

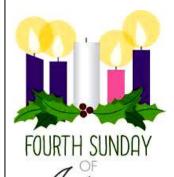
## St. Paul's Parish Ayrfield

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



www.stpaulsparishayrfield.com Email: parishofficeayrfield@eircom.net





#### **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
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

#### **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.

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

<u>Christmas Dues Envelopes</u> 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, Mai & 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 Anniv.

Mary, James, Alice & Joe Pool Michael Carey

**Margaret & Billy Seals** 

Anniversary 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.