on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January**.  
*Have a Holy & Peaceful Christmas.*

**Christmas Dues Envelopes** are available at the church doors.

**Christmas Dues** are an annual diocesan collection, part of the Common Fund for the support of priests. This collection does not stay in the parish, it is an income that supports all the priests of the diocese including sick and retired priests.

## **An Irish Christmas Blessing**



*God grant you lightness in your step,  
A smile on every face you meet,  
Loved ones gathered at your hearth,  
And at your door, good friends to greet  
A holy hymn upon your lips,  
A window candle burning bright,  
And may the Good Lord bless your  
Heart and come to dwell there  
Christmas night.*

*We wish all our parishioners a  
very Happy, Holy and  
Peaceful Christmas.*

*Fr. Gerard, Fr. Gerry, Fr. Matthias &  
Parish Staff - Freda, Maí & Peter.*

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



**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>** (Vigil Mass) 6:00 pm  
**Maureen Doherty** Anniversary  
**Joanne, Margaret & Keith Fitzsimons** Anniv.  
**Bernadette Timmons** Anniversary  
**Nora & Shay Mahady** Anniversary  
**Christina & Sonny McDonnell** Anniversary  
**Sammy & Celia Hurley** Anniversary  
**Deceased members of the McDonnell & Hurley Families**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>** 10:30 am  
**Sandra Purcell** Anniversary  
**Teresa Agar** Birthday Remembrance

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>** 12:30 pm  
**Mary, James, Alice & Joe Pool** Anniv.  
**Michael Carey** Anniversary  
**Margaret & Billy Seals** Anniversary

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>** 10:00 am  
**Nodlaig Carr** Birthday Remembrance

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup>** 10:00 am  
**Mary Galgey** 14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>** 6:00 pm  
**Sr. Joan Tierney & Fr. Tom Colreavy** Birthday Rem.

*May they rest in peace. Amen*

As **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December** is **Christmas Eve**,  
there will be **no 10am Mass**

**Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards**  
are available in the Sacristy, **€5** each.

Copies of **St. Paul's Parish Calendar 2020**  
are available on the church stands.

### **St. Paul's News**

Copies of St. Paul's News have been distributed to households in the parish. Spare copies are available on the Church Stands.

**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.*