**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 Holy Mass Cards. General Cards & Gift Ideas for all occasions. Holy Mass Cards (signed) are also available in Cooney’s & Ryan’s Funeral Homes.

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**PARISH INFORMATION**

**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.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL—NEW ROSS:** 085 8313073

**Radio & Live Stream Mass:** 104.7FM & New Ross Parish Website: Saturday Vigil @ 6.00pm & 10.00am Daily Including Funeral Masses

**New Ross Parish Bethany Bereavement Support Group:** Support is available to all who are grieving or suffering loss of any kind. Contact No: 087-3846577.

**Masses on Wheels:** Avalon of our piping hot quality meals available 5 days a week. To order just call 051 222 024.

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**NOTICE:**

Parish Office is now open from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm Thursdays and Fridays for Mass Card’s and Mass Bookings ONLY. All other service’s are available via: Tel: 051 421348 and Email: info@newrossparish.ie. Card Payments are preferable for transactions and COVID 19 Restrictions MUST be adhered to.

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**Volume 35. No. 16**

**RADIO MASS 104.7FM MASS & LIVE STREAM**

**Sanctuary Lamps available @ €10.00 per week.**

**Date** | **Time** | **Intention** | **Our Lady’s (Lefi) Available** | **Altar (Centre) Available** | **St. Joseph’s (Right) Available**
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Sat 18th April | 6.00pm | Special Intention | | | |
Sat 19th April | 10.00am | Mary Walsh, Mary Street | 1st Anniversary | | |
Sun 20th April | 10.00am | Michael Haslam, New Ross | 1st Anniversary | | |
Sun 21st April | 10.00am | Eveline Haslam, New Ross | Aniversary | | |
Wed 22nd April | 10.00am | Mass for People of the Parish Alice Caufield, Pondfields | 3rd Anniversary | | |
Thurs 23rd April | 10.00am | Marian Duggan, Mount Carmel | 15th Anniversary | | |
Fri 24th April | 10.00am | Mona & Ned Walsh, William Street | | | |
Sat 25th April | 10.00am | Parish Mass Association | | | |

**Mass Bookings:** We are now taking booking up to and including September 2020 at the moment.

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**RECENTLY DECEASED:**

We remember in our prayers Seamus Ryan, The Mauldins, James (Jimmy) O’Brien, New Ross & Dun Laoghaire, Dublin, Nancy Stacey (nee Cooney), Bergerin Loftus and Garry Dowland, Moyle Valley, who passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

**ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:** 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.

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**The Sacrament of Confirmation:**

All the young people who were due to celebrate Confirmation on Saturday April 25th this year in our Parish. We are keeping you in our prayers and look forward to celebrating Confirmation with you at a later stage.

May the Holy Spirit Guide & Protect Everyone.

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**COVID-19 Support Line for Older People**

ALONE has launched a national support line open Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

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**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.**

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**Gardai Operation “Faosimh”**

Protect against domestic abuse during Covid-19 crisis 1800 341 900

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**Monsignor Joe McGrath**

In years gone by, long before the development of the various modern means of communication, the youngest children in families were tutored in the main by their grandparents. Like Jesus, they used the story-telling method as the most efficient means of gaining and maintaining the interest of their hearers. Some stories were factual, dealing with family history or local folklore; others were fanciful with the aim of sowing values and developing imaginations. This latter type of story often concluded with a recognisable final sentence: “AND THEY ALL LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER.”

The one thing we can be certain of in this uncertain time is that the virus will decline with the development of vaccines and immunity. It may take us longer to adjust to life without restrictions of movement and to regain our social confidence in our dealings with each other.

How long will it take us to happily shank hands and hug? When we will happily join group activities or be part of large gatherings at sporting and social events, in cinemas or Churches or family gatherings?

When will we happily and with confidence discard everyday social distancing? Cocooning and other restrictions will in time be lifted. That is the easy part. A return to the previous NORMAL will be more difficult, if even possible.

Maybe a NEW NORMAL will develop from this experience; one that is more in keeping with our dignity as human beings. Hopefully in this period of enforced reflection we will come to realise that much of that had developed in our lives was not all that wholesome.

Can we admit that this pandemic has revived many of the values of old that had been submerged in a culture that had become individualistic and self-centred? Examples abound these weeks of groups and professions of all types stepping outside their own sometimes rigid demarcation and comfort zones and going the extra mile in service of the needy neighbour. No one has been found wanting in this crisis.

That experience is a source of satisfaction that hopefully will be continued into a new future. It is fitting that this change of attitude to others should occur at Easter time, when we celebrate the greatest act of selfless sacrifice in history when Jesus laid down His life for others. Many follow His life of service everyday in their care of others and some have followed His example in literally giving their lives for those they nurture.

If good is to come out of this sad period, hopefully it will be in the form of a continuation of this positive attitude to those less well endowed. Maybe Jesus’ practical advice might anchor our future approach to all aspects of life; “DO UNTO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD LIKE THEM TO DO UNTO YOU”.

Then we will all truly “LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER”