

focus on sunday

The Christian life is a calling from God to be companions of Jesus and work for the spread of his love and justice. All of us are asked to do this in our own lives.

Come and see



The experts tell us that the longest journey on the planet is the journey within. And it's probably the hardest journey we can take. Our interior world is confusing. People struggle with the personal issues of the 'inside world' that confounds them.

Without spending time in personal reflection before God, the heart can feel like a foreign territory. It's easier to engage with the busyness of daily life than listening to what's stirring within us.

When Jesus first sees John's disciples in today's Gospel he asks them about their heart's desires. "What do you want?" And then they ask him a question, but it is not "what are we to do? Feed the poor? Say our prayers?" Instead they dig deeper. "Rabbi, where do you live?" They wanted to know what goes on in Jesus' inmost heart. Who ARE you?

The Christian life begins with some inside wisdom about Jesus Christ. Very shortly before his death Jesus asked Simon Peter, "Who do you say I am?" He wasn't looking for an answer from his CV. Jesus wanted something more, a personal and heartfelt relationship of trust. To follow Christ is to live with a heart open to commit, a heart willing to change, a heart ready to serve, a heart disposed to pray, like Samuel, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."

The world is hungry not for more experts and busier people but for people with big, big hearts. It seeks not only people who work for God but those who have come to know God through personal prayer and encounter.

Fr. Joe Walsh

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey



Andrew and Peter meet Jesus. Jesus invites them to come with Him and see. They liked the way Jesus lived. He was friendly, and He treated other people well. They became friends. Jesus did not ask them to read any books. He invited them "Follow me." Jesus' welcome was for everyone.



PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant us, O Lord, we pray, that we may participate worthily in these mysteries, for whenever the memorial of this sacrifice is celebrated the work of our redemption is accomplished. Through Christ our Lord.

EUCCHARISTIC 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

We have come to know and to believe in the love that God has for us.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love, and in your kindness make those you have nourished by this one heavenly Bread one in mind and heart.
 Through Christ our Lord.



CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
 May your faithful people rejoice, we pray, O Lord, to be upheld by your right hand, and, progressing in the Christian life, may they delight in good things both now and in the time to come.
 Through Christ our Lord.
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.

Liturgical texts: concordat cum originali: †Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin Other texts: cum permissu: †Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin. Excerpts from the English translation of the Roman Missal: © 2010, International Committee on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Used with permission. The Jerusalem version of the Scripture is copyright Darton, Longman & Todd & Doubleday & Co. Inc. Responsorial psalms are copyright The Grail & or Geoffrey Chapman Ltd. Swan image by Seamus Mc Gann. Published by Logos Publications, 26 Tolka Valley Business Park, Ballyboggan Rd, Glasnevin, D11 WK38 Phone (01 830 6751).

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

GREETING

In the name of the Father**Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life:
 Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins:
 Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you feed us with your body and blood:
 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, who govern all things, both in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the pleading of your people and bestow your peace on our times.
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 3:3-10.19

A reading from the first Book of Samuel.

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am.' Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the

third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 39: 2.4 7-10

R. Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

- I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry.
 He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. **[R]**
- You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear.
 You do not ask for holocaust and victim. Instead, here am I. **[R]**
- In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will.
 My God, I delight in your law in the depth of my heart. **[R]**
- Your justice I have proclaimed in the great assembly.
 My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord. **[R]**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

The body is not meant for fornication; it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too.

You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you since you received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! We have found the Messiah - which means the Christ - grace and truth have come through him. Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 1:35-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' - which means Teacher - 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' - which means the Christ - and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' - meaning Rock.

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.




