

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

GREETING

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL ACT

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

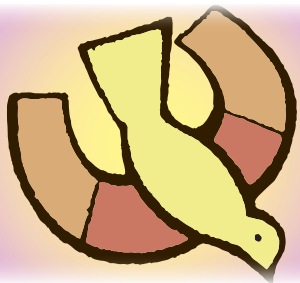
May almighty God have mercy on us.....
Amen.

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

(The Gloria is omitted awaiting its Christmas Proclamation.)

OPENING PRAYER

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

**LITURGY OF THE WORD****FIRST READING** *Isaiah 35: 1 - 6.10***A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and 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 those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps.145:6-10***R. Come, Lord, and save us.**

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

SECOND READING *James 5: 7 - 10***A reading from the letter of St. James**

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Matthew 11: 2-11***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.**

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he 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. 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.



focus on sunday

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE) 11th December 2022

The coming of Christ is a message of joy: a joy founded and rooted in God's love and care for his people, and his promise of an eternal companionship.



The Joy of Love



One of the most poignant conversations in the gospel takes place between John the Baptist and some of his companions who visit him in prison after his arrest by Herod. John must know, I think, that his prospects are not good and somewhere between hope and desperation he asks his companions to go to Jesus and put the question, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' It is such a loaded question, so full of expectation but tinged with fear of disappointment.

People all around us are wondering the same. They wonder and hope...and pray that someone will help them in whatever difficulty confronts them. They are also afraid that no-one will. Coming up to Christmas these feelings are especially strong.

John got his answer – the Messiah had come! It was a time to rejoice; the blind see, the lame walk, lepers are healed. As Christians, we get to share that joy but also to accept the challenge that comes with it. To love and care for each other just as Jesus loves and cares for us.

You don't have to belong to a charitable organisation to do something. Members of the Society of St Vincent De Paul, for example, will do their utmost to meet some of the needs of people who come to them. You can help them in their commitment. You can be part of the effort to answer the question, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?'

Fr. Paschal Scallan CM. Spiritual Director, Society of St Vincent de Paul

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey


John the Baptist was very surprised when he heard that Jesus was friends with sinners, and even had meals with them. Jesus said "Where there is love, and new life, and people are healed and loved and cared for, there God Our Father is present. We pray "Lord, help us to see you in everyone we meet."


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)

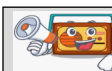
 **Parish Mobile**
087 1212 707
(Text Alert Only)

 **www.**
newrossparish.ie

 **info@**
newrossparish.ie

 **Visit us on**
Facebook/New
Ross Parish

Volume 37. No. 49

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



Date	Time		
Sat 10th Dec	5.00pm	Eoghan Brennan, Tower Grove	3rd Anniversary
Sun 11th Dec - 3rd Sunday of Advent	8.00am	Jeremiah O'Rourke, Ballyrue	Anniversary
	9.00am	Nancy Martin, Ard na Greine	90th Birthday Remembrance
	10.00am	John Joe Meehan, Charleton Hill	19th Anniversary
	12.00 Noon	Billy Dwyer, Charleton Hill Ryan Mc Garr, An Caislean Maol	Months Mind Months Mind
Mon 12th Dec	8.00am	Thomas & Bridget Somers & family, Charleton Hill	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Patrick & Nancy Richardson & deceased family members, Fairgate	Anniversaries
Tues 13th Dec	8.00am	Pat Hamilton, Pondfields	5th Anniversary
	10.00am	Peril Kehoe, William Street	Anniversary
	10.00am - 8.00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	
Wed 14th Dec	8.00am	People of the Parish	
	10.00am	Tom St. Ledger & deceased family members	Anniversaries
Thurs 15th Dec	8.00am	The Cash Family	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Kieran O'Grady, Mountgarrett	2nd Anniversary
	3.00pm - 4.00pm	Divine Mercy Holy Hour in Blessed Sacrament Chapel	
Fri 16th Dec	8.00am	Jimmy & Annie Kehoe, Church Lane	Remembrance
	10.00am	Patrick Purcell, Mount Carmel	Anniversary
Sat 17th Dec	10.00am	Parish Mass Association	

RECENTLY DECEASED: We pray for the souls of Kathleen Bowe (nee Ryan), Convent Hill, Joan Howlin (nee Murphy), Ballysop, who has passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS: We remember & pray for the souls of Grace Lee, Mount Carmel, Paschal Murphy (2nd Anniversary), Hewittsland, Phil O'Kennedy, Gus & Eileen O'Kennedy, Johnny Connors (8th Anniversary), Naas, Co. Kildare, Brendan O'Leary, The Bosheen, Dolores Sutton, Southknock, Joan Kearney, Castleisland, Co. Kerry, Sr. Paschal O'Sullivan R.S.M (Months Mind), Sisters of Mercy, Southknock, Anne Doyle, Ard Mhicil & Gerard St. Ledger, Tower Grove, who's anniversaries occurs around this time.

