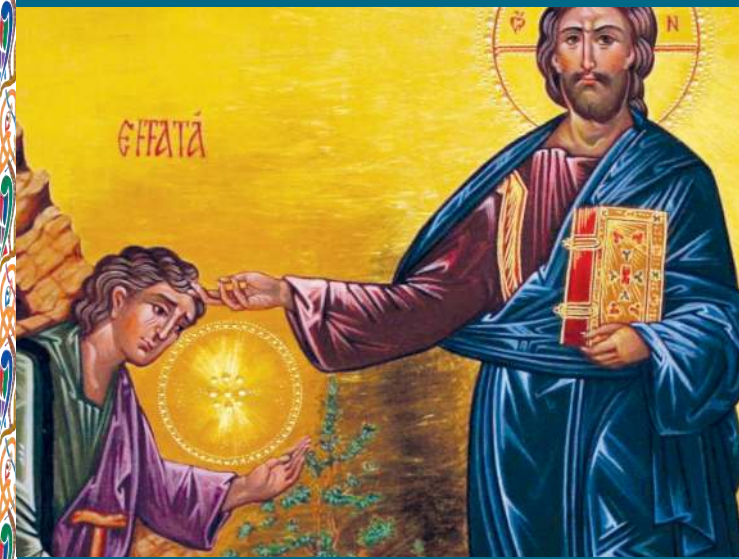


focus on sunday

TWENTY - THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 5th September 2021

The signs that Jesus is present and that we are his true witnesses is that we attend to our sick, console those who are in despair, befriend the friendless; work for social justice, we must not be mute through fear or self - protection. We must do all things well.



Many of Jesus' miracles were for people who were deaf or with speech difficulties. We can imagine what it must be like to suffer like that, and the great relief on being healed. So important were these miracles that they were signs of the coming of the Messiah. The people knew the divine as present in these cures.

The meaning of the miracles is spiritual as well as physical. They were now able to hear and speak the word of God. Blocks to this seeing and hearing are healed by the presence and the word of Jesus. At baptism we pray that the child or adult may soon hear and speak the word of God as their ears and mouth are blessed.

Even without the physical healing the dumb man could speak the word of God. We share God's word in our words and in how we live. We often remember the moments of kindness or compassion as much as a person's words. By the way we live we are speakers of the word of God. As Jesus was made flesh, the word of God is audible in us, but must be in us before we can speak it.

We pray also today for all we know who may need healing in speech and hearing.

May I hear your word O Lord in my heart and speak it in my life.

Donal Neary SJ (editor Sacred Heart Messenger).



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.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O God, who give us the gift of true prayer and of peace, graciously grant that through this offering, we may do fitting homage to your divine majesty, and, by partaking of the sacred mystery, we may be faithfully united in mind and heart. Through Christ our Lord.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant that your faithful, O Lord, whom you nourish and endow with life through the food of your Word and heavenly Sacrament, may so benefit from your beloved Son's great gifts that we may merit an eternal share in his life. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Liturgical texts: concordat cum originali: †Diarmuid Martin, Archbishop of Dublin Other texts: cum permissu: †Diarmuid Martin, Archbishop of Dublin. Excerpts from the English translation of the Roman Missal: © 2010, International Committee on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Used with permission. The Jerusalem version of the Scripture is copyright Darton, Longman & Todd & Doubleday & Co. Inc. Responsorial psalms are copyright The Grail & Geoffrey Chapman Ltd. Published by Logos Publications, 26 Tolka Valley Business Park, Ballygogan Rd, Glasnevin, D11 WK38 Phone (01 830 6751).

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Have mercy on us, O Lord.
For we have sinned against you.
Show us, O Lord, your mercy.
And grant us your salvation.



May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

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

O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption, look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters, that those who believe in Christ may receive true freedom and an everlasting inheritance. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 35:4-7

A reading from the prophet of Isaiah

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.



