

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

Date	Time	Intention
Sat 5th Sept	5.00pm	
	6.00pm	Robert & Bridget Walshe, South Street
Sun 6th Sept	9.00am	Dick Hughes, Charleton Hill/Dublin
	10.00am	Philomena Kelly Ann Nowlan, Formerly Michael St & The Curragh, Co. Kildare.
	12.00pm	John Cullen, Pondfields
Mon 7th Sept	10.00am	Brother Boland, Waterford. Martin, Katherine, Mai, Michael & Jim Culleton, Cross Street.
Tues 8th Sept	10.00am	Tom Walsh, Lower Southknock. John & Mary Daly
Wed 9th Sept	10.00am	Mass for the People of the Parish. Kitty Griffin, The Bosheen.
Thur 10th Sept	10.00am	Patrick & Bridie O'Farrell, Southknock.
Fri 11th Sept	10.00am	Kehoe Family, Bewley Street.
Sat 12th Sept	10.00am	Parish Mass Association

### Sanctuary Lamps Intentions

Available @ €10.00 per week.  
Commencing Saturday @ 6.00pm.

Our Lady's (Left): Intentions

Altar (Centre): Exam Intentions

St. Joseph's (Right): Available



**CONFIRMATION**

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CHILDREN OF MS. BRAZIL CLASS WHO RECEIVED THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION ON SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER.



PARISH OFFICE

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 Margaret Mylod, Southknock & Jim Lee, formerly Folly House Lane. May They Rest in Peace.

**ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:** We pray for the souls of Mary & Ken Hennelly, Town Wall & John Ryan, William Street whose anniversaries occur 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			Confirmations 2020
Parents Meeting Wednesdays @ 7.00pm	Date	Confirmation Saturdays @ 11.00am	Date
Ms. Foskin	9th Sept	12th Sept	12th Sept
Ms. Whelan	16th Sept	19th Sept	19th Sept
Mr. Ring	Mon 21st Sept	26th Sept	26th Sept

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. Foskin class meeting on this Wednesday 9th September @ 7pm and Confirmation to following Saturday 12th 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.

**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**

*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.*

## JUDGING THE PAST IN LIGHT OF THE PRESENT

"UPSTAIRS, DOWNSTAIRS" was a popular TV series depicting society in the 19<sup>th</sup> and part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The location was 'THE BIG HOUSE' where the family lived UPSTAIRS enjoying opulent, lazy lives, while the servants worked and lived DOWNSTAIRS in the basement, slaving long hours to meet every need of largely ungrateful masters.

It was a micro image of the reality experienced in all walks of life. Life then – in homes, in workplaces, in organisations and sadly in our Church too.

Authoritarianism was the order of the day; those in charge were all-powerful, all-knowing and un-challenged. In our church these people basked in the glow of the frightening title "SUPERIOR" and sadly, many of them believed they were! Society was based on the premise that the one in charge knew all and the only function of the UNDERLING was to obey without hesitation or question. No familiarity, no discussion, no socialising; total demarcation of roles. (In our county, not all that long ago, a bank manager objected to the caretaker of the bank becoming a member of a golf club because both would have equal status and - horror of horrors - might be drawn to play together on week-ends!).

Children were to be "seen and not heard" and "to speak only when spoken to". Traditions and customs were strictly adhered to and handed on and accepted without question; a closed society where maintaining the "status quo" was the guarantor of continued good order. The TV series "Judge Judy" is a small throw-back to that era, where she regularly declares her superiority over anyone coming before her court and squashes any attempt to talk back by screaming "I'm speaking". End of discussion; "her rulings are final".

It hardly needs to be pointed out that the model for ordering society has long been replaced. The aims of the French Revolution could be loosely employed to describe our modern world- LIBERTY, EQUALITY, FRATERNITY, though many would question just how truly free, equal and friendly our present society is - but that is for another day.

Present society is so different from the past, that every aspect of the latter is easily condemned out- of- hand. To judge the past in light of the present in any area of life will inevitably result in the past losing out. Not everything was evil and unjust; people thought and acted and lived within the understanding and limits of the time. We don't fault people then for lighting their homes with candles just because we have electric light.

It is true that those who lived through those times suffered injustices and bad treatment and still carry an anger from the experience. Many who have read and heard of and write about these hardships and who have enjoyed "better times" are loud in their condemnation of the past. Without trying to excuse any evil or criminal behaviour it is important not to judge the past in the light of the past. Failure to do so gives rise to an unbalanced historical narrative and to dangerous generalisations. It also creates a demand for a scapegoat. The notion of the scapegoat arose from the Biblical tradition of symbolically heaping the sins of the people on the back of a goat and driving it out into the wilderness- thus freeing the community of all guilt for past failures.

The modern-day scapegoat in Irish society tends to be the Catholic Church. Unlike the innocent goat in Scripture the Church shares in the past failures of society and is guilty of serious faults and has rightly been blamed for the hurt caused by arrogance, intolerance and sexual damage to children, but it is a convenient and lazy way for society to deal with its past and absolve itself from all blame. The Church then is a handy scapegoat for people who either don't know history of those times or choose to ignore it.

The topical 'Mothers and Baby Homes' is a case in point. Sisters rightly carry responsibility for the bad experiences of many, but in the coverage of that sad period there is seldom if ever a mention of the families who disowned these girls and put them out on the streets. I have yet to read any reference to the fathers of the babies born to these mothers. The Sisters alone were on hand to take them in. Wrong doing is not to be balanced out with the good.

## JUDGING THE PAST IN LIGHT OF THE PRESENT.... Continued...

Both realities form part of the story and both deserve to be recorded for future generations. Priests and Religious who betrayed trust and departed from the Gospel are rightly condemned. Priests and Religious who served the needy by life-long dedication and self-sacrifice deserved to be acknowledged too. That tends not to be the case presently; society maybe too close to the events in question to be impartial.

Future historians may produce a more balanced narrative.

*Monsignor Joseph McGrath*

## PARISH INFORMATION.....

**Next Weeks Readings:** Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Eccles (Sir) 27:30-28:7. Ps 102: 1-4, 9-12, R/v 8. Rm 14:7-9. Mt 18:21-35.

**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:** We are 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 29th/30th August @ € 1,680.90 (218 No. Envelopes). **Thank you for the support.** Alternatively you can donate via. The Ferns Diocesan Website by clicking the big pink button.