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



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Ross Parish

Volume 43. No. 2

Radio Mass 104.7Fm & LIVE STREAM ON PARISH WEBSITE. All 8.00am Masses are in Mount Carmel Monastery Chapel			
Date	Time		
Sat 13th Jan 2024	5.00pm	Martin Murphy, Ryleen	1st Anniversary
	7.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
Sun 14th Jan - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.00am	Martin O'Neill, Cross Street & his brothers Jim & Sean	Anniversaries
	9.00am	Glenis Coleman, Neville Street	Anniversary
	10.00am	Marie Doyle (nee Smith) Chapel Lane Live on Southeast Radio	1st Anniversary
Mon 15th Jan	8.00am	Deceased Carmelites & Benefactors	
	9.30am	The Rosary is recited every morning in the Parish Church from Monday to Saturday, however on the 1 st Saturday of the month the Novena to Our Lady of Fatima is held @ 9.15am.	
	10.00am	Jerry Moore, Elsinore, Tinnakilly, Rosbercon	Anniversary
Tues 16th Jan	8.00am	Intentions of the People of the Parish	
	10.00am	Phil Leeman, Pittsburg, USA	Anniversary
	10.00am - 8.00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	
Wed 17th Jan	8.00am	Jimmy & Anne Kehoe, Church Lane	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Connie Dwyer, Charleton Hill	10th Anniversary
Thurs 18th Jan	8.00am	Margaret Cissy Kehoe, Ballybrazil, Campile	2nd Anniversary
	10.00am	Nicholas & Bridget Cooney, Ard Mhicil	Anniversaries
	3.00pm - 4.00pm	Divine Mercy Holy Hour for Vocations & Religious Life in Blessed Sacrament Chapel	
Fri 19th Jan	8.00am	Frank Burke, Bettystown, Co. Meath	Recently Deceased
	10.00am	Michael & Elizabeth Jefford & deceased family members, Bewley Street	Anniversaries
Sat 20th Jan	10.00am	Parish Mass Association	
	5.00pm	Sean Sutton, Lower South Knock	2nd Anniversary
	7.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
Sun 21st Jan 2024 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.00am	Michael Byrne, Neville Street	6th Anniversary
	9.00am	John Michael O'Brien & deceased members of the O'Brien & Gaffney Families, Mary Street	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Eileen, Edward & George Delaney, Ard Na Greine	Anniversaries
	12.00 Noon	Benny Rowe, The Maudlins Patrick Lee, Church Lane	Months Mind Months Mind



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

Our Lady's (Left):
William St. Ledger - RIP
Altar (Centre):
Stephen St. Ledger - RIP
St. Joseph's (Right):
The Ryan Family - RIP

RECENTLY DECEASED: We pray for the souls of - Mai Fennelly (nee Reynolds), Callan, Kilkenny & New Ross Margaret (Peggy) Duggan, William Street, Patrick (Patsy) Gahan, Rosbercon & Anna Brassil (nee Murphy), Ennis Co. Clare & New Ross, who passed away recently, May they rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS: We remember & pray for the souls of - Ann Heffernan, Lower Southknock, Maureen Nixon, Ard Michil, Captain Des Carroll, John Carroll & Owen Carroll, Mountgarrett, whose 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 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.

Medjugorje 2024
May 29th (7 nights) from Cork airport. €879.00 pps. €50 discount if deposit paid by 15th Jan. Contact Sean O'Shaughnessy 086 295 9380

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY
18-25 January 2024
"You shall love the Lord your God ... and your neighbour as yourself" (Luke 10:27)

Ferns Diocesan Ecumenical Society
If you would like to be included on the mailing list of the Ferns Diocesan Ecumenical Society to receive notice of our events during the year, please contact Fr. James Murphy at 087 815 2637 or frjamesmurphy@gmail.com.
Ecumenical Quiet Day in St. John of God Retreat Centre, Ballyvaloo, on Thursday 1 February, 11.15am - 4.00pm. The day will be led by Fr. Tom Dalton on Centering Prayer. €30 including lunch and coffee on arrival. Please text or ring Fr. James Murphy on 087 815 2637 if you wish to attend.

FERNS DIOCESAN ECUMENICAL SERVICE: St. Mary's Church of Ireland, ENNISCORTHY SUNDAY 21 January 2024 7.00pm. Preacher: Fr. James Murphy (Parish Priest Rosslare & Tagoat).
If you would like to be included on the mailing list of the Ferns Diocesan Ecumenical Society to receive notice of our events during the year, please contact Fr. James Murphy at 087 815 2637 or frjamesmurphy@gmail.com. **ALL WELCOME.**

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 June 2024.

Next Weeks Readings: THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. Jon 3: 1-5, 10. Ps 24: 4-9, R/ v 4. 1 Cor 7: 29-32. Mk 1: 14-20.

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. To maintain this valuable service, funding is greatly appreciated at any time. To donate € 10.00 on a monthly basis or on a once off payment / donation, please contact the Manager on 051-445711.

