




New Ross Parish, Church of St. Mary & St. Michael




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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 23rd Dec 2023	1.00pm - 4.00pm	“Gloria In Excelsis Deo” Oh Come let us Adore Him Event	
	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Confessions	
	5.00pm	Laurence (Larry) Doyle, Hazeldean, Arnestown	1st Anniversary
	7.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
Sun 24th Dec Fourth Sunday of Advent - Christmas Eve	8.00am	Christmas Novena 2	
	9.00am	Dolores Sutton, Southknock	Anniversary
	10.00am	Pat & John McCarthy, Ryleen	Anniversaries
	12.00 Noon	Molly Crowdle, Irishtown	25th Anniversary
	5.00pm	Parish Mass Association	
	7.00pm	Stella Katus, Lower Michael Street	3rd Anniversary
	8.00pm Mount Carmel	Christmas Novena 3	
	9.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
	Mon 25th Dec - Christmas Day	8.00am	Sr. Mary Catherina Murphy, Carmelites New Ross & Loughrea, Galway
CHRISTMAS DAY	9.00am	Willie, Anne & Nicky Murphy, Priory Street	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Christmas Novena 6	
	12.00 Noon	Christmas Novena 7	
Tues 26th Dec	8.00am	Christmas Novena 8	
	10.00am - 8.00pm	There will be NO Eucharistic Adoration	
	10.00am	Christmas Novena 9	
	6.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
Wed 27th Dec	8.00am	JJ Kavanagh, Nunnery Lane	20th Anniversary
	10.00am	Christmas Novena 5	
Thurs 28th Dec	8.00am	Carmelite family, friends & benefactors	Remembrance
	10.00am	Richard, Anna, Val & Jimmy Reynolds, Kilkenny & USA & Irene Cramer, Maypark, Waterford	Remembrance
	3.00pm - 4.00pm	Divine Mercy Holy Hour for Vocations & Religious Life in Blessed Sacrament Chapel	
Fri 29th Dec	8.00am	Intentions of the people of the Parish	
	10.00am	Michael & Annie Cleere, their son, Patrick & deceased family members, The Maudlins	Anniversaries
Sat 30th Dec	10.00am	Parish Mass Association	
	5.00pm	Michael Cashin, Woodbine Close	1st Anniversary
	7.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
Sun 31st Dec - The Holy Family of Jesus Mary & Joseph	8.00am	Ita Meaney, Ballyanne	Anniversary
	9.00am	Michael Sidney and his son, Billy, “Arch House”, Neville Street	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Jack Richardson, Pondfields & Danny Richardson, South Africa Live on Southeast Radio	Anniversaries
	12.00 Noon	Special Healing Intention	Special Intention



Christmas Message from Bishop Ger Nash

Dear Friends,

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ this year, our hearts are moved by the images of small children that we have seen over the past few months. The terrible tragedy of Israel and Gaza, the ongoing war in Ukraine and the persistent and life-destroying famine in East Africa, are all the more shocking when we see their impact on the lives of children. The terror of hunger, fear or maiming should be far from every child’s life and yet we see it daily in our media. It is right to reflect on these matters as we prepare to celebrate the birth of the baby who was God himself.

The world into which Jesus was born was as destructive to childhood as ours in many similar ways: hunger, homelessness, seeking and being refused refuge and being the victim of political leaders’ power struggles. There was no social media to carry the instant story and yet, the events of Bethlehem and Nazareth have echoed down the years, changing people’s hearts from stone to flesh, their lives from hatred to love. As we prepare for Christmas this year, let us pray that the telling of the Christmas story will give us a new impetus to leave aside hatred, jealousy, judgmental attitudes and allow us to see the life-changing effect of letting love in.

The Christmas story began with Mary and her acceptance of her place in God’s plan. Human, like the rest of us, she could not see all that it would entail of joy and sorrow, but at the moment of the Annunciation she was willing to let God’s love work through her. She was truly faithful in the sense that she trusted God and felt that great things could happen if she said yes.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, the challenge given to us is much smaller but no less significant. Can we say yes over the holiday period to children, to the elderly and to the lonely or recently bereaved? Not just by giving material things but also by giving people our attention – the gift of noticing them and making them feel visible and loved in the world.


