



focus on sunday

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 31st January 2021

(Catholic Schools Week begins)

Jesus speaks the words of his Father today with an authority that made a deep impression on his listeners.

O that today you would listen to his voice!



In the different stresses and crises of covid times, many people deserve our deep thanks – our medical staff, those who keep us fed and our services going and our health care chaplains. This week we think of our teachers, primary and second level. They too have risked health as all school personnel do. Anyone who knows teachers as family members and friends, will know that as well as the hours spent teaching there are also the long evening hours spent in preparation for classes.

During Catholic Schools Week we can extend our appreciation to all schools, and to the whole staff of the schools. This week is a way of the Church thanking and showing appreciation for our teachers. We can help them by speaking well of them, by supporting their efforts in the schools and by praying for them.

In a broad way, teachers take part in the mysterious plan of God for education. For many it is more than a job, but in their professional work and their care of the students, it is a vocation. They give more to the young people than instruction; in the words of pope Francis: 'A good teacher points to what is essential so that the child or student can find meaning and joy in life.'

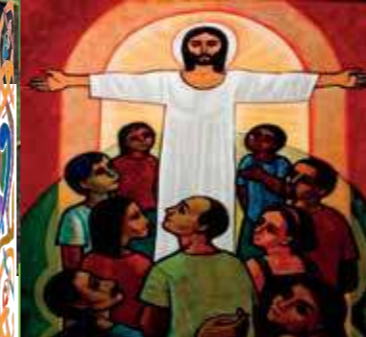
Lord, bless our teachers with joy, fulfilment and good health. May we be truly grateful for what they do for our young people.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor, Sacred Heart Messenger.

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey

We get to know Jesus especially by listening to His Love Stories which are about God, God's people and God's world. Before we read a Jesus Story we ask Jesus to help us. We can touch our head, lips and heart. Sometimes we can light a candle. I like to watch to see how Jesus touches people, the little children in his arms, the man with disease, the widow who lost her only son; how He stops and listens, praises those who help the sick, how He enjoys meals and organises people. It is not enough to read words, but to catch THE WORD in the journey of life is a great blessing.



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray brothers and sisters,
 May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O Lord, we bring to your altar these offerings of our service: be pleased to receive them, we pray, and transform them into the Sacrament of our redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
 And with your spirit.
 Lift up your hearts.
 We lift them up to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right and just.

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
 Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.
 We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God,
 Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished by these redeeming gifts, we pray, O Lord, that through this help to eternal salvation true faith may ever increase. Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**
 May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**
 Go in peace. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL Mark 1:21-28

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

All bow for following three lines:

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps. 94)

R. O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. **[R]**
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. **[R]**

3. O that today you would listen to his voice!

'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **[R]**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned. Alleluia!



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

GREETING

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
 The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL RITE

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to the Father:
 Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
 Lord Jesus, you have given us the consolation of the truth:
 Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
 Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd, leading us into everlasting life:
 Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
 May almighty God have mercy on us....
Amen.

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
 Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
 you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
 you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
 For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

OPENING PRAYER

Grant us, Lord our God, that we may honour you with all our mind, and love everyone in truth of heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD






FIRST READING Deuteronomy 18:15-20

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my

New Ross Parish, Church of St. Mary & St. Michael

Parish Office Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10.30am to 2.00pm. Closed Holy Days & Bank Holidays. Wide range in stock of Mass Cards, General Cards & Gift Ideas for all occasions. Mass Cards (signed) are also available in Cooney's & Ryan's Funeral Homes.

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 Visit us on Facebook/New Ross Parish

Please follow HSE Guidelines & Stay Safe when entering all Parochial Premises

Volume 36. No. 5

RADIO MASS 104.7FM MASS & LIVE STREAM ON PARISH WEBSITE.

Date	Time		
Sat 30th Jan	6.00pm	Geraldine Doyle, Galway & Australia.	1st Anniversary
Sun 31st Jan - Communion Enrolment Mass.	10.00am	Michael & Maryann Barron, Irishtown. Michael & Nora Savage, Middleton, Co. Cork. Teresa Rochford, Parkfield. Johnny & Mary Jo Sinnott, Chapel Lane. Stella Katus, Michael Street. Michael Kelly, Barrett's Park & The Steel Yard.	Anniversaries Anniversaries Anniversary Anniversaries Months Mind Months Mind
Mon 1st Feb - St. Brigid's Day	10.00am	Buddy & Bill Flanagan, Upper Mary Street.	Anniversaries
Tues 2nd Feb - Presentation of Our Lord	10.00am	Rena McManus & Mai Lannigan.	Anniversaries
Wed 3rd Feb - Feast of St. Blaise	10.00am	Intentions of the People. Claire McCormack, Brandon Park.	2nd Anniversary
Thur 4th Feb	10.00am	Mary & Michael Horgan, Fisherstown.	Anniversaries
Fri 5th Feb	10.00am	Leon Rydlichowski, Przysieka, Poland. Pat & Mary Furlong, Stephens Land & Redhouse.	Recently Deceased Anniversaries
Sat 6th Feb	10.00am	Parish Mass Association.	

