






# 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.

 Parish Office 051 421 348 Priest on Duty 051 421214 (24 Hr)
  Parish Mobile 087 1212 707
  www.newrossparish.ie
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  Visit us on Facebook/New Ross Parish

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

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Date	Time	Intention
Sat 29th Aug	5.00pm	
	6.00pm	Tom O'Connor, Pondfields.
Sun 30th Aug	9.00am	Shauna Tully, Mountgarrett.
	10.00am	Peter & Tilly Nolan and their children, Duncannon. William Merrigan, Cross Street.
	11.00am	
	12.00pm	
Mon 31st Aug	10.00am	Nolan, Murphy & Grace Family, Charleton Hill. Frank Dalton, Ballyrue.
Tues 1st Sept	10.00am	Special Intention May Dunne, Terrerath.
Wed 2nd Sept	10.00am	Mass for the People of the Parish. William & Mary Donovan, Mary Street.
Thurs 3rd Sept	10.00am	Laurence Fortune, Shanbough.
Fri 4th Sept	10.00am	Eileen O'Rourke, Wexford Rd. Willie Farrell, Elm Park.
Sat 5th Sept	10.00am	Parish Mass Association

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

**Our Lady's (Left):** Available

**Altar (Centre):**  
Mattie, Elizabeth & Tommy Whelan,  
Irishtown

**St. Joseph's (Right):** Available



TO THE CHILDREN WHO MADE  
THEIR FIRST CONFESSION &  
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ON  
SATURDAY 29TH AUGUST.



CANDLES OF HOPE NOW AVAILABLE.  
WE ALSO HAVE MANY GIFTS AVAILABLE  
FOR CHILDREN RECEIVING THE  
SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** We remember in our prayers Mary Kehoe, Charleton Hill and late of Carrigbyrne and Margaret Mylod, late of Southknock. May They Rest in Peace.

**ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:** We pray for the souls of Vincent & Olive Doran, Church Lane, Mary Bolger (nee Elms) & deceased members of the Elms family, Richard Doyle, Mount Carmel, Anastasia Flynn (nee Pyne), The High Hill, Sr. Maureen Bailey, Sisters of Mercy, Roseanne & Jimmy Furness, Mary Street, Catherine Scully, Ballyrue and Johnny Scully, Cushinstown, Ballyrue whose anniversaries occurs around this time.

**BAPTISMS:** For Baptism Bookings on the first Saturday of the month @ 1.00pm & third Sunday of the month @ 1.00pm ONLY (No Baptisms Mon to Fri), Please contact the Parish Office, a minimum of two weeks notice is required. Copy of Birth Certificates are required for the candidate. Photo ID also required for the person making / requesting the booking. A maximum of two candidates can be accommodated for booking. *SHOULD YOU WISH TO HAVE A SOMEONE INCLUDED IN THIS SECTION PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE WITH THE DETAILS BY THE PREVIOUS WEDNESDAY BEFORE 2.00PM. THANK YOU*

Sacraments		
Parents Meeting Wednesdays @ 7.00pm	Confirmation Saturdays @ 11.00am	
Date	Date	
Ms. Brazil	2nd Sept	5th Sept
Ms. Foskin	9th Sept	12th Sept
Ms. Whelan	16th Sept	19th Sept
Mr. Ring	Mon 21st Sept	26th Sept

**Confirmations 2020** Parents Meeting & Confirmations will be celebrated on four weekends in September according to the following plan detailed below: For example: One class will meet in the Church on Wednesday the 2nd of September @ 7.00PM for a shot session to refresh our minds on the importance of what we are about to receive. Confirmations will be received by this class on the following Saturday the 5th of September @ 11.00am. The same pattern will be following for the other classes. **Ms. Brazil class meeting on this Wednesday 2nd September @ 7pm and Confirmation to following Saturday 5th September @11.00am, Mask must be worn by all adults**

**Programme of events in Church:** Each child will be accompanied by four family members Seating will be allocated by lottery and social distance arrangements must be strictly followed.

*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.*

## PARISH INFORMATION.....

**Next Weeks Readings:** Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Jer. 20:7-9. Ps. 62:2-6, 8-9, R/ v2. Rm 12: 1-2. Mt. 16:21-27.

**Lectio Divina:** Every Wednesday morning at 10.45am for one hour in the Legion of Mary Pastoral Centre, Robert St., New Ross.

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Every Tuesday from 10.00am Mass to 9.00pm finishing with Solemn Benediction. Holy Hour @ 3.00pm followed by the Rosary.

**Legion of Mary:** Meetings every Wednesday evening in the Parish Pastoral Centre, Robert St., New Ross at 7.30pm. Contact Des & Marie on 051-420523. Rosary & Divine Mercy are recited every Friday @3.00pm on the Quay next to Dunbrody Centre.

**IRISH CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER:** On sale weekly in Parish Office @ €2 each.

**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 Funerals Masses.

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

**Pastoral Centres:** Legion of Mary & St. Michael's are available for bookings. Please contact the Parish Office.

**New Ross Parish Bethany Bereavement Support Group:** Support is available from 6th August to all who are grieving or suffering loss of any kind. Contact No: 087-3846577. Their **Drop in Centre** is held in Legion of Mary Hall, 1st Thursday of every month, Between 11am and 12 noon.