The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 145: 7 - 10

R. My soul, give praise to the Lord. or Alleluia!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **[R]**

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger. **[R]**

3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. **[R]**

SECOND READING James 2:1-5

A reading from the letter of St. James

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 7:31-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said, 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

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,

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.

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 Parish Mobile 087 1212 707 (Text Alert Only)
 www.newrossparish.ie
 info@newrossparish.ie
 Visit us on Facebook/New Ross Parish

Please follow HSE Guidelines & Stay Safe

Volume 36. No. 37

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

| Date | Time | | |
|----------------------|------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Sat 4th Sept | 5.00pm | Harry Doherty | Anniversary |
| | 6.00pm | Michael O'Connor, JKL Place | 1st Anniversary |
| Sun 5th Sept | 9.00am | Eileen O'Rourke, Wexford Road | Anniversary |
| | 10.00am | Bridget & Robert Walsh, South Street. Ann O'Neil, Ryleen | Anniversary 1st Anniversary |
| | 11.00am | Special Intentions | Intentions |
| | 12.00 Noon | | |
| St Aidan's Cathedral | 3.00pm | Ordination of the Bishop Ger Nash | Livestreaming only |
| Mon 6th Sept | 10.00am | Betty Dwyer, late of Fr Cullen Terrace Luke Roche, Lower Southknock | Anniversary Anniversary |
| Tues 7th Sept | 10.00am | Deceased members of Mount Carmel, Relatives & Friends Tom Walsh, "Aisling", Lower Southknock | Anniversaries Anniversary |
| Wed 8th Sept | 10.00am | Intentions of the People Peg Cleary, Neville Street | 2nd Anniversary |
| Thurs 9th Sept | 10.00am | Pat Laffan, Charleton Hill & James May, Dublin Kitty Griffin, Bosheen | Anniversaries Anniversary |
| Fri 10th Sept | 10.00am | William Murphy, Clonmel & Cardiff The Kehoe Family, Bewley Street | Recently Deceased Anniversaries |
| Sat 11th 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):
Nicky Murphy, RIP

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

RECENTLY DECEASED:

We pray for the soul of Ollie O'Brien (née Freaney), Lower Michael Street, who passed away recently. May she rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:

We pray for the souls of Nicholas Murphy, McMurrough & Dick Hughes, Charleton Hill & Dublin (3rd Anniversary) who's anniversaries occurs around this time.

BAPTISMS:

We welcome into our Christian community Thomas James Kelly O'Neill, Michael Street & Freya Murphy, Ryleen, who were baptised recently. 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.

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.

Guided Pilgrimages on the Lough Derg

Pilgrim Path will be offered on Sunday 12th, Wednesday 15th, Saturday 18th & Sunday 26th September and Sunday 3rd October, with Mass outdoors, weather permitting. The full route is a 12km loop, with a shorter 8km. Advance booking is essential. For further information email

info@loughderg.org or

telephone 0(0353) 71

9861518. www.loughderg.org

Lough Derg Pilgrim Path, Pettigo, Co Donegal. F94 N289

Address by Bishop-elect Ger Nash on his appointment as Bishop of Ferns



Dia is Muire dhibh go léir. Good morning and thank you for being here. I welcome, in particular, the people and priests of Ferns who are tuning in via webcam.

As we gather here in this beautiful cathedral, it is with a great sense of unworthiness that I accept the gracious invitation of Pope Francis to the ministry of Bishop here in the historic Diocese of Ferns.

We are living in strange times as we continue to cope with COVID-19. I would like to begin by offering my sympathies to the relatives of those who have died recently, including those who suffered with the COVID-19 coronavirus and in particular, the families of Ferns diocese who have lost loved ones. Leaba i measc na naomh doibh siud ata imithe uainn. Also, I would like to acknowledge the heroism of all the healthcare and frontline workers who continue to be involved in responding to the pandemic.

