



# St. Paul's Parish Ayrfield

Fourth Sunday of Advent – A

18<sup>th</sup> December 2022

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## Pastors Desk



FOURTH SUNDAY  
OF  
*Advent*

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.*

### Christmas Carol Service :

We like to thank the members of **St. Paul's Community Choir, musicians, readers and all who assisted on Tuesday night.** What a great event to get us prepared for the birth of Jesus at Christmas. We also like to thank those of you who came in person on the night and those who tuned in online wherever you were.



**Cancelled Carol Service** Due to unforeseen circumstances the Carol service in **Holy Trinity Parish is cancelled.** If you had planned on attending the Carol Service, you are most welcome to attend an **Evening of Christmas Carols** with the **Raheny Folk Group** on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm** in the **Church of Our Lady of Divine Grace, Raheny.**

### Christmas Mass Timetable

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

5 pm	Holy Trinity - Donaghmede
5 pm	St. Paul's Church - Ayrfield
6:30 pm	Holy Trinity - Donaghmede
7 pm	St. Paul's Church - Ayrfield
8 pm	Holy Trinity - Donaghmede

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

9:30am	Holy Trinity - Donaghmede
10:30 am	St. Paul's Church - Ayrfield
11:30am	Holy Trinity - Donaghmede
12:30 pm	St. Paul's Church - Ayrfield

### Mass Times

**Saturday : 6 pm Vigil**  
**Sundays : 10:30 am & 12:30pm**  
**Weekdays : Tue, Wed, Thu & Fri. 10 am**  
**Service of the Word with Communion : Monday 10am**  
*Weekday service is preceded by the Rosary at 9:40am*

### Contact:

**Fr. Gerard Deegan** Co - Parish Priest 01 8674007  
**Fr. Gerry Corcoran** Moderator, Co-P.P. 087 24 08 428  
**Fr. Paul Callan** Team Assistant  
**Parish Office:** 01 - 8160984 **Sacristy:** 01 - 8160981  
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**St Monica's Church, Edenmore.**

Join us for Mass and reflection on the **Advent Scriptures**, led by Fr Bryan Shortall OFM Cap, to help us prepare our hearts and spirits for the celebration of the wonder of Emmanuel - Christ with us.

Continues on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10am



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



**Confession Times : Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

Holy Trinity Church, from 10am - 11am & Paul's Church from 11am - 12pm and 2:30pm - 3pm



**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 door 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.



Thank you for your generosity to the **Annual Christmas Collection for St. Vincent DePaul.**

The amount collected was € 2,182.00

**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. Paul &  
Parish Staff - Freda, Maí & Peter.*

**Saturday (Vigil Mass) 6:00 pm**  
Margaret Gaugh & Maureen Doherty Anniv.'s  
Conor McCormack 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary  
Ann Keogh & Deceased members  
of the McCormack & Carthy Families  
Mary, Martin & Martin Junior O'Grady Anniv.'s

**Sunday 10:30 am**  
Emer Harmon Anniversary  
Margaret Fitzsimons 14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**Sunday 12:30 pm**  
William, Patricia & Brian Foy Anniversaries  
Michael, Maureen & Raymond Faherty Anniv.'s  
Betty Mannion 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

**Tuesday 10:00 am**  
Phyllis, Seamus & Pierre Wearen Anniv.'s

**Wednesday 10:00 am**  
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**Thursday 10:00 am**  
Nodlaig Carr Birthday Remembrance

**Friday 10:00 am**  
Mary & William Balfe Anniversary

*May they rest in peace*

Copies of **St. Paul's Parish Calendar 2023** are available on the church stands.

**Monday 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.

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

**Christmas Dues Envelopes**

Are available at the church doors.



**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.