



# focus on sunday

The Cross is a Throne and the Man hanging there is a King! That is the Christ who turns all earthly values upside down. He is a king, not through wealth or reputation, but because he is a Man of compassion and of mercy, of justice brought to death. He is King of Creation and Son of God.



Today you will be with me in

*Paradise*



In a homily, many years ago I heard the words: "The cross is a throne and the man on it is a king". What strange words the onlookers standing at the foot of the cross would have heard - "Jesus remember me", "today, you will be with me in Paradise" or "father forgive them". A simple prayer from the thief, who in

his final hour comes to see the truth, the confident promise of salvation and the humble prayer, once requested, that we too will be forgiven as was the "good thief". The King of the Universe but always the Good Shepherd.

Look who His companions were on death row! A thief who was resentful and mocking, a thief who was hopeful. One looked back, the other forward. They represent the choice we all face between letting ourselves be trapped by past wrongs or moving forward seeking and being granted forgiveness.

The thief called him by name, an intimate moment for two men who were losing their lives. In that moment the thief saw that through Jesus he could find eternal life. The king on the cross who is "the way, the truth and the life." The king who will save us from sin, from meaninglessness.

They wanted him to come down and save them; he saved us by staying there and forgiving everyone in mercy.

This is love to the end, the love that is the root of mercy.

We are bigger than our past, our mistakes, our transgressions, our infidelities. To the end his faithful onlookers knew He had not wavered from His mission to love and forgive and care for the others till the last breath.

*Lord Jesus, may your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger.*

## Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey



Even when Jesus was in pain on the Cross, He blessed the thief who was in pain beside him, and promised him the happiness of Heaven. God The Father, through Jesus, is embracing the world with Love. The eyes of Jesus are open with blessing for everyone, and His hands are outstretched in generosity.

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

### 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

**The Lord sits as King for ever.**  
**The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having received the food of immortality,  
we ask, O Lord,  
that, glorying in obedience to the  
commands of Christ, the King of the  
universe,  
we may live with him eternally in his  
heavenly Kingdom.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

### CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.  
*And with your spirit.*

May almighty God bless you in his  
kindness and pour out saving wisdom  
upon you. **Amen.**

May he nourish you always with the  
teachings of the faith and make you  
persevere in holy deeds. **Amen.**

May he turn your steps towards himself  
and show you the path of charity  
and peace. **Amen.**

And 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.**



abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said, 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied, 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

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

### NICENE CREEED

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.  
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

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

As we offer you, O Lord, the sacrifice  
by which the human race is reconciled  
to you, we humbly pray, that your Son  
himself may bestow on all nations the gifts  
of unity and peace.  
Through Christ our Lord.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 121: 1-5

**R. I rejoiced when I heard them say  
'Let us go to God's house.'**

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say:  
'Let us go to God's house.'  
And now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem. **[R]**
2. Jerusalem is built as a city  
strongly compact.  
It is there that the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord. **[R]**
3. For Israel's law it is  
there to praise the Lord's name.  
There were set the thrones of judgement  
of the house of David. **[R]**

### SECOND READING Colossians 1:12 - 20

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians.**

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light. Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins. He is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers - all things were created through him and for him. Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head. As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

**The word of the Lord.**  
**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!**  
**Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!**

### GOSPEL Luke 23. 35 - 43

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.**

The people stayed there before the Cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said, 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals hanging there

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.**

### GREETING

The Lord be with you. *And with your spirit.*

### PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and prince of peace:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendour of the Father:

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,  
whose will is to restore all things in your  
beloved Son, the King of the universe,  
grant, we pray,  
that the whole creation, set free from  
slavery, may render your majesty service  
and ceaselessly proclaim your praise.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING 2 Samuel 5:1-3

**A reading from the second book of Samuel.**

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron. 'Look' they said, 'we are your own flesh and blood. In days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You are the man who shall be shepherd of my people, Israel, you shall be the leader of Israel." ' So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord and they anointed David king of Israel.

**The word of the Lord.**  
**Thanks be to 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 are also available in Nugent's Newsagents, Cooney's & Ryan's Funeral Homes.

Parish Office  
051 421 348  
Priest on Duty  
051 421214 (24 Hr)



Parish Mobile  
087 1212 707  
(Text Alert Only)



www.  
newrossparish.ie



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Radio Mass 104.7Fm & LIVE STREAM ON PARISH WEBSITE.  
All 8.00am Masses are in Mount Carmel Monastery Chapel