I am privileged to be chosen by Pope Francis to lead this historic Diocese and I feel very humbled. I would like to thank His Excellency, Archbishop Jude Thaddeus Okolo, the Papal Nuncio to Ireland, for his presence here this morning, leading us in the celebration of the Eucharist, as well as his kind support and detailed preparations for this announcement. My links to Ferns Diocese is principally through the Ferns students who were classmates in Maynooth. Father John Carroll, Diocesan Secretary, has been a source of both welcome and help over the past week and whose deep knowledge of the Diocese I know I will draw on frequently during the coming years. I also mention today with great affection, the late Fintan Morris who was a great friend in Maynooth and afterwards and who would not doubt have a raised eyebrow at me standing here. Mentioning those classmates who have died, I remember my great friend John Cummins who died so tragically a few years ago and John Byrne, Joe McKeever and Paddy Mullaney all of whom are now with the Lord.

My faith story began in the parish of Tulla in East Clare. I am the eldest of a family of four, three girls and myself who were blessed to have Tommy and Mary Nash as their parents. Both of them passed away in the early years of this century as did my sister Bernie. My other sisters, Teresa and Margaret and my brother-in-law Jim are here in the Cathedral today. I also acknowledge my aunt Rita, who was a significant figure in all our lives and who has also gone to God. I went to both Primary and Secondary school in Tulla and after studying business for a few years and a number of years working in industry, I went to Saint Patrick's College Maynooth, to study for the priesthood for the Killaloe Diocese.

My vocation story began with my involvement in two organisations, Muintearas Íosa, a youth movement begun in the 1970s by an tAth. Michéal Liostún in Limerick, founded on the three principles of Fáilte, Foghlaim agus Guí. Welcome, Learning and Prayer. The other formative organisation was the Young Christian Students/Workers – YCS and YCW. This European movement founded by Joseph Cardijn, a Belgian priest who later became a Cardinal, developed a methodology for young people to integrate their faith and with the reality of their lives either as students or workers. The method Cardijn developed – See, Judge, Act – is the exact outline used by Pope Francis in his latest book *Let us Dream*.

I was ordained on 15 June 1991 and my first appointment was as chaplain and teacher in Roscrea Vocational School. In 1996, Bishop Willie Walsh asked me to take on the role of General Manger in Clarecare, the Social Services Organisation for the County of Clare. I went to live in Corofin, Co Clare, and worked as an assistant priest. In 2003 when I left Clarecare, I remained in Corofin and began to work with three other priests to set up the first example of Team Ministry in the Diocese. The Pastoral Area, which still exists is called Imeall Boirne – (The Edge of the Burren). In 2010 I moved to Crusheen, also within the Imeall Boirne Pastoral Area and took on the role of part-time Diocesan Secretary. In 2016, I was asked by the Diocese to take on the role of Director of Pastoral Development.

As part of the Pastoral Development Team, I was privileged to work with Maureen Kelly as Pastoral Worker, supported by Jean Gaynor our secretary.

I am particularly proud of our project of the last three years where we recruited and are continuing to train 25 candidates as Catechists and Pastoral Workers. Maranna Quinlivan is the third invaluable member of the Formation Team for the New Ministries and I want to acknowledge all who participated in this training even when Covid made it difficult to meet other than online. The academic element of the training was facilitated by the Theology Department of Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, under the direct guidance of Father Eamonn Fitzgibbon who has been a wonderful colleague in our project. I also want to acknowledge the great work done in Youth Ministry in the Diocese, by the Youth Forum, volunteers in a number of different projects and especially through the work of Joanne O'Brien, Director of Youth Ministry.

At this point I would like to thank Bishop Denis Brennan for the welcome extended to me from the moment he heard of my appointment. Thank you, Bishop Denis, – and I also want to offer thanks on your behalf for his leadership and care of the Diocese over the past 15 years. I wish you good health and time to enjoy your retirement. Thank you for your welcome as well as your offer of practical support and your prayers. Thanks also to John Carroll and Frs Odhrán Furlong and Jim Doyle here in the Cathedral Parish for their coordination of the preparations for today. Thanks also to the Vicars of the Diocese, Joe McGrath, Denis Browne, Aodhan Marken and Brian Broaders and also to Trish Murphy in the Diocesan Office.

