



focus on sunday



THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH 26th December 2021

A day to pray with and for our family; to give thanks to God for them; to pray for healing of divisions and bitterness. We pray that we may grow in respect and love for our extended family throughout the world.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the infant lying in a manger.

GREETING

In the name of the FatherAmen. The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: 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

O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practising the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 1:20-22.24-28

A reading from the first book of Samuel

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel, 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.'

When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.'

When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull, and

the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.' There she left him, for the Lord.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 83:2-3.5-6.9-10

R. They are happy who dwell in your house, O Lord.

- How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, God of hosts. My soul is longing and yearning, is yearning for the courts of the Lord. My heart and my soul ring out their joy to God, the living God. [R]
- They are happy, who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise. They are happy, whose strength is in you; they walk with ever growing strength. [R]
- O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer, give ear, O God of Jacob. Turn your eyes, O God, our shield, look on the face of your anointed. [R]

SECOND READING 1 John 3: 1-2. 21-24

A reading from the first letter of St. John

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive,

because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these:

that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 2: 41-52

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.

He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

All bow for following two lines: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

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

We offer you, Lord, the sacrifice of conciliation, humbly asking that, through the intercession of the Virgin Mother of God and Saint Joseph, you may establish our families firmly in your grace and your peace. Through Christ our Lord.



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right and just.

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith. My Lord and my God.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God, Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Bring those you refresh with this heavenly Sacrament, most merciful Father, to imitate constantly the example of the Holy Family, so that, after the trials of this world, we may share their company for ever. 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.



So much in this story; not just a little boy lost. It brings in so many issues of life for us. Pain with family members. Losing someone, someone leaving home, worrying and fretting about a younger one. So often part of family life. The worrying parents. About letting the children go. Everyone finds their own way in life. Things move on. The example of the father teaching the child to ride the bike. He has to let go if the child is to learn.

LISTENING TO YOUNG PEOPLE!

Gifts in Jesus emerge at 12. They have something to tell us. Gifts later to blossom. He was encouraged in his mission in life by the elders listening. Not just passive but asking questions, challenging them with his wisdom.

Lessons here for young and old – for the old to listen to the young, and for the young to ask advice and gain wisdom from the old. Both can get stuck into thinking they have all the answers. We all have something to offer each other if we are true to the best in us and not exercising our egos and pride.

THEN FOR MARY AND JOSEPH

The care of God for Jesus. She knew that, and had to hand him over to God. The care of God for all we know and love. Mary praying, often for Jesus. She let him go - not to nothing, but to his father in heaven. That is what the parent does also – allow God look after the other, and the child later doing the same for the parent. Knowing that as we are about the business of God, the business of love, he too is about the same business, of care and love for his people.

Donal Neary SJ.(editor Sacred Heart Messenger).

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey

When Jesus was young he strayed away and got lost. Mary and Joseph were very sad and were looking everywhere for him, because they cared and were worried. My nephew has a teenage boy. He wanders away. His parents ask him to text them just to let them know where he is. He forgets. Lord, Mary and Joseph ease the pain that we make for each other in home life.

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 are also available in Cooney's & Ryan's Funeral Homes.

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Visit us on
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Ross Parish

Please follow HSE Guidelines & Stay Safe

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

MOUNT CARMEL MONASTERY CHAPEL REMAINS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.

8.00AM MASS INTENTIONS WILL BE CELEBRATED IN PRIVATE.
THESE INTENTIONS WILL ALSO BE REMEMBERED AT THE 10.00AM MASS IN
THE PARISH CHURCH ON THE SAME DAY.

Sanctuary Lamps Intentions:

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

Our Lady's (Left):

Willie, Ann & Nicky Murphy
(Remembrance)

Altar (Centre):

Special Intention

St. Joseph's (Right)

Kathleen Furlong RIP

RECENTLY DECEASED:

We pray for the soul of Mary O'Hanlon (nee McGrath), Drumcondra, Dublin & New Ross, who passed away recently. May she rest in peace.

CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE & ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:

We remember & pray for the souls of Tony Murphy, Mountgarrett, and his granddaughter Aoife Murphy, The Rower, Catherine Carroll (nee Waters), Rossmount, Shanboe, Borris-in-Ossory, Laois & New Ross, Jimmy, Bridget, Big Dad & Little Josie Goggins, The Maudlins, Joe Carroll, Ard Mhicil, his wife Jo & their son Joe, Deceased Members & Friends of the New Ross Historical Society, Ned, Ned Junior & Margaret Cash, Hospital Road, John J King, Mountgarrett, Ned & Mona Walsh, William Street, William St. Ledger, Lower Mount Carmel, Stella Katus, Michael Street, Dawn & Richard Pyne, Mount Carmel Molly Crowdle, Irishtown, Martin & Jim O'Neill, Cross Lane & Michael Malone, Charleton Hill.

BAPTISMS: We welcome Jonathan St. Ledger, Mount Carmel into our Christian community who was baptised recently in our church. Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to book your child's baptism. 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.

DATES FOR YOUR DAIRY & PARISH INFORMATION.....

Christmas Holidays: Parish Office will open Tuesday 4th January 2022 @ 10.30am

Eucharistic Adoration: Every Tuesday from 10.00am Mass to 8.00pm finishing with Solemn Benediction.

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: On Tuesday the 4th of January we will be taking mass bookings up to and including June 2022.

Next Weeks Readings: SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS Eccles 24:1-2, 8-12. Ps 147:12-15, 19-20, R/ Jn 1:14. Eph 1:3-6, 15-18. Jn 1:1-18

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.

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: Collections 19th Dec 2021 @ € 1,461.10 (182 No. Envelopes). Alternatively you can donate via. The Ferns Diocesan Website (www.ferns.ie) by clicking the big pink button. **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.

Intentions for the living: Intentions for the living will be announced as "Special Intentions" unless the person who the intention is for signs the GDPR Regulation Slip. Please advise at time of booking.

Certificate Requests: Certificate fees at €5.00 each. Photographic ID is required for the candidate including Photographic ID for the person who has been authorised by you to collect it. Request forms are available in the Parish Office. Collection on Fridays only.

IRISH CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER: On sale in Parish Office @ €2.50 each.

PRIEST ON DUTY (051) 421214: Visitation of Sick / Housebound (First Friday Calls): We are anxious to visit those who cannot celebrate Holy Mass with us due to illness, aged or infirm. Arrangements can be made to receive the sacraments at home by calling the Parish Office. **Please note there will be no first Friday calls taking place under the current pandemic restrictions.**

Lectio Divina: Every Wednesday morning at 10.45am for one hour in St. Michaels Pastoral Centre.

Legion of Mary: Meetings every Thursday afternoon @ 12.00 noon in St. Michaels Pastoral Centre. Contact: Alex Doyle, Tel: 087 273 8703.

Home Visitation Team (Suspended for the Interim): Tel 083 474 5789 to avail of this service or to volunteer.



On behalf of the Parish Office staff and Ourselves we wish volunteers who have helped throughout the year in any way, a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful Christmas.

As there are so many to mention individually, We have included you all in our Novena list during the Christmas Season.

Monsignor Joseph McGrath, Fr. Tom Orr, Breda, Martha, John & Noreen

Nativity Word Scramble

- 1 STBALE _____
- 2 HEEPS _____
- 3 NLGEA _____
- 4 TSAR _____
- 5 GAMREN _____
- 6 JHPOES _____
- 7 OENYDK _____
- 8 EUSSJ _____
- 9 SKNGI _____
- 10 YMAR _____



Help Mary and Joseph get to the stable.



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.