BAPTISMS: 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.

Sanctuary Lamps Intentions:

Available @ €10.00 per week.
Commencing Saturday @ 10.00am.

Our Lady's (Left):

Nancy Martin - Birthday Remembrance

Altar (Centre):

Nancy Martin - Birthday Remembrance

St. Joseph's (Right):

Annie Higginbotham (nee O'Neill) - RIP

There will be a **Christmas Craft Fair** in Campile Hall - Eircode (Y34DT10) on Sunday December 11th from 10am to 4 pm .Come and join us in Campile Hall and pick up some Christmas gifts made by Local Crafters from the County and help support local.



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 @ 9.00pm.

Christmas Day Sunday 25th December 2022:

Mass in Mount Carmel @ 8.00am & Parish Church @ 9.00am, 10.00am & 12.00 noon

Parish Office & Shop Christmas Closure:

The Office / Shop will close Friday 23rd December 2022 @ 2.00pm & re-opens Tuesday 3rd January 2023 @ 10.30am.

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'.



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 May 2023.

Next Weeks Readings: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 7: 10-14. Ps 23: 1-6, R/ cf. vv 7, 10. Rm 1: 1-7. Mt 1: 18-24.

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 4th December 2022 @ € 2,122.39 (Envelopes No. 200 & 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.**

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

GLORIA
IN EXCELSIS DEO



O Come let us Adore Him

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
NATIVITY CRIB
CANDLE-LIT ATMOSPHERE
CHRISTMAS CAROLS

SUNDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2022

Visit anytime between 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Parish Church, New Ross, Co Wexford

NEW ROSS SINGERS
are

**CELEBRATING
CHRISTMAS**

December 20th at 7.30pm
St Mary's Church

Come and enjoy a traditional Christmas concert again!
Mulled wine and mince-pies afterwards!

Voluntary collection for
New Ross Community Hospital and New Haughton Hospital



The Christmas edition of the **Online Quiz** to support **Mary's Meals** takes place on Friday, December 16th at 8pm. The quiz provides meals for over 500 hungry children in a place of education every month. A contribution of €5 is enough to provide 55 meals. To take part or simply donate go to www.bit.ly/QuizforMM or ring Martin Colfer on 087 2596159. Thank you to all who helped us during the year. It is very much appreciated.

Parish Funerals

One of the sad realities of life in a large town parish is the frequency of funerals. However, each family funeral is an unique event and must be treated with the utmost reverence and respect. The priests will always do their best to journey with each family during these sad days.

With the reduction of the number of priests (from 4 to 2) in recent years the timing of funeral masses poses a problem. On Mondays & Fridays only one priest is available to cover regular masses @ 8.00am in Mount Carmel & 10.00am in the Parish Church. On Wednesdays there is an extra mass in one of the three hospitals / nursing homes & the primary & secondary schools also require attention during school term.

To ease the above burdens all funerals will now take place at the 10.00am mass. We can no longer accommodate funerals at any other hour. Msgr. Joe & Fr. Tom

Parish Ukraine Appeal

On the 8th of April this year, the Parish Ukrainian Collection amounted to € 11,249.00, due to the generosity and compassion of parishioners.

A group of refugees arrived in the Brandon House Hotel shortly afterwards, these were met and their needs discussed. Accounts were opened in various local shops to meet those needs. Cash was given to each family also. In total just under € 3,000.00 was distributed (both Invoices & Cash). These families were transferred to other areas and were not replaced. This left a balance of about € 8,000.00. Since there was no local need it was decided to contact The Association of Ukrainians in Ireland. The sum of € 2,000.00 was forwarded to them recently, their return letter states:

"To know that people of New Ross extended empathy, humanity and solidarity to Ukrainian families who found themselves hosted within the parish will be forever etched in their memories."

The balance of € 6,000.00 is held for eventualities as this terrible war appears likely to continue for sometime to come.

Volunteers for Fatima

The Ferns Diocesan Pilgrimage to Fatima seek new volunteers and help to promote our October week in Fatima each year. Would you like to be on an organising committee or help promote our pilgrimage in your area. Please contact Fr. Denis Browne, Pilgrimage Director at frdenisbrowne@gmail.com or (086) 8926260. We hope to organise a meeting of those interested in the new year.



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.

