




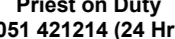


# New Ross Parish, Church of St. Mary & St. Michael

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

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

Volume 35. No. 49

## Re-opening of the Church.

We are relieved that we have resumed public Masses. Mass will be celebrated in the Parish Church as follows:  
 Daily Monday to Saturday @ 10.00am  
 Saturday Vigils @ 5.00pm & 6.00pm  
 Sundays @ 9.00am, 10.00am, 11.00am & 12.00 noon.

The usual guidelines continue to apply - Hand Sanitising, Face Coverings & Social Distancing. We acknowledge that these have been fully compiled by all attending the church over the period of the pandemic.

PLEASE SUPPORT NEW ROSS SVP BY DONATION TO THEIR ANNUAL COLLECTION ON THE 12th & 13th DEC 2020 THANK YOU.



### Sanctuary Lamps Intentions:

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

### Our Lady's (Left):

Special Intentions

### Altar (Centre):

Jimmy Callaghan RIP, Irishtown

### St. Josephs (Right):

The Furlong Family RIP, Bewley Street

### Christmas Mass Arrangements

The Newsletter last week and again this week details the arrangements for Masses for Christmas Eve & Christmas Day. As numbers are limited we have devised a ticket system - each mass will have a different colour ticket. This will ensure space, safety & comfort for all wishing to attend. Tickets will be available for collection from Legion of Mary Hall beside the Parish Office from 11.00 - 12.00 Noon each working day, while stocks last.

**Thank you and stay safe.**

## CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve	4.30PM(FULL)
	6.00PM (FULL)
	7.30PM (FULL)
Christmas Day	9.00PM (FULL)
	8.30am
	10.00am
	11.30am
	1.00pm

**ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:** We pray for the souls of Jim Walsh, Mountross & Jack Shannon "Naomh Ioseph", Henry Street, Billy Tubritt, Saltmills & Dolores Sutton, Southknock whose anniversaries occurs around this time.

**BAPTISMS:** We are taking no Baptism bookings until further notice. Apologies for any inconvenience caused. Should you wish to have a loved one included in these sections, please contact the Parish Office with the details by the previous Wednesday before 2.00pm. 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.*

## PARISH INFORMATION.....

### Next Weeks Readings: Third Sunday of Advent.

Is 61:1-2, 10-11. Ps LK 1:46-50, 53-54, R/ Is 61:10. 1 Thess 5:16-24. Jn 1:6-8, 19-28.


**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.

**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. Total for Weekend 29th of November 2020 @ € 898.99 (122 No. Envelopes).


**Thank you for the support. Please make all cheques payable to St. Mary & St. Michael Parish Church New Ross.** Alternatively you can donate via. The Ferns Diocesan Website by clicking the big pink button.

**Mass Bookings:** We are currently taking bookings up to and including May 2021.



**WILL THEY GET HOME FOR CHRISTMAS?**


*As with all other preparation for this Christmas, things will be different this year.*



*Travel is one area that is uncertain. Family members living away will be especially disturbed by any restrictions preventing overseas journeys.*

*To acknowledge that disappointment we will remember those unable to get home in the 7.30pm Mass on Christmas Eve.*

*Their names can be placed in a special box near the Altar to ask God's protection on them and to fill their lonely days with his presence.*



## "THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR THEM IN THE INN".

Restricted numbers at internal gatherings is nothing new; the HOLY FAMILY found that out on that first Christmas Night! BETHLEHEM was a major centre for registering the descendants of the family of David for the Census ordered for that year. Due to their mode of transport and Mary's condition, Joseph would have taken the greatest care to make the journey in easy stages, so that by the time they arrived all available accommodation would have been spoken for. A crowded, noisy hotel where 'social distancing' was impossible, would be no place for a pregnant mother seeking quiet and privacy. We should give the Innkeeper some credit for adhering to the health and safety guidelines in force for the occasion. He also showed some humanity and compassion in suggesting an alternative in the form of a shed nearby. I imagine also that he and his staff would have made it as comfortable as possible and seen to it that Our Lady was well attended to. But when the crowds departed and the story of the famous birth spread, how must that hotel owner felt? Wexford, Tipperary, Offaly and now Mayo have all cashed in on their connections with recent American Presidents and exploited them to the full in luring American tourists especially to visit these areas? Mr and Mrs Innkeeper missed out on a similar golden opportunity. Their premises could have been the central attraction in the Christmas Story. They themselves would be up there with the Angels, the shepherds and their wise men. However, I like to think that God recognised their integrity in observing the law - difficult as that must have been for them in the circumstances. He would also have rewarded their care and concern in offering an alternative. We too are facing equally demanding challenges as we prepare for the Coming of Jesus among us this Christmas. Traditional customs and practices will have to be weighed up against the guidelines in place. An "open door" policy towards visiting and visitors is unlikely to be approved. We may find ourselves in the same dilemma as the owners of the Bethlehem Hotel all those centuries ago. The plan published in the Newsletter is an attempt to avoid that dilemma in regard to attending Mass this Christmas. To avoid a "NO ROOM IN THE INN" sign, we are asking that the normal Christmas Eve congregation would spread itself over FOUR Masses. Equally with attendance at the FOUR Masses on Christmas Day. The proposed TICKET SYSTEM will ensure ample space, comfort and safety for all wishing to attend. THE CRIB- central to our image of Christmas- never ceases to draw us in awe to the stark, harsh reality and wonder of that special night. Our Crib- the work of the creative Brennan Brothers- leaves little to the imagination in that regard. However, due to Social Distancing, the Crib will not be unveiled until afternoon on Christmas Day. We invite people to visit in their own time over the Christmas week end and to maintain strict distancing while doing so.

**Monsignor Joseph McGrath.**

## SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY - 6<sup>TH</sup> December 2020

The Diocese of Ferns celebrates Safeguarding Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2020. Safeguarding Sunday is a reminder to each one of us of our role in the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults so that the abuse that happened in the past should not be allowed to happen again. In our parish, we value and encourage the participation of children, young people and vulnerable adults in all parish activities that enhance their spiritual, physical, emotional, and social development. We recognise their dignity and rights and are committed to ensuring their protection and support. In keeping with this, we will work to do all in our power to create safe environments for children, young people and vulnerable adults to secure their protection and enable their full participation in the life of our parish and church.

**If you, or anyone you know, has a Safeguarding concern please contact: Mairin Jackson 051 421 348**

If you wish to report an allegation directly to the Church Authorities, the contact details for the following personnel are on posters in the Church or on the Diocesan Web Site.

**Diocesan Designated Liaison Person: Marian Stack**  
**Assistant Designated Liaison Person: Fr Brian Broaders**  
**Safeguarding, Coordinator: Mick Kavanagh**

If you wish to report an allegation directly to the relevant State Agencies, the contact details are:

- TUSLA: Child and Family Agency, Wexford 053-9123522
  - Wexford Gardaí 053-9123522 (Ext 201)
  - Garda Child Abuse Free Phone 1800 555 222
- Reporting Elder Abuse or Abuse of a Vulnerable Adult**