PARISH INFORMATION.....

Next Weeks Readings: FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Job 7: 1-4, 6-7. Ps 146: 1-6, R/ v 3. 1 Cor 9: 16-19, 22-23. Mk 1: 29-36.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL—NEW ROSS: 085 8313073

Radio & Live Stream Mass: 104.7FM & New Ross Parish Website Live Stream, Saturday Vigil @ 6.00pm & 10.00am Daily including Funerals Masses.

Meals on Wheels: Avail of our high quality meals available 5 days a week. To order just call 051-445711, St. Aidan Centre, Cross St.

Safeguarding Representative: Mairin Jackson - Contact No: (051) 421348 - Any queries in relation to working with children or adolescence within our parish please contact the above.

Bethany Bereavement Support: Bereavement Support available by telephone Please ring 087 3846577 if you need support.

Mass Bookings: On Monday the 1st of February we will be taking bookings up to and including July 2021.

Intentions for the living: Intentions for the living will be announced as "Special Intentions" unless the person who the intention is for signs the GDPR Regulation Slip. Please advise at time of booking.

Weekly Collection and Supporting the Parish: If you would like to register as a friend of New Ross Parish Church St. Mary & St. Michael and support the weekly envelope collection please call to the parish office for details. During this unique period when normal services are not possible, we suggest that weekly envelopes be deposited in the letter box at the Parish Office or at the allocated collection boxes at the main entrance of the Church.

Please make all cheques payable to St. Mary & St. Michael Parish Church New Ross. Collections: 24h Jan 2021 Jan 2021 @ € 618.20 (57 No.). Alternatively you can donate via. The Ferns Diocesan Website www.ferns.ie by clicking the big pink button. Thank you for the support.

Sanctuary Lamps Intentions:
Available @ €10.00 per week. Commencing Saturday @ 6.00pm.

Our Lady's (Left):
Available

Altar (Centre):
Mary & Michael Horgan RIP

St. Josephs (Right):
Available

ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:
We pray for the souls of Kenny Boland, Charleton Hill, Jimmy Scully, Ballyrue, Jim & Biddy Higgins, Haughton Place, Esther & Patti O'Connor, Haughton Place & Mary Carletti Lawlor, Chilcomb Villa, whose anniversaries occurs around this time.

RECENTLY DECEASED:
We pray for the souls of Tommy Martin, Carrigaline, Co. Cork, formerly Henry Street, John Ryan, Tiermore, Kilmacow, Co. Kilkenny & John Dunphy, Irishtown, who passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

Should you wish to have a loved one included in this section, please contact the Parish Office with the details by the previous Wednesday before 2.00pm.

COMMUNION 2021

Sun 31st Jan
Communion
Enrolment Mass @ 10.00am.

Communion will take place during the Month of May 2021. Details to follow.



CONFIRMATIONS 2021

Confirmations will take place during the Month of April 2021. Details to follow.



Reflection for weekend 30th Jan & 31st Jan.

Great Christian Thinkers – Hildegard of Bingen



Was she a mystic? She had mystical experiences from an early age but she was much more than that. She was from a noble family but she was brought up by a recluse, Jutta, who was abbess of the community at Disibodenberg in Germany. When she died in 1136 Hildegard succeeded her at 38 yrs. old. *Why is she called Hildegard of Bingen?* By 5596 she had moved her community to Rupertsberg, where she had a large house built. This was to be her base. *She did have visions?* Yes these were very famous and thanks to Bernard of Clairvaux, who convinced the Pope (Eugenius III) to take them seriously, her fame spread throughout Europe. *What were her visions of?* Her visions warned against vice and predicted imminent disaster. They were usual in that she included visual art in the reports of her visions. A bit like Billy Graham meets Damien Hirst.

She had these visions not when she was asleep but when she was very much awake. She said that her visions consisted of a light more brilliant than the sun and she called it 'the cloud of the living light'.

Did these win her a following? Oh yes. It wasn't long before people like the Emperor, bishops and kings were writing to her. She was also an influential figure for her other gifts. *What gifts?* The diminutive Hildegard wrote an unusual book for her time called the *Book of Simple Medicine*. It was unusual in that she had a clear insight into medicine. She also tried to concoct a cure for headaches. She also wrote plays, music, poetry and drama. Some even claim that she was the first recorded woman in Europe who composed music. *She must have been a celebrated figure in the Church?* She was largely except for the Chapter of Mainz. *What happened there?* Well she tried to organise a strike by monks and nuns and that did not go down well with her superiors and for a short period her convent was placed under an interdict. *Was she an activist then?* Yes, we don't normally expect mystical types to organise pickets. She was a lover of nature, and argued that it be treated with respect. She was also an advocate of equal rights, especially before God. She maintained that men and women were equal before God. *What was her main work?* It was a book called *Scivias*, which is divided into three books with 26 of her visions. She wrote other works including her letters so in total it comprises a great quantity of material. What sets her writings apart, besides their content, is the lavish illustrations which she produced herself. *A saint?* Not at the time, and for a long time – two centuries, in fact-- efforts to have her canonised foundered. Since the 15th century, however, she has been regarded as a saint. By Colin Blakely

