



St. Paul's Parish Ayrfield

20th December 2020

Fourth Sunday of Advent – B



Webstreaming : www.churchservices.tv/ayrfield

www.stpaulsparishayrfield.com

Email : parishofficeayrfield@gmail.com

Pastors Message



All our readings today focus on the circumstance leading up to the first coming of Jesus. They also tell us that God's preparation through history for the coming of Jesus was full of surprises. Beginning with our first reading of God's promise to David that he would have a never-ending line of royal descendants which is also recalled in the psalm today. Saint Paul in our second reading surprises us with his proclamation of God's plan for human salvation through Jesus whom he describes as 'the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages...'

In our gospel today, the Angel Gabriel surprises Mary with several announcements including the fact that the child she would bear, would not only be a distant grandson of David – but also God's own son.

All this revelation must have proved very confusing or disturbing to Mary and yet her response in Faith was 'let what you have said be done to me'. She agrees to carry out the Word Gabriel has addressed to her. Her openness to Gods plans in her life is an inspiration to us all. We need a courageous and generous Yes to God as Mary did.

Since March we have endured significant changes to our world. The COVID-19 has had a profound effect on how we gather as families, socialise, celebrate the sacraments, the eucharist, funerals etc. On Friday 18th we began distributing tickets for masses over Christmas. I think it is fair to say that is something none of us could ever have imagined happening in our lifetime.

You may have changed your normal arrangements for gathering over Christmas and Saint Stephens day. Maybe family are not travelling home to Ireland for various reasons. All of this can perhaps make us feel sad or disappointed, which of course is natural. But while it may not be the 'usual' Christmas, let us not forget that we are still celebrating the Birth of the Infant Jesus and the profound meaning it has for us as Christians.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your support, encouragement, and prayers throughout the year. May we never lose sight of the fact, Emmanuel...God is with us. Always! *Fr. Gerard Deegan*

Tickets for Christmas eve and Christmas Day masses are available after Mass.

Christmas Mass Times :

Mon 21st 10 am

Tue 22nd & Wed 23rd 10 am & 11 am

Thur 24th 10 am

Confession **after 11 am Mass** on Tue, Wed &

Confession **after 10 am Mass** on Thur 24th



Christmas Eve 24th 4:30 pm, 6 pm & 7:30 pm

Christmas Day 25th 9 am, 10:30 am & 12:30 pm

Sat 26th 10 am (no vigil mass)

Sun 27th 10:30 am & 12:30 pm

Mass Times

All Mass services are live streamed, especially for those who have underlying conditions and for these reasons cannot attend.

Saturday 6pm (Vigil) & Sunday 10:30am & 12:30pm

Weekday: Monday – Friday 10 am

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 - 8160981 Sacristy: 01 - 8160981



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Saturday 26th December, St. Stephen's Day,
Mass in St. Paul's Church at 10 am.
There will be no 6pm Vigil Mass



One of the lovely traditional customs at Christmas is the visit to the crib and for this year the crib in St. Paul's is outside in the Grotto and not in the church.

Copies of **St. Paul's Parish Calendar 2021** are available on the church stands.

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

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 you
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*



<i>Saturday 19th</i>	<i>(Vigil Mass)</i>	<i>6:00 pm</i>
Margaret Gough & Maureen Doherty		Anniv.
Monica Grange		Anniversary
<i>Sunday 21st</i>		<i>10:30 am</i>
Mary, Martin & Martin Jnr O'Grady		Anniv.
Nora & Shay Mahady		Anniversaries
Celia, Sam, Joe & Wally Hurley		Anniversaries
<i>Sunday 21st</i>		<i>12:30 pm</i>
Emer Harmond		Anniversary
Mary, James, Alice & Joe Poole		Anniversaries
Michael Carey		Anniversary
<i>Monday 22nd</i>		<i>10:00 am</i>
John & Violet Byrne		Remembrance
<i>Tuesday 23rd</i>		<i>10:00 am</i>
Mary & William Balfe		Anniversary
Nodlaig Carr		Birthday Remembrance
<i>Wednesday 24th</i>		<i>10:00 am</i>
Brian Cooling		Months Mind

May they rest in peace

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