My hope and prayer are that we can work together here in Ferns with the Spirit of God sustaining us to nurture the faith and to ensure that our Church is a place of welcome and hospitality for all. In accord with Pope Francis' model in *Let us Dream*, I would wish to lead this Diocese in Seeing, Reflecting and Acting so that we become a refuge of healing and encouragement with space for all who are searching for meaning, especially, as we emerge tentatively from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pope Francis continues to call the Church to work in a synodal manner. In the last few weeks, the Holy Father has postponed the Synod of Bishops which was due to be held next year in Rome, so that their deliberations will be informed by discussions at parish, diocesan, national and wider levels. In parallel with this, the Bishops of Ireland have announced their intention to begin a synodal process involving the whole country over the coming years. I have a sense that we are at a turning point in our Church story in Ireland, and it is exciting to be asked to take a leadership role at such a time.

I look forward, with the help of God, to walking with the people and parish communities throughout the diocese of Ferns as we respond to that call to synodality.

As I leave Killaloe, I also thank the three Bishops with whom I worked closely during the past 12 years. Bishop Willie Walsh lives his motto of *Cinealtas* Christ every day of his life and I hope to have the courage he has always shown as priest and bishop. I want to thank Archbishop Kieran O'Reilly SMA, whose time in Killaloe was short but whose vision and planning gave us our current pastoral plan which emphasised collaboration as a central principle. Finally, I thank my classmate, Bishop Fintan Monahan, whose availability and kindness to people and priests sets a benchmark for good ministry. I also thank him for his unwavering support for the projects we undertook in Pastoral Development over the past five years.

In acknowledging my roots in the Diocese of Killaloe I would like to thank all who have given support and friendship to me; people, priest colleagues, staff members in the Diocesan Office, candidates for the New Ministries and the many parish people in parishes and parish groups who continue to work tirelessly to build sustainable Christian Communities in a time of great change.

In particular, I want to thank the priests with whom I've worked in different parishes or areas of work or responsibility. Our Diocese has been blessed that many priests go the extra mile in the building of parish community or are generous with their talents towards the wider community of the Diocese. I was also part of a team in the Diocesan Office and I thank everybody who carried responsibilities in Finance, Safeguarding, Administration, Catechetics, Care of Priests and Helen, who made our office, a home from home.

Today is the Feast of the Sacred Heart, an image familiar to most of us reared in twentieth century Ireland with its distinctive Sacred Heart picture and lamp. Can I suggest that its expression today is to remind me that I am called to have a heart for all people and to paraphrase the old prayer "Christ has no heart on earth but ours". When reading Father Billy Swans' reflection on this feast-day in the Hook of Faith blog, I was delighted to be reminded that in addition to its spiritual significance, the Sacred Heart lamp was the place you looked to see if you had power in the house after a storm or other break. Then you could get on with the milking or with the washing or you might even be in time to catch Glenroe television!

There is a scripture quotation which always gives me hope in times of challenge and uncertainty. It is from the prophet Jeremiah when he hears the Lord saying "My plans for you are peace and not disaster. I have reserved for you a future full of hope." I pray that here in Ferns we will turn our faces towards the future set aside for us by God and that we will journey forward together in faith.

Thank you for listening and please remember me in your prayers.

Ag Lorg na Suáilcí

"Dóchas, creideamh agus grá
Bíodh go brách 'na stiúir do mo chroí,
Agus cuir leosan foighid, a Dhé,
– Ba chabhair thréan don triúr í."

Go raibh na suáilcí sin Dóchas, Creideamh, Grá chomh maith le foighne os mo chomhair inniu agus i gconaí agus mé ag tógáil an chéim seo, in ainm Dé!

Áiméan!

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.