

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

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

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 founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING **Isaiah 55: 6 - 9**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts,

my ways not your ways - it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

R. The Lord is close to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. The Lord is great, highly to be praised, his greatness cannot be measured. **[R]**
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. **[R]**
3. The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, who call on him from their hearts. **[R]**

SECOND READING

Philippians 1: 20 - 24, 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results - I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!

GOSPEL **Matthew 20: 1-16**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them. "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here

idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first last.'

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.**



focus on sunday

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

24th September 2023

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

Receive with favour, O Lord, we pray, the offerings of your people, that what they profess with devotion and faith may be theirs through these heavenly mysteries. 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.

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

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

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Graciously raise up, O Lord, those you renew with this Sacrament, that we may come to possess your redemption both in mystery and in the manner of our life. 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.**

World Day of Migrants and Refugees

It is not easy to understand the mind of God. He sees goodness where we see none; he showers blessings where none seem to be deserved. Yet even with our limited vision we can be sure he is near us whenever we call him.

"Free to CHOOSE

whether to MIGRATE

or to STAY"

Pope Francis

theme for 2023



Forgiveness Fills the Gap



Maybe at the end – the man didn't deserve a day's wage for the work he did, compared to the other like the fellow getting the All Ireland medal for 5 mins play! Is the gospel telling us that everyone deserves to get enough to live on, and the rest is a bonus? Maybe one or two others saw it that way, and that's the way the kingdom grows. It grows within us in thanks and sharing. That's what we do at every Mass.

Is Jesus pointing the way to the first truth of our faith: that God is supergenerous in love to all? From believing that in the heart, we are empowered to love others like him, or try to. God says in the parable not to be envious "because I am generous". It is only human to find this approach difficult. We very often repay love with love and withdraw love when it is not given. A child will sometimes say after being bold, 'Mammy, do you still love me?'

Pope Francis writes: "There are two aspects of love. First, love is more about giving than receiving. Second, love is more about deeds than words. Love is always given or transmitted to another, he said, and "love always gives life, fosters growth." Feast of the Sacred Heart 2016).

The first reading proclaims the generosity of God and God's 'richness in forgiving', a message we need often in our lives. This forgiveness is higher than the gap of heaven and earth, and further it fills this gap.


The gospel invites us to be grateful for God's forgiveness -for myself and everyone else.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey

I met a man in a shop. He said that he had only six weeks to live. He said that he was glad that he got some time to know. His wife went away from home years ago, and his son had a row with him and emigrated. 'Now,' he said, 'they are both coming back to see me, and we will be all re-united.' God waits lovingly for us to see the light.

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Date	Time		
Sat 23rd Sept	5.00pm	John Donohue, Abbey Hall & Mary Street Mission Invitation Mass celebrated by the Redemptorists Missionaries.	1st Anniversary
Sun 24th Sept Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.00am	Thomas Kielthy, The Bosheen	3rd Anniversary
	9.00am	Michael Doyle, Clonegal	Recently Deceased
	10.00am	Jimmy Callaghan, St. Aidan's, The Irishtown Mass with Confirmation candidates attending.	8th Anniversary
	12.00 Noon	Mass with Communion candidates attending. Missionaries Blessing of children will take place in church carpark after mass.	
	6.00pm	Camino Walk from the Grotto, Irishtown to the church with historical tour along the way.	
	7.00pm	Celebration of our Baptismal Roots.	
Mon 25th Sept	8.00am	Special Intentions	Special Intentions
	10.00am	Andrew Brennan, An Caislean Maol & Ollie Newport, Wexford	9th & 40th Anniversaries
	12.00 Noon	Missionaries meet with Secondary School Students	
	3.00pm	Mass of Anointing	
	7.00pm	Healing of Hurts	
	8.00pm	Lightfever	
Tues 26th Sept	8.00am	Betty Honan, Charleton Hill	1st Anniversary
	10.00am	Neha Kuriakose, India	Anniversary
	10.00 - 8.00pm	NO Adoration taking place	
	11.00am	Missionaries visit with Junior School Pupils	
	12.00 Noon	Missionaries visit with Senior School Pupils	
	7.00pm	Reconciliation Night with Prodigal Son Drama	
Wed 27th Sept	8.00am	Larry Murphy, Enniscorthy	Recently Deceased
	10.00am	Richard & Margaret O'Brien, Kylemore, The Rower	Anniversaries
	11.00am - 1.00pm	Missionaries visit Hospital & Nursing Homes	
	12.00 Noon	Church Historical Tour	
	7.00pm	Gospel Stories in Drama; Justice & Values	
Thurs 28th Sept	8.00am	Intentions of the People of the Parish	Special Intentions
	10.00am	Patrick & Mary Lennane, The Irishtown	Anniversaries
	12.00 Noon	Bereavement Drop-In in Blessed Sacrament Chapel	
	3.00- 4.00pm	NO Divine Mercy Holy Hour for Vocations & Religious Life in Blessed Sacrament Chapel taking place	
	7.00pm	Honouring the Faithful Departed	
Fri 29th Sept	8.00am	Paddy McCarthy	Recently Deceased
	10.00am	John O'Leary, The Irishtown Stations of the Cross after Mass	2nd Anniversary
	12.00 Noon	Icon Art Display	
	7.00pm	Final Community Celebration	
Sat 30th Sept	10.00am	Parish Mass Association	
	5.00pm	Madeline Ryan, Ard Na Greine	1st Anniversary
Sun 1st Oct - Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.00am	Special Intentions	Special Intentions
	9.00pm	Mission Thanksgiving	Special Intentions
	10.00am	Aidan & Nancy Byrne, Cross Street	Anniversaries
	12.00 Noon	Michael (Skipper) Dalton, Pondfields Monica Condon (nee Ryan), Haughton Place	Months Mind Months Mind
PARISH SHOP WILL BE OPEN EACH EVENING AFTER THE MISSION SERVICE IN THE LEGION OF MARY PASTORAL CENTRE.			



