

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, the moon beneath her feet, and a crown on her head of twelve stars.**

## PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life:  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**  
Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins:  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**  
Lord Jesus, you feed us with your body and blood:  
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

Almighty ever-living God, who assumed the Immaculate Virgin Mary, the Mother of your Son, body and soul into heavenly glory, grant, we pray, that, always attentive to the things that are above, we may merit to be sharers of her glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ...

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

## FIRST READING

**Apocalypse 11:19;12: 1-6.10**

**A reading from the book of Apocalypse.**

The sanctuary of God in heaven opened, and the ark of the covenant could be seen inside it. Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown. She was pregnant, and in labour, crying aloud in the pangs of childbirth. Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon which had seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet. Its tail dragged a third of the stars from the sky and dropped them to the earth, and the dragon stopped in front of the woman as she was having the child, so that he could eat it as soon as it was born from its mother. The woman brought a male child

into the world, the son who was to rule all the nations with an iron sceptre, and the child was taken straight up to God and to his throne, while the woman escaped into the desert, where God had made a place of safety ready. Then I heard a voice shout from heaven, 'Victory and power and empire for ever have been won by our God, and all authority for his Christ.'

**This is the word of the Lord.**  
**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 44:10-12.16

**R. On your right stands the queen, in garments of gold.**

1. The daughters of kings are among your loved ones.  
On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.  
Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words:  
forget your own people and your father's house. **(R)**
2. So will the king desire your beauty:  
he is your Lord, pay homage to him.  
They are escorted amid gladness and joy; they pass within the palace of the king. **(R)**

## SECOND READING

**1 Corinthians 15:20-26**

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

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet.

**This is the word of the Lord.**  
**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Mary has been taken up into heaven: all the choirs of angels are rejoicing. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL Luke 1. 39-56 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child

leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

And Mary said:  
'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour; because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid. Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name, and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him. He has shown the power of his arm, he has routed the proud of heart. He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away. He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy - according to the promise he made to our ancestors - of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.

**This is 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.



## THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 15th August 2021

**Mary the mother of Jesus - has conquered sin and death. She has been brought to heaven and we pray that when our time comes we may join her in her Son's kingdom.**



## 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

May this oblation, our tribute of homage, rise up to you, O Lord, and, through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, whom you assumed into heaven, may our hearts, aflame with the fire of love, constantly long for you.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**All generations will call me blessed, for he who is mighty has done great things for me.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having received the Sacrament of salvation, we ask you to grant, O Lord, that, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, whom you assumed into heaven, we may be brought to the glory of the resurrection.  
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.**



One of the interesting aspects for me of the Brexit campaign was the impressive sight of pro EU demonstrators waving the EU flag - 12 stars on a field of blue. I am not sure how many were aware they were carrying an emblem based on veneration of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Arsène Heitz. A devout

Catholic, designed the first European Flag which was adopted by the Council of Europe.

There is no gospel account of the Assumption, which is why today's gospel tells the story of The Visitation and Mary's proclamation of the Magnificat.

The First Reading and psalm of the feast fired the imagination over centuries to bring the image of a woman clothed in the sun with the moon beneath her feet and a crown of 12 stars above her head. It is of the Assumption. Mary was the perfect combination of our humanity cooperating with the Divine - in her very body she became the first tabernacle. Like the prayer that bears her name "Hail Mary" it combines the words (Hail Mary, full of grace...) of the Angelic visitor to Nazareth and our human words (Holy Mary, Mother of God) in response. May we like her cooperate more fully with God's loving plan.

*Fr Tom Cox PP, Shannonbridge. Adapted from Messenger August 2021.*

## Jesus' Story

*Fr. Liam Hickey*



Today's feast is about the glory of death. We wonder much about what happens after death. What will we be like, will we recognise each other? Jesus says little about the details of the afterlife except that he goes to prepare us a place, and we will enjoy eternal life. The feast of Mary's Assumption throws some light on the mystery of death. We believe that she is body and soul in heaven. This means that she is totally there, knowing God and her son fully. The focus of her earthly life was her son - not in a way of always talking about him, but of being totally faithful to him and his father.



