



St. Paul's Parish Ayrfield

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – A

19th February 2023

www.ayrfieldparish.ie

Email : ParishOfficeAyrfield@gmail.com



Pastors Desk



In the book of Leviticus, we hear the Lord say to Moses 'you must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart'. If your brother does wrong then for no reason, other than love, you should tell him what his offence is so that he can change his ways.

Jesus challenges the social norm of his time which declared that a person was entitled to claim an eye for an eye to exact vengeance for some wrong doing committed against them. Instead he declares they should forgive those who do harm or wrong them. They should even go as far as loving and praying for their enemies. By doing so they can bring about a change of heart of the part of those who have done wrong.

Living out this challenge to love our neighbour as ourselves is perhaps the most difficult of all the commandments. We are tasked with loving not just those who love us but also those who have hurt us by things they have said and done in the past. But, Jesus told his disciples that they would be judged on the unconditional love they showed to others.

We are all grateful recipients of God's forgiveness on many occasions in life. It follows that in return we should imitate God and share that forgiveness with those who have hurt us. When we do, we free ourselves of the burden or the hurt that has caused us pain and resentment once and for all.

Lord give us the grace to put love where there is hate, forgiveness where there is resentment, and healing where there are wounds and hurt.

Fr. Gerry Corcoran.

A special collection will be taken up next weekend, 25th & 26th February in support of the people of Turkey and Syria affected by the devastating earthquakes. This will replace the SHARE collection.



Our Lady of Knock Prayer Group

Meeting will take place on **Thursday 23rd of February at 8pm** in St. Paul's Church, Ayrfield.

Parish Survey: *As part of the new partnership of parishes we would value your opinion on the current mass times here in St. Paul's Parish, Ayrfield.*

We would be grateful if you could fill out the survey forms which are available at the entrances to the church.

KNOCK PILGRIMAGE

Date for your diary:

Our 2023 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock, which will be led by Archbishop Farrell, will take place on **Saturday, April 29.**

If you have any queries, or have an interest in attending you can leave your contact details with Mai in the Sacristy, or you can email knockpilgrimage@dublindiocese.ie

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
RCN Parishes Trust : 20016166 **Charity No. CHY 7424**

Lent 2023

What Should I Do for Lent this Year? Well, who better to pick for as your Lenten spiritual director than Pope Francis? **Pope Francis' 10 Tips.**

- Get rid of the lazy addiction that keep us from God** - "[Lent] is a 'powerful' season, a turning point that can foster change and conversion in each of us. Lent helps us to leave behind old habits of sin that deceive and ensnare us."
- Do something that costs** - Lent is a time for self-denial; we should ask ourselves what we can give up in order to really help others by our self-denial. No self-denial is real without this dimension of penance.
- Don't remain indifferent** "Indifference to our neighbour and to God represents a real temptation for us Christians." Think of others, think of God - not ourselves.
- Pray: Make our hearts like yours!** "During this Lent, then, brothers and sisters, let us all ask the Lord: 'Make our hearts like yours'." In this way we will receive a heart which is not closed or indifferent.
- Take part in the sacraments** - "Lent is a time for letting Christ serve us so that we in turn may become more like him." This happens whenever we hear the word of God and receive the sacraments, especially the Eucharist. Go to Mass more often if you can.
- Prayer** - "In the face of so many things that hurt us and harden us and make us indifferent, we are called to prayer, especially during Lent. In prayer we come close to God".
- Fasting** - "**We must be careful not to practice fasting because it makes us feel good about ourselves.**" Fasting makes sense if it questions our security, and if it also leads to some benefit for others.
- Almsgiving** - "Almsgiving helps us to experience giving freely, of sharing our blessings with others."
- Help the Poor** "In the poor and outcast we see Christ's face; by loving and helping the poor, we love and serve Christ."
- Evangelize** "The Lord asks us to be heralds of his love and mercy - to our brothers and sisters experiencing darkness."

You probably won't be able to take huge steps forward in all of these areas. Instead, pick a couple that stand out to you and try to find practical ways to grow in your love of God and your love of your neighbour. Which one of Pope Francis' tips sticks out to you the most?

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



Saturday	(Vigil Mass)	6:00 pm
Hugh Keenan		12 th Anniversary
Alice & William O'Shea		Remembrance
Stephen Haugh		Birthday Remembrance
Michael Keyes		12 th Anniversary

Sunday		10:30am
Michael O'Flaherty		Anniversary

Sunday		12:30 pm
George, Mary Marie & Josie Byrne		Anniv.
George, Elizabeth, Margaret & Elizabeth Evans		Anniversaries

Tuesday		10:00am
Rosie McDonnell		Recently Deceased

Wednesday		10:00am
Maureen Glynn		Recently Deceased

Friday		10:00am
Paul Cooling & Matt Killeen		Anniversaries

May they rest in peace

Tuesday 21st February is Shrove Tuesday.

The name 'Shrove' comes from the old Roman Catholic practice of being 'Shriven' meaning to confess ones sins. Pancakes are associated with Shrove Tuesday, the day preceding Lent, because they are a way to use up rich foods before the fasting season of the 40 days of Lent.

Wednesday 22nd February is Ash Wednesday.
Blessed ashes will be distributed during 10am mass.
A day of fast and abstinence

St. Vincent De Paul

The Society will take up their monthly collection after all masses **this weekend, 18th & 19th February.**

Lay Ministry Weekend 25th & 26th February

A chance to find out more about the different ministries involved in the parish and express an interest in joining any.

Trócaire Boxes will be available on the stands at both doors of the church during Lent.

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.*