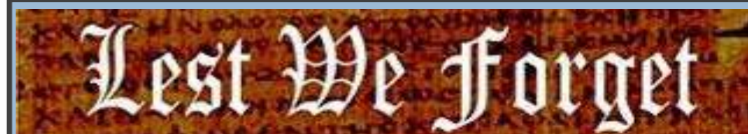
Brought to you by the Diocesan Pastoral Council

FEBRUARY

Mon 1st: St. Brigid's Day.
Tues 2nd: Presentation of the Lord. **Candles maybe left near St. Josephs Altar for Blessing.**
Wed 3rd: Feast of St. Blaise.
Throats will not be blessed this year.
Wed 17th: Ash Wednesday beginning of Lent.
Ashes will not be distributed this year.
Ashes will be available in the Church for collection.

MARCH:
Wed 17th: St. Patrick's Day.
Sun 28th: Palm Sunday.

APRIL:
Thur 1st: Holy Thursday, Evening Mass for The Lords Supper.
Fri 2nd: Good Friday.
Sat 3rd & Sun 4th: Holy Saturday & Easter Sunday



In the year 2000 the Diocese of Ferns celebrated the 14th century anniversary of its founding by St. Aidan. To mark that important milestone the late Father John Gahan produced a major work entitled "THE SECULAR PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE OF FERNS". The book consists of pen pictures of all the priests who served in the Diocese from the early 19th century to the year 2000.

Over the next number of weeks the Newsletter will carry his accounts of all the Parish Priests and Curates who worked in New Ross Parish during that time. As it happens the first on the list is LUKE WADDING, who was mentioned in a recent edition of the Newsletter.

REV. LUKE WADDING was PP from 1669 to 1688—being also Vicar General of Ferns. Although nominated as Coadjutor Bishop of Ferns on 12th May 1671, the circumstances of the time were unfavourable and his consecration did not take place till 15th August 1683. He built a church in New Ross in 1673. He held his parish in commendam* till 1688, and he died on 31st December 1691.

REV. JOHN O'CONNOR succeeded Bishop Wadding as PP New Ross in 1688. He registered himself in 1704 as "Parish Priest of St. Mary's New Ross", and gave his age at 52, having been ordained in Switzerland in 1687. No trace of him appears after the year 1710. The church of St. Michael and the cemetery were given by the Corporation "for barracks to be built on", on 30th November 1700.

REV. JOHN VERDON bishop of Ferns, held the parish in commendam from 1711 to 1728, mostly residing at Nash. He died in February 1728. During his pastorate so great was the persecution that the church had to be closed. This we learn from a letter written by Colonel Edwards on 18th June 1714: "The Mass-house of Ross is rayld up and the key left with the Sufferin"

REV. HENRY ROCHE was PP from 1728 to 1740. In a Protestant memorial of the year 1730, the Catholics of New Ross are described as "Violent Papists". In the Parliamentary Report of 1731, Henry Roche is described as "Popish Priest of New Ross". In a diocesan document of 1739 he appears as Dean.

REV. JAMES NOWLAN who had been Parish Priest of Old Ross from 1734 to 1740, was transferred to New Ross in 1740. On 5th March 1743 to 1744, the Sovereign of Ross, J. Leigh, wrote to the Lord Lieutenant that there was "one Parish chapel" in New Ross. He also referred to: "James Nowlan, parish priest, and residing in his chapel". Bishop Sweetman, in his Visitation of the parish in 1753, praised the pastorate of Canon Nowlan, and noted that Father Martin Redmond preached a good Irish sermon, which he had previously delivered in Ballyphillip and at Garrane.

REV. JAMES CAULFIELD ordained on 15th August 1757, was conferred with a doctorate in divinity at Seville, like Fr. John Murphy of Boolavogue. He returned to Ireland in 1765 and was CC in New Ross from 1766, until he was appointed PP in 1771. He was made Vicar General in 1772. Although consecrated Coadjutor Bishop in 1782, he was permitted by the Holy See to hold New Ross in commendam, but on the death of Bishop Sweetman, he transferred to Wexford in 1786. He commenced the parish registers of new Ross in 1772. His curate Rev. Andrew McCormick, who died at New Ross on 31st of May 1781, was buried at Our Lady's Island. Rev. Edward Murphy was CC from 1781 to 1800.

Monsignor Joseph McGrath

* Commendam—awaiting an appointment to the position.

New Ross Parish Community strives to be a welcoming, life-giving PEOPLE, nourished by FAITH, WORSHIP of God and SERVICE of all in the example of Jesus Christ.