# 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



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

**Volume 36. No. 34**

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

Date	Time		
Sat 14th Aug	5.00pm		
	6.00pm	Billy Woods, The Maudlins	1st Anniversary
Sun 15th Aug	9.00am	John Moore, Priory Street & Willie Moore, London	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Mary E Carty, Co. Galway Mary Browne (nee Buckley), Mount Ross	Anniversary Anniversary
	11.00am		
	12.00 Noon		
Mon 16th Aug	10.00am	Claire Sheehan, New Jersey USA Joe Colfer, South Street	Recently Deceased 14th Anniversary
Tues 17th Aug	10.00am	Carmelites Community & Benefactors Mary & Claire Dunne, Terrerath & Deirdre Dunne, Portmarnock	Anniversaries
Wed 18th Aug	10.00am	Intentions of the People Eddie & Ellen O'Reilly, Wexford Street	Anniversaries
Thurs 19th Aug	10.00am	John Byrne, London & Raheen Bridget Allen, Michael Street	Birthday Remembrance Anniversary
Fri 20th Aug	10.00am	Claire Sheehan, New Jersey Ted Kehoe, Harvey Place	Recently Deceased Anniversary
Sat 21st Aug	10.00am	Parish Mass Association	

**ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:** We pray for the souls of Kathleen North, Charleton Hill, Harry Wilson, Robert Street who's anniversaries occurs around this time.

**BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE:** We pray for the soul of Gerry Cash, Hewittsland who's birthday occurs around this time.

**BAPTISMS:** We welcome into our Christian community baby Lee O Hara, Lower Mount Carmel & Luca Anthony Moloney, Hunterswood, Dublin.

Baptisms will be celebrated every weekend at the following times **Saturday @ 1.00pm, 2.00pm & 3.00pm & Sunday @ 1.00pm, 2.00pm & 3.00pm.** Please contact the Parish Office to make booking. Copy of Birth Certificates are required for the candidate. Photo ID also required for the person making / requesting the booking.

**WEDDINGS:** We congratulate Deirdre Kane, Bosheen & Stephen Bardon, Castlepollard who were married recently in our Parish Church.

**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.**



**Affordable Live-in Homecare provides live in carers for the elderly in your area.**

If you are looking for a live-in carer for your relative, please call Eileen or Tom today on 087 991 6791 or 087 744 0729.



**Would like to say a huge thank you to all people who generously donated over the past weekend. Your kindness is greatly appreciated**

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

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

**Altar (Centre):**  
Available

**St. Joseph's (Right)**  
John Whelan, RIP

### Reflection for weekend 14th Aug & 15th Aug 2021

'There is only one path to heaven.

On earth, we call it love' (author unknown)

This Sunday is the feast of the Assumption of Mary into heaven. It is always a turning point in late summer, not just for those getting the Leaving Cert results but also a reminder that the school holidays will soon be winding down as we head for September. At the heart of this feast day is a sense of hope. Mary was taken up into heaven to show the other side of death. Death is always so final, but as believers we believe in eternal life. It's the hinge on which we rest everything. The Assumption of Mary is a reminder that we are merely pilgrims as we journey through this world. What happened to Mary is God's plan for all of us too.

Sometimes we need a boost and a reminder that there is a meaningful purpose to life. Today is certainly one of those days. As we journey we need to give 100% to what needs getting done. This means when we do something, no matter how small, it's best to give it our all. In our Gospels, Jesus constantly encouraged people to do their best, to keep focussed and especially on the really important things in life. As Samuel Johnson said 'Knock the 't' off the 'can't' When we find ourselves saying 'I can't', we pray for the encouragement to say 'I can'.

(Thoughts by Fr James Mc Sweeney)

**Brought to you by the Diocesan Pastoral Council**

## PARISH INFORMATION.....

**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 Funeral Masses.

**Mass Bookings:** We are now taking mass bookings up to and including January 2022.

### Next Weeks Readings: TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jos 24:1-2, 15-18. Ps 33:2-3, 16-23, R/ v 9. Eph 5:21-32. Jn 6:60-69.

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

**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.

**Weekly Collection and Supporting the Parish:** 8th August 2021 @ € 1138.30 (161 No. Envelopes). Alternatively you can donate via. The Ferns Diocesan Website (www.ferns.ie) by clicking the big pink button. Thank you for the support.  
**Please make all cheques payable to St. Mary & St. Michael Parish Church New Ross.** Thank you for the support.

**St. Michael's Pastoral Centre:** Available for Parish based activities, please contact the Parish office.

## Our Lady's Island Pilgrimage



The traditional pilgrimage season for Lady's Island begins **Sunday 15th August and continues until the 8th September.**

This year, because of Covid regulations, all services will be held in the Church, with restricted numbers.

Visitors are still welcome to come on pilgrimage and walk the Island with the usual catering and Gift Shop facilities still available.

***All services will be broadcast on line and on local radio 106FM. From the 15th daily masses will be at 3pm and 8pm.***

At the Opening Mass on the Sunday 15th August @3.00pm our retiring Bishop Denis Brennan will bid his farewell and our new Bishop Elect Monsignor Ger Nash will introduce himself to the people of our Diocese.

A variety of musicians and speakers have been invited each week with many parishes having their own smaller gatherings.