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 7th January 2024 @ € 2,314.59 (Envelopes No. 186 & 2nd Collection combined). You can donate via The Ferns Diocesan Website (www.fems.ie) by clicking the big pink button. Should you wish to become a regular Parish Contributor, please contact the Parish Office. We can also accept donations over the telephone. Please ring 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: Come and join our Group every Wednesday morning at 10.45am in the Pastoral Centre and experience God in our lives through the Sunday Gospel.


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 @ € 3.00 each.

Church Carpark: In the interest of safety we request Parking to take place in designated areas ONLY.

Parish Office / Shop in Legion of Mary Pastoral Centre: All items for sale are Blessed on the First Friday of every month.

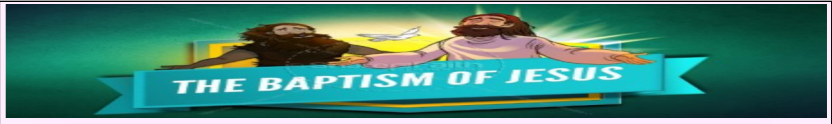
 **Parish Office can now take card payments over the telephone.**

Thank you to all for your generosity over the Christmas period. Thank you to all who helped in any way with our Christmas Liturgy and celebrations and a special thanks to all who attended.



HISTORY NOTES - PART VIII

A Good Deed Rewarded
Augustinian Fr. Philip Crane returned to Ross for good in 1798 and was befriended by Charles Tottenham, Mayor of the town, in gratitude for his heroics in saving Tottenham from the guillotine in France a few years earlier. Ireland was just emerging from the Penal Laws years and the Augustinian chapel was then a small thatched building at the bottom corner of the CBS property, directly across from the then Parish Church situated at the bottom of the Bullawn. This building became vacant in 1808, being replaced by a new Church on South Street (now St. Micheal's Theatre). Charles Tottenham offered the old parish church to the Augustinian fathers in appreciation of Fr. Crane's heroics in rescuing him in France in 1792. This church, known locally down the years as "The Convent Chapel" also became the location of Good Counsel College and boarding school. Sadly, the church is no longer a place of worship. Good Counsel campus moved to the Order's Bosheen lands several years ago, where it prospers as an outstanding centre of education.
Courtesy of Jim Sutton



There is an interesting difference between the periods BEFORE and AFTER Christmas. For example, in the commercial/ business world, the Christmas season begins immediately after Halloween. However, it ends abruptly on Christmas Day. The "Sales" begin on December 26th when you can buy for half price what you foolishly paid the full price for on December 24th!

It is much the same in the Church. We spend four weeks preparing for Christmas and yet, on the 7th January, we close the season after a mere 13 days.

The same strange reality applies to Scripture regarding Christmas. The Old Testament spent centuries preparing and looking forward to the Birth of the Saviour. Yet the New Testament skips over most of His early life and presents us today with the ADULT Jesus being baptised. It appears as if God wants us currently to concentrate on just two events of Jesus' life- HIS BIRTH and HIS BAPTISM. HIS BIRTH is centre stage in the Christmas story. God became one of us so that we could become like Him. He came to give us life as He lives it. The carol sings "we will live forever more because of Christmas Day". HIS BAPTISM is equally important for us. Of course, there was no need for Jesus to be baptised. John the Baptist said, "REPENT and believe THE GOOD NEWS". There was no need for Jesus to REPENT and He was in fact THE GOOD NEWS. So why did Jesus insist on being baptised?

I think He did so for 3 reasons and these 3 reasons apply to our lives too.

- 1) He did so out of love for His Father. He said "MY WILL IS TO DO THE WILL OF HIM WHO SENT ME". At the Agony in the Garden He said "NOT MY WILL BUT YOURS WILL BE DONE".
- 2) His baptism was to mark the beginning of His preaching the Good News- described in the Old Testament thus "to bring true justice, to serve the cause of right, to open the eyes of the blind, to free captives from prison". The New Testament puts it more succinctly "He went around doing good".
- 3) He wanted to give us an example - to live His way of life for He is the way, the truth and the life- so that the Father would be pleased with us too.

For us therefore:

- 1) Baptism introduces us to the love of the Father and begins a lifelong and everlasting relationship with Him - nourished by our private prayer and public worship.
- 2) Baptism is our licence to practise and spread the Good News- "to go about doing good" every day after the example of Jesus.
- 3) Baptism gives us the light of Jesus to show us the way and that we might lead the way for others.

WORTHWHILE RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR!
Monsignor Joe

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.