Date	Time		
Sat 19th Nov	5.00pm	Maureen Fleming, Chambersland	1st Anniversary
Sun 20th Nov - Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe	8.00am	Birthday Blessings	Special Intention
	9.00am	Andy Roe, Southknock	4th Anniversary
	10.00am	Ann Somers (nee Quigley), The Maudlins	3rd Anniversary
Mon 21st Nov - Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	8.00am	Pious 7	Remembrance
	10.00am	Maureen Jefford, Town Wall	2nd Anniversary
Tues 22nd Nov	8.00am	Martin McGouran, Belfast	Recently Deceased
	10.00am	Michael Dempsey, Parkfield	15th Anniversary
Wed 23rd Nov	10.00am— 8.00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	
	8.00am	People of the Parish	
Thurs 24th Nov	10.00am	Pious 8	Remembrance
	8.00am	Patrick Mears, William Street	Anniversary
Fri 25th Nov	10.00am	Evelyn, Denis & Tony Hennessy & Mary Lou Hennessy (Fahy), "Mount Alto",	Anniversaries
	3.00pm— 4.00pm	Divine Mercy Holy Hour & Rosary in Blessed Sacrament Chapel	
Sat 26th Nov	8.00am	Phil Fortune, Shanbogh	1st Anniversary
	10.00am	Patrick O'Brien, Lower William Street	Anniversary
Sat 26th Nov	10.00am	Parish Mass Association	

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** We pray for the souls of Fintan Murphy, The Rower, Sr. Paschal O'Sullivan R.S.M., Lower Southknock, William Phillpot, Tomhaggard, Very Rev. John French, Horeswood & Very Rev. Canon Tom Murphy, The Rower, Inistioge & Ballyragget, Kilkenny & James (Jim) Holden, Barrystown, Wellingtonbridge, who has passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

**ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:** We remember & pray for the souls of Matt & Anna Fennell, Ard Na Greine & Maurice Kehoe (8th Anniversary), Ryleen, who's anniversaries occurs around this time.

**WEDDINGS:** Congratulations to Ann Marie Cash, "Larkstar House", Ryleen & Laurence Connors, Milehouse Road, Enniscorthy, who were married recently in our Parish Church.

**BAPTISMS:** We welcome into our Christian community Max Collier, Chamberland, who were baptised recently in our Parish Church. Maximum of two candidates per Baptism. Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to book your child's baptism. Minimum two weeks notice required. Copy of Birth Certificate is required for the candidate. Photo ID is 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.

**'Son of John B. Keane, author and columnist Billy Keane to appear at art sale & auction in New Ross'.** On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, Billy Keane, journalist and son of John B. Keane, will appear at a fundraising art sale & auction in the Brandon House Hotel. Billy will speak on 'Growing up in Listowel in the Keane Household'. The sale comprises over 180 original pieces from artists across Ireland, which have been generously donated to the event organisers, Rathgarogue Community Co-Operative Society. Billy will also facilitate the auction on the evening. Art viewings available on the day from 4pm with interview, sales & auction taking place between 7-9pm. €10 entry. For further information contact Fran on 087-6630136. All funds raised will go towards new community facilities in Rathgarogue.

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

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

Special Intentions

**Altar (Centre):**

Maureen & Tommy Jeffords - RIP

**St. Joseph's (Right):**

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**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

'God our Father, we trust in your loving kindness. Bless our Diocese of Ferns with many priestly and religious vocations. Give the men and women you call the light to understand Your gift and the love to follow always in the footsteps of your Son. Amen'.



**Holy Day Feast of the Immaculate Conception:**

Parish Office Closed. Vigil Mass in Parish Church @ 5.00pm on Wednesday 7th of December. Mass @ 8.00am in Mount Carmel, 10.00am & 1.05pm in Parish Church on Thursday 8th December.

**Sunday 18th December 2022:** Light Fever Event in Parish Church @ 2.00pm - 5.00pm.

**Monday 19th December 2022:** Reconciliation Service in Parish Church @ 5.00pm & Confessions @ 7.00pm.

**Christmas Eve Saturday 24th December:** Confessions 2.00pm - 4.00pm in Parish Church. Mass in Mount Carmel @ 8.00pm & Parish Church @ 5.00pm & 7.00pm & Polish Mass @ 9.30pm

**Christmas Day Sunday 25th December 2022:** Mass in Mount Carmel @ 8.00am & Parish Church @ 9.00am, 10.00am & 12.00 noon

**Parish Office & Shop:** The Office / Shop will close Friday 23rd December 2022 @ 2.00pm & re-opens Tuesday 2nd January 2023 @ 10.30am.



**PARISH INFORMATION.**



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL—NEW ROSS:** 085 8313073

**Radio & Live Stream Mass:** 104.7FM & New Ross Parish Website Live Stream, for all Masses including Funeral Masses excluding 8.00am in Mount Carmel Monastery Chapel.

**Mass Bookings:** We are currently taking Mass Bookings up to and including April 2023.

**Next Weeks Readings: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
Is 2:1-5. Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9, R/ cf. v 1. Rm 13:11-14. Mt 24:37-44.

**Confessions:** Saturdays after 10.00am Mass & before vigil 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 five days a week. To order just call 051-445711, St. Aidan Centre, Cross St.

**Safeguarding Representative:** Mairin Jackson -

Contact No: (051) 421348 - For any queries in relation to working with children or adolescence within our parish please contact the above.

**Bethany Bereavement Support:** If you need support please ring 087 3846577. Drop in Centre in St. Michaels Pastoral Centre on the first Thursday of every month @ 11.00am.