Throughout his life, Jesus welcomed the outsider, the marginalized and assured them that being included was God’s plan for them. We will have plenty of opportunities to do this over Christmas and the year ahead. It is in small things, kind words, a welcoming smile, a helping hand that the Kingdom of God is found and our chance to build God’s Kingdom is when we take the opportunities to do that.


Throughout the Diocese, the year has been a busy one with many gatherings to plan and to ponder what God is calling us to in these years. These meetings have resulted in a great number of people offering to participate in training and planning for the future. It is truly a sign of God at work in our Diocese at this time and we should take great heart from it.

We are at a time of great change in the church – as Pope Francis calls it, a change of era – but we can look forward with hope to God doing great things in all our lives. With that thought in our hearts and minds, let us see in Mary, God’s mother, a model for journeying in faith without knowing where the journey will take us.

I wish all who see this message the Hope and Joy of Christmas, the confidence to see that God is at work in every person and the courage to fearlessly bring about change in the time and place where we live.

Bishop Ger








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.





Sanctuary Lamp Intentions:
Available @ €10.00 / week. Commencing
Saturday @ 10.00am.

Our Lady's (Left): Oweny Furlong, Ballyrue - RIP

Altar (Centre): The Boland Family, Charleton Hill - RIP

St. Joseph's (Right): Lena & Bernard Furlong,
Cherry's Road - RIP

RECENTLY DECEASED: We pray for the souls of Benny Rowe, The Maudlins, Frances Kelly (nee Roche), Parkfield & Maria Hoff (nee Jons), Talbot Hall, who passed recently. May they rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS: We remember & pray for the souls of Josephine Connolly, Pondfields, Michael O'Donnell, Mountgarrett, Martin & Jim O'Neill, Cross Street, Betty, William & Christopher Kelly, Charleton Hill, Molly Crowdle (25th Anniversary), Irishtown, Stella, Robert & Nicholas Katus, Lower Michael Street, William St. Ledger, Mount Carmel, Ned Cash Junior, Hospital Road, Bridget Moroney (2nd Anniversary), Lacken Valley, James Maddock, The Bullawn & Dawn Pyne (12th Anniversary), Mount Carmel, whose anniversaries occur around this time.

CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE: We remember & pray for the souls of the King & Davis Families, Carmel & Jimmy Hosey, Navan, Co. Meath, Ned & Margaret Cash & Ned Junior, Hospital Road & Paddy Murphy, Mount Carmel, 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 candidates 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.

HISTORY NOTES - PART VI

The Crouched Friars (Part 2)

The interdiction of New Ross in the 1200s following the killing and expulsion of the Crouched Friars and mentioned in a previous note, would have introduced an air of doom, distress and tragedy in town. It is unclear when the interdict was lifted, but the town quickly entered into a golden age of wealth, power and prestige. For a century and a half trade grew until New Ross was the principal port of Ireland. It was not until 1435 when the town began to fall on evil days that the Crouched Friars affair darkened the pages of the town's chronicle. In that year Pope Eugenius IV issued a Bull absolving the town which was officially promulgated by Robert Whitty, Bishop of Ferns in St. Mary's Church. While it is unlikely, it was popularly accepted that the town remained continuously under interdict from the killing of the friars until the presentation of this Bull; a period of almost 200 years. The papal Bull of Pope Eugenius may have been in confirmation of an earlier Bull by Pope John prompted by Bishop Barrett who had already moved his episcopal chair from Ferns to St. Mary's in New Ross. The final mention in official records of the Friars curse is in 1632 when Bishop John Roche appealed to Rome to have it removed. There is no doubt that the Crouched Friars incident caused public concern in town over the centuries. The tale was commonly repeated into the last century when townsfolk anxiously counted the drowning in the Barrow in fulfilment of the Friars ancient curse of three drowning in the river each year.

Courtesy of Jim Sutton



Glory to God in the Highest.

We wish all our parishioners and friends a blessed and peaceful Christmas.

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 in our Novena list during the Christmas Season.

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