Who is the King of Glory? It is the Lord.

St. Paul's Parish Ayrfield The Presentation of The Lord - C 2nd February 2025 www.ayrfieldparish.ie Email : parishofficeavrfield@gmail.com





Prayer to

St. Saint Brigid

You were a woman of peace. You brought harmony where there was conflict. You brought light to the darkness. You brought hope to the downcast. May the mantle of your peace

cover those who are troubled and anxious. and may peace be firmly rooted in our hearts and in our world. Inspire us to act justly and to reverence all God has made. Brigid you were a voice for the wounded and the weary. Strengthen what is weak within us. Calm us into a quietness that heals and listens. May we grow each day into greater wholeness in mind, body and spirit. Amen

\$ @ ? Monday 3rd February is the Feast of St. Blaize. [–] Blessing of the Throat will take place after 10am Mass in Holy Trinity Church "Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you free from every disease of the throat. and from every other disease. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

A Safeguarding Session for Volunteers will take place on Tuesday 18th of February at 7:30pm in Holv Trinity Church. Donaghmede. This is for the volunteers who were unable to attend the safeguarding session in Edenmore in September 2024. Life in the Spirit Seminars will take

place starting 27th Feb. for 7 Thursdays at 8pm Details on our noticeboard.

Fr. Declan Blake

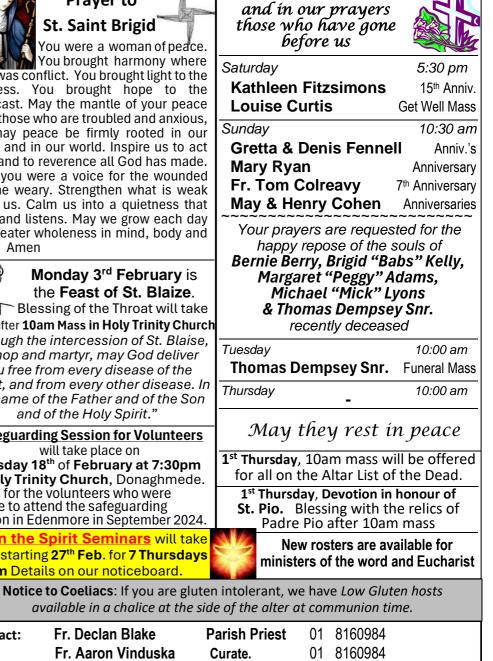
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Mai Cass - Sacristan

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We remember at Mass



Pastors Desk

The feast of the **P**resentation of the **L**ord is celebrated forty days after the feast of Christmas, as it was traditionally understood that Jesus was presented in the Temple forty days after his birth. This day is also known as Candlemas, because candles are blessed on this day to remind us that Jesus is the light of the world and the light of our life. This is in keeping with Simeon's reference to the child Jesus in the gospel reading as a 'light to

enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel'.

Simeon's prayer beginning, 'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace', has become an integral element of the Night Prayer of the Church. Simeon recognized the true identity of the child that the young couple from Nazareth brought into the Temple. He realized who had just entered the Temple, who had entered his life. Looking at this new born child, he could see the 'salvation' that God had been preparing for all the nations to see. Simeon recognized that the light of God's love was shining through the face of this child, a light that would enlighten the pagans and bring glory to Israel.

The gospel reading suggests that Simeon had this level of insight into the child of Joseph and Mary because the Holy Spirit rested on him and he came to the child prompted by the Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit who allows us to see Jesus as he really is. Paul, in his first letter to the Corinthians, says, 'No one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God' and declares, 'we have received... the Spirit that is from God, so that we can understand the gifts bestowed on us by God'. We need the Holy Spirit to appreciate the gifts that God has given us, especially God's greatest gift, his beloved Son, who is with us until the end of time. On this feast, we invite the Holy Spirit to rest upon us afresh, as he rested on Simeon, so that, like him, we may recognize the many ways that the risen Lord enters our lives. ~ Fr Martin Hogan

Weekday service in St. Paul's is preceded by the Rosary at 9:40am (Mon, Tue & Thu)			
Mass Times :		Ayrfield	Donaghmede
Saturday	y (Vigil) :	5:30 pm	6:30pm
Sundays	:	10:30 am	9:30am & 11:30am
Weekdays	10am :	Tuesday & Thursday	Mon, Wed & Fri
Service of Word with Communion 10am Monday			Tue & Thur