**Weekly Collection and Supporting the Parish:** Collections 13th November 2022 @ € 1,781.51 (Envelopes No. 179 & 2nd Collection combined). You can donate via. The Ferns Diocesan Website (www.ferns.ie) by clicking the big pink button. Should you wish to become a regular Parish Contributor, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you for the support. **Please make all cheques payable to St. Mary & St. Michael Parish Church New Ross.**

**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:** Request forms are available from the Parish Office. 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. Collection on Fridays only.

**PRIEST ON DUTY (051) 421214:** We are anxious to visit those who cannot celebrate Mass with us due to illness, aged or infirm. Arrangements can be made to receive the sacraments at home on the first Friday of every month by calling the Parish Office.

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

**Legion of Mary:** Meetings every Tuesday evening @ 7.30pm in St. Michaels Pastoral Centre. Contact: Alex Doyle, Tel: 087 273 8703.

**Radio Maria Ireland:** Radio Maria Ireland is an Irish run Catholic Talk-Radio Station. Prayer, Catechesis, uplifting music, Talks, interviews and Testimonies - all Commercial free-Listen via Free App "RADIO MARIA IRELAND", streaming on www.radiomaria.ie or via. PHONE - get live radio feed by calling +353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply). Please join our growing faith Family!

**Irish Catholic Newspaper:** Available in the Parish Office @ € 2.50 each

**NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCE**

As we said earlier—eye has not seen, nor ear heard the things god has prepared for those who love him. The details of the next life are unknown to us. We can only make feeble attempts to imagine and describe from the experiences of this life- which we know cannot be accurate. Maybe the closest we can come to a picture would be to describe what we might consider PERMANENT PERFECTION in this life. But no matter how happy or successful or rich or famous etc we might be in this life, we realise

there is always the chance that we could become happier or more successful, richer or more famous. And even in the unlikely event that all that came true, we would still know that these will end-there can be no PERMANENCE in this world.

In Gilbert and Sullivan's operetta THE GONDOLIERS, the two gondoliers, having become joint kings and expecting life would be heavenly, discovered that they were miserable. In the famous song TAKE A PAIR OF SPARKLING EYES, one of them describes what he considers A RECIPE FOR PERFECT HAPPINESS.

Alas he is proven wrong.

PERFECT HAPPINESS- PERMANENT PERFECTION are not attainable in this life but are the main FEATURES OF THE NEXT LIFE.

St. Augustine wrote seventeen hundred years ago (GOD, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts will be ever restless until they rest in you).

People pretend to themselves that they are happy if they have wealth, power or prestige. But deep down they know these are transient and can disappear in a second.

Charles Dickens said. HAPPINESS IS A GIFT AND THE TRICK IS NOT TO EXPECT IT BUT TO DELIGHT IN IT WHEN IT COMES.

I suggest the following in an effort to gain some idea of what the next life might compare with.

Some years ago, a very young kitten arrived at the door of the parish house and insisted on staying. So, she was placed in the back yard which is secure and walled in. She settled down and appeared fully content. She was well cared for in food and attention and spent her days playing and catching imaginary mice, doing what all kittens do. Perfect conditions for what appeared to be perfect happiness.

But as she grew, she would spend hours sitting and looking up at the walls...no doubt wondering what might be on the other side. As her strength increased, after many failed attempts, one day she finally managed to reach the top. Every day after that she climbed the wall and sat there motionless and amazed to discover a whole new world she never knew existed. It seemed to her to be the place to be and far more exciting than the boring back yard.

Eventually she took the plunge and jumped down into the garden. To her delight these surroundings were exactly what she always wanted. Trees to climb, space to race around, birds and mice to hunt. She realised this is the world she was made for; total freedom rather than being confined in a closed back yard. She would never go back to that lifestyle again. She would encourage all cats to follow her example.

Hopefully in time - as the awful pain of loss eases - we may be able to picture our departed loved ones in somewhat similar circumstances. That they are enjoying perfect and permanent happiness - free from pain and parting. Their only wish or want would be that we would join them, rather than they re-join us here. They know now that this new life was why they were created—TO KNOW, LOVE AND SERVE GOD IN THIS LIFE AND TO BE HAPPY WITH HIM FOREVER IN THE NEXT. As they loved us in this life, they will continue to care for us in their new home.

Many Parish Churches will have a memorial section to celebrate those who have died. Our custom in New Ross when we visit this space is to do three things:

WRITE THE NAME OF THE DECEASED AND PLACE IT IN THE SHRINE.

SAY A PRAYER FOR THEM AND TO THEM

LIGHT A CANDLE THAT WILL REPRESENT YOUR PRESENCE WITH THEM AFTER YOU LEAVE.

They go no further from than God and God are very nearby.

God our father, your power brings us to birth,

Your providence guides our lives,

And by your commands we return to You.

Lord, those who die still live in your presence,

Their lives change but do not end.

I pray in hope for my family, relatives and friends

In company with Jesus, who died and now lives,

May they rejoice in your kingdom,

Where all tears are wiped away.

Unite us together again in one family to praise You forever and ever. Amen.



*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.*