## 16th AUGUST BROADCAST 2

We began last week with "The Hook". We move a little up the coast now to Our Lady's Island, where the annual pilgrimage season began yesterday- curtailed naturally by Covid 19 restrictions. This site has been a place of pilgrimage since the 3rd Crusade- roughly around the time of the building of the Hook Lighthouse. It has been said that at the close of the pilgrimage season in Lough Derg, the pilgrims made their way to Our Lady's Island for the commencement of the season there on the 15th August. We mentioned Our Lady's pattern of life by followed two paths- SERVICE AND SILENCE.

Our Lady's Island is the ideal location for reflecting on Her life and seeing how her example is so necessary to our lives today. The island is free from the commercialism so obvious in most Marian Shrines. An early morning or late evening walk around the island provides that essential peace and quiet for reflection, especially in these strange times.

We have come through a destructive period boom and bust and are now in between recovery from or facing into the uncertainty of another bout of Covid 19.

Maybe covid has given us cause for thought. Some values were getting a foothold in our society that were founded on shifting sands and in danger of replacing more tradition and Christian standards. We worked seven days and shopped till we dropped. To a large degree we forgot what we needed in favour of what we wanted.

Maybe God stepped in to bust our boom and showed us through the virus that we are not independent. We were losing the run of ourselves but now we have been forced to pause and catch our breath.

A recent Sunday's Gospel mirrored our situation. The Disciples had returned from their first mission journey and were full of enthusiasm after the experience. So busy they had no time even to eat. Their success amazed them and they felt all-powerful- ready to go again.

Jesus put a damper on that enthusiasm by saying COME AWAY TO A QUIET PLACE AND REST A WHILE.

He says the same to us in these troublesome times. He offers His mother as our guide. She is the great example of reflecting on situations and allowing them to influence her reactions. Pope St John Paul 11 said CONTEMPLATING THE SCENES OF THE ROSARY IN UNION WITH MARY IS A MEANS OF LEARNING FROM HER TO READ THE FACE OF JESUS, TO DISCOVER HIS SECRETS AND UNDERSTAND HIS MESSAGE.

At the Annunciation we are told SHE CONSIDERED IN HER MIND what had been revealed to her.

At the Birth of Jesus, MARY KEPT ALL THESE THING, PONDERING THEN IN HER HEART.

At the Presentation in the Temple SHE MARVELLED AT WHAT HAD BEEN SAID ABOUT HIM.

At the FINDING IN THE TEMPLE again SHE KEPT ALL THESE THINGS IN HER HEART.

All in order that SHE WOULD LIVE ACCORDING TO HIS WORD.

When we reflect on God's Word, we begin to develop His way of thinking, absorb His values and live according to His standards.

Reflection leads to interiorisation of His message so that we live a life like His .St. Paul said I LIVE NOW NOT I BUT CHRIST LIVES IN ME. To live in friendship with Him and in service of others. That is our goal.

Jesus did just that at the Last Supper. He prayed with His disciples and then washed their feet., saying I HAVE GIVEN YOU AN EXAMPLE.

DO TO OTHERS AS I HAVE DONE TO YOU. Mary and the saints all based their lives on this pattern and are our exemplars.

St. Ignatius of Loyola was born in Spain at the end of the 16th century into a large, semi-noble family, with all the privileges that went with that.

His aim in life was to follow the family tradition- TO DO GREAT THINGS FOR THE KING AND FOR HIMSELF. He was seriously injured in a battle against the French. During a long recovery in a place called MANRESA, he happened by chance to read the life of Jesus and decided that for the rest of his life he would do great things for God, instead for King or himself. He founded the Society of Jesus- the Jesuits- with a motto which says EVERYTHING FOR THE GREATER GLORY OF GOD. The name MANRESA is used on many of their houses of reflection and prayer- in memory of Ignatius' conversion. He once said TO FALL IN LOVE WITH GOD IS THE GREATEST ROMANCE.

TO SEEK HIM IS THE GREATEST ADVENTURE; TO FIND HIM IS THE GREATEST HUMAN ACHIEVEMENT.

Pope Francis, himself a Jesuit, tells us that THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL FILLS THE LIVES AND HEARTS OF ALL WHO HAVE MET JESUS.

SO we need not just to know about Him but we need to get to know Him as a real, live, fascinating ,personal friend. As the song says- a FOREVER FRIEND ,FROM DARKEST NIGHT TO RAINBOW'S END. He will offer to walk with us each day. We will only develop such a close friendship if we spend time with Him. He said to the woman at the well IF YOU ONLY KNEW THE GIFT GOD IS OFFERING YOU. That is the gift He is offering to each of us. Mary whispers in our ears DO WHAT EVER HE TELLS YOU.

**MONSIGNOR JOSEPH MCGRATH**



***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.***