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.



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

Our Lady's (Left):
May St. Ledger
Altar (Centre):
Special Intention
St. Joseph's (Right):
Kathleen Joyce (nee St. Ledger)

RECENTLY DECEASED: We pray for the soul of John Walshe, South Street, who passed recently. May he rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS: We remember & pray for the souls of Helen Gannon, Nunnery Lane & her Granddaughter Hannah & Peter Roche, Woodville, who's anniversaries occur around this time.

BAPTISMS: Baptisms take place on the 1st Saturday and 3rd Sunday each month @ 1.00pm. Minimum two weeks' notice is required and a maximum of two candidates per booking. To book your child's baptism, please contact the parish office. Bookings are secured on receipt of baptismal booking forms with a copy of the candidate's Birth Certificate and Photographic ID for the Guardian.

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.

"Heart of Mary" SFO annual retreat will be held in the Franciscan Friary Wexford led by Fr James Mary McInerney OFM Conv. From Tuesday 26th of September to Saturday 30th *September* at 6.30pm each evening with Adoration and Benediction and on the final evening Mass and anointing of the sick. All are Welcome Pax et Bonum



BISHOP GER'S MESSAGE
We are living through a time of great change in our Church and our Diocese. During August you will have heard about or read Bishop Ger's pastoral letter outlining the need for training and formation to enable and empower lay people to play a renewed role in the ongoing life of the Church.
The Diocese is inviting women and men to be formed as: Catechists to work with families and children in the Diocese who are preparing for sacraments; Pastoral Care Workers to work with the sick or housebound and to assist in the time around funerals; Leaders of Parish Prayer with Scripture to lead communities in liturgy; Parish Administrators and Leaders who will work with communities to ensure continuity and viability in the absence of a priest; and Facilitators with Accord to help couples to prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage.
One of the key challenges that Pope Francis put before us, is that as people of faith, we all take responsibility for awakening faith in the lives of people around us but especially in the lives of children and young people. We must do this in a way that is appropriate to the times we live in and in a way that speaks to the lives of people today.
In this Sunday's second reading, we hear that the life and death of each one of us has its influence on others. We live in a time when the voice and the calling of lay people in our church is being restored to the proper place envisaged in 'Vatican 2'.
By virtue of our baptismal vocation we are all called to serve in our Church and to utilise our gifts. Today the Church in Ireland is blessed, in that many people of all ages are involved in specific activities of their local parish. These new ministries will support and expand all the work currently being done in our parishes and offer new possibilities to people already involved and to those who might wish to participate in new ways.
There are people here who might listen to Jesus' advice given in today's Gospel to respond to others from the heart but hesitate to offer themselves for these ministries. But remember that to exercise a ministry in the Church is to share in the ministry of Christ. As Pope Francis has said, the role of the Lay Pastoral Minister is to accompany other disciples with mercy and patience.
The Diocese will hold information meetings in the coming weeks and the details again will be in the Newsletter.

Bishop Ger is asking people to do two things:
- To pray for the success of this venture and that people will be courageous and generous in their response.
- To encourage people who you think might have the gifts and aptitude for these ministries to apply.



PARISH SHOP WILL BE OPEN EACH EVENING AFTER THE MISSION SERVICE IN THE LEGION OF MARY PASTORAL CENTRE.
Wednesday 1st of November 2023: All Saints Day. Mass @ 5.00pm Tuesday 31st October 2023 in Parish Church. Mass @ 8.00am in Mount Carmel, 10.00am & 1.05pm Wednesday 1st of November in Parish Church. Parish Office closed.
Thursday 2nd of November 2023: All Souls Day. Graveside Blessings will take place in Mount Carmel after 8.00am Mass, the Priests Graveyard in Parish Church grounds after 10.00am Mass, St. Stephen's Cemetery @ 11.00am & St. Mary's Cemetery @ 11.15am.
Saturday 4th November 2023: Deceased Parishioners Mass @ 5.00pm.
Friday 8th December 2023: Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Mass @ 5.00pm Thursday 7th December 2023 in Parish Church. Mass @ 8.00am in Mount Carmel, 10.00am & 1.05pm Friday 8th December in Parish Church. Parish Office closed.

PARISH INFORMATION.
Mass Bookings: We are currently taking Mass Bookings up to and including February 2024.
Next Weeks Readings: TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Ex 18: 25-28. Ps 24: 4-9, R/ v 6. Phil 2: 1-11. Mt 21: 28-32.
Weekly Collection and Supporting the Parish:
20th Aug @ € 2,11.10 (173 No. Envelopes),
27th Aug @ € 1,843.00 180 No. Envelopes),
3rd Sept @ € 1,627.07 (170 No. Envelopes),
10th Sept @ € 2,316.16 (217 No. Envelopes) &
17th Sept @ € 2,017.29 (196 No. Envelopes)
- 2nd Collections also included in these figures.
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. We can also accept donations over the telephone.