**Confessions:** Saturdays after 10.00am Mass & before 6.00pm Mass. Mon — Fri on request after 10.00am Mass. Please notify the priest before Mass in the Sacristy.

**Mass Bookings:** From Tuesday 1st September, we will be taking Mass bookings up to and including February 2021.

**Certificate Requests:** Certificate fees at €5 each. Photographic ID is required for the candidate including the person who has been authorised by you to collect it. Request forms are available in the Parish Office. Collection on Fridays only.

**Weekly Collection and Supporting the Parish:** 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.** Total for Weekend 22nd / 23rd August @ € 1,392.65 (196 No. Envelopes). **Thank you for the support.** Alternatively you can donate via The Ferns Diocesan Website by clicking the big pink button.

 **DIocese of Ferns**
 **DONATE**



**FROM SEPTEMBER THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE ADDITIONAL MASS ON SATURDAY EVENING VIGIL@5PM.**  
**THE 11AM ON SUNDAY MORNING HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED**  
**ALL OTHER MASS TIMES REMAIN UNCHANGED**  
**THANK YOU**

## VOCATIONS

### "COME FOLLOW ME"

All Christians are called to follow Jesus Christ...to do the best they can to imitate His life in living their own. Within the Christian family, some are called to imitate Him in an exclusive way. They group together as Diocesan Priests or as members of Religious Congregations of Sisters, Brothers and Priests. Their relationship with Him is given practical expression in meeting the needs of the community through educational, health, social and related services. Of course others meet the same needs too but not in an exclusive manner. In other words Clergy and Religious dedicate their lives to personal relationship with Jesus Christ and service of His people. These we describe as following "a Religious Vocation". It is no secret that in recent years the numbers offering themselves to follow such a life-style are practically nil. There is no one or simple explanation for this reality. The following would be influential factors in that decline:-

**SECULARISM** certainly plays a part. Religion prospers when it is in harmony with culture; it swims on the tide of the local culture. Ireland has been an obvious example of that reality. Of its nature, being an island community, for generations Ireland was not immediately or easily influenced by forces that held a different opinion as to what should or should not have a bearing on society. Modern Ireland is now part of a shrinking world, where instant communication of vast amounts of information tends to form the basis of people's thinking and value system. Outside secular values are enthusiastically promoted by inside powerful secular sources, which proclaim that religion and religious values are private matters and therefore should have no place or say in society. Such an atmosphere is not conducive to the development of Religious Vocations.

**MATERIALISM** is a further element militating against hearing "THE CALL" to God's service. In a strange way this is not altogether a bad thing. Too often in the past poor economic circumstances led to unnatural numbers "joining the Church" as it was described. Families took great pride in having a member in those ranks. A mother was quoted as saying "if he doesn't get a job in the Post Office, we'll send him to Maynooth". In too many cases it was the family that had 'the vocation'. Third world economically poor countries today are bursting with "vocations" as was the case here in the past. The majority of ours were genuine; may the same be true of these "Callings". In today's Ireland the lure of a materialistic life-style and the accompanying decline in family religious belief and practice are drowning out any leanings towards a spiritual and altruistic way of life.

**INDIVIDUALISM** equally hinders any such altruistic or religious considerations. "ME, MYSELF AND I" tend to dominate people's thinking and decisions. Most organisations are living with the reality of elderly membership and a dearth of the younger generations. Volunteerism, long-term commitment, permanency and organised activities don't seem to enthuse the young. On the other hand young people are excellent at short-term projects and in times of crises and emergencies. Organised religious life does not float their boats.

The decline is not fully explained by these external factors. The Church, in the persons of the priests and religious must shoulder some responsibility too. Immediately the sexual scandals spring to mind. This sad reality has unhinged the standing of the Church in the minds of many and rightly so. It is not for us to set out a defence; there is none.

We know the vast majority live and work 'above board' but the good done must not be used to balance out the evil. Both realities must be acknowledged; both will be part of our story forever.

The decline in vocations was evident before these damaging revelations (damaging to victims and their families). These evil actions greatly accelerated the process.

On a different level priests and religious may have unconsciously discouraged others in their choice of vocation. Too often they were defined and in truth defined themselves in terms of the WORK THEY DID rather than the PEOPLE THEY WERE. Life dedication to a particular WORK is not an attractive proposition. Much of that work (teaching, nursing, social services etc.) is now catered for by excellent and dedicated lay people. Priests and religious are not FUNCTIONARIES but rather DISCIPLES whose lives are centred on relationship with Jesus Christ. Their only function is to draw others into that living relationship so that His power and presence transform the face of this world.

That is a worthwhile project to which to dedicate a life. That is why there should be no such thing as a retired priest or a retired religious. Retired from the WORK or the FUNCTION yes but not from the only purpose of their lives- to cultivate in themselves and through their work, in those they serve, a living, personal friendship with the Risen Jesus Christ, Who alone gives meaning to all the happenings of life. Young people will be attracted to this way of life if they are shown it in action. The WORK OF THE LORD must lead to friendship with the LORD OF THE WORK. St. Paul said "How will they know if nobody tells them?"

OVER TO US! **Monsignor Joseph McGrath**