

As Jesus was ever faithful to his father's will and to his vocation to bring the Good News, we too are promised the strength to resist temptation and be true to our faith.

*Repent,
and believe
the Good News*



Into the Wilderness

Lent is a time to respond to that hunger which lies at the core of our being, the hunger for a deeper connection with the Creator, the hunger to experience freshness in our lives, the hunger for what we truly long for. What better place to work all this out than "the wilderness"? From time to time, we are landed in the wilderness. Sometimes it is an unpleasant experience and at other times we crave it, in response to a deep desire to step back from the day-to-day and make space in our lives for reflection. In the short passage we read from Mark today, we see that this is Spirit-led, the same Spirit that descended on Jesus at his baptism and 'immediately drove him out into the wilderness'. In the wilderness we can become vulnerable, thoughts and feelings can attack us like "wild beasts". But we should not be afraid; we also read that 'angels ministered' to Jesus; he is not alone.

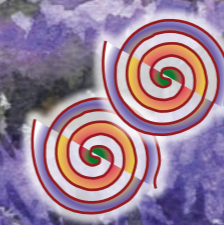
There is a Zen proverb, 'Let go or be dragged', and no one wants to be dragged around the place. Lent invites us to embrace this wilderness time. As we fast from things that are not life-giving for us, we are also actively making space for God to breathe life and love into our hearts once more. We do this in the trust that God who loves us wants us to choose life and to clear out the blocks that stand in our way. This is 'good news', a true *metanoia* (a change of heart). God's Kingdom is being fulfilled in us and around us, not yet complete, but with every trip into the wilderness we edge closer to that reality. May this Lenten season be a period of grace for all of us.

These reflections are extracts from *The Deep End – A Journey Through the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Mark*, Messenger Publications, Dublin, 2023. (Jane Mellett and Triona Doherty).

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey

Lent is a time when we can look at Jesus everyday, and learn that God Our Father is full of Love. Jesus' "Great News" is that God loves every single person, and me too, in a special way. God can never be angry. Jesus helps us to grow in love, because God is Love. We grow in love when we put others first, like giving a seat up on the bus, respect people on footpaths, and in shops, offering to help at home, and share with others that we meet in school and sport, and with neighbours.



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.

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

One does not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Renewed now with heavenly bread, by which faith is nourished, hope increased, and charity strengthened, we pray, O Lord, that we may learn to hunger for Christ, the true and living Bread, and strive to live by every word which proceeds from your mouth. Through Christ our Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

May bountiful blessing, O Lord, we pray, come down upon your people, that hope may grow in tribulation, virtue be strengthened in temptation, and eternal redemption be assured. 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.**

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.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Give us the right dispositions, O Lord, we pray, to make these offerings, for with them we celebrate the beginning of this venerable and sacred time. Through Christ our Lord.

- Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R)**
- The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. **(R)**

SECOND READING 1 Peter 3:18-22

A reading from the first letter of Peter.
Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

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



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

GOSPEL Mark 1:12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him. After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

PENITENTIAL ACT

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
You bring pardon and peace to the sinner: Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You bring light to those in darkness: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
May almighty God have mercy on us. **Amen.**

OPENING PRAYER

Grant, almighty God, through the yearly observances of holy Lent, that we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and by worthy conduct pursue their effects. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Genesis 9:8 - 15

A reading from the book of Genesis.
God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.' God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 24:4-9

R. Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant.

- Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. **(R)**

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 Cads 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 43. No. 7

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

Date	Time		
Sat 17th February 2024	5.00pm	Mary Whitty, her husband Don, their son John & brother-in-law Tom, Camblin	1st Anniversary & Anniversaries
	7.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
Sun 18th Feb	8.00am	Mary Cashin, JKL Place	Anniversary
	9.00am	Joe Murphy, Castlemoyle Heights	Anniversary & Birthday Remembrance
	10.00am	Andy Cullen, Abbeyview House, Church Street	12th Anniversary
	12.00 Noon	Rev. Ben (Ger) O'Brien O.S.A, Abbeyside, Durgarvan	Months Mind
Mon 19th Feb	8.00am	Special Intention	
	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	The Leacy Family, Charleton Hill	Anniversaries
Tues 20th Feb	8.00am	Intentions of the people of the Parish	
	10.00am	James Ryan, Ard na Greine	43rd Anniversary
	10.00am - 8.00pm	Eucharistic Adoration	
Wed 21st Feb	8.00am	Paddy Barron, The Bullawn	Anniversary
	10.00am	Jack Foley, New Ross	Anniversary
Thurs 22nd Feb	8.00am	Special Intentions	
	10.00am	Mary & Brian Fortune, Shanbough	Anniversaries
	3.00pm - 4.00pm	Divine Mercy Holy Hour for Vocations & Religious Life in Blessed Sacrament Chapel	
Fri 23rd Feb	8.00am	Kathleen Dalton, Dublin	Anniversary
	10.00am	Rebecca Irwin and Grandfather Gerry Roche, Ard Alainn	Anniversaries
	7.00pm	Stations of the Cross. Lenten Programme will take place every Friday evening during Lent 16th Feb - 29th March.	
Sat 24th Feb	10.00am	Parish Mass Association	
	5.00pm	Brendan (Cully) Cullen, Dun na Ri, Grey Abbey, Kildare	1st Anniversary
	7.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
Sun 25th Feb	8.00am	Maurice & Josie Kehoe, Ryleen	Anniversaries
	9.00am	Lizzie & Paddy St. Ledger & deceased family members, Mount Carmel	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Richard Butler, Mount Carmel	6th Anniversary
	12.00 Noon	Marie Goss (nee Delaney), Rathcoole Dublin & New Ross Patsy Connolly, Mount Carmel	Months Mind Months Mind



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

Our Lady's (Left):
Ann O'Neill (nee St. Ledger) - RIP

Altar (Centre):
Michael Foley,
Lower William Street - RIP

St. Joseph's (Right):
Billy Cashin
- Birthday Remembrance

Blessed Sacrament Chapel:
Private Intentions

ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS: We remember & pray for the soul of - Larry Kehoe, Ryleen, Walter Bradley (25th Anniversary), Knockavilla 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.

23rd February 2024: Lenten Reflection in Parish Church @ 7.00pm. Taize Lenten Prayer in Good Counsel Church @ 8.00pm. Each takes place every Friday evening during Lent. All Welcome.

Friday 1st March: Mass bookings will commence for August 2024.

Wednesday 6th March: Confirmation Service of Light in Parish Church @ 7.00pm.

Thursday 7th March: Confirmation Service of Light in Parish Church @ 7.00pm.

Saturday 9th March: Confirmations for pupils of Bunscoil Ris @ 11.00am & 12.30pm.

Sunday 10th March 2024: Communion Preparation Mass @ 10.00am

Sunday 17th March: St. Patrick's Day.

Monday 18th March: Bank Holiday. Parish Office Closed.

Sunday 24th March: Palm Sunday.

Tuesday 2nd April: Mass bookings will commence for September 2024.

Sunday 7th April: Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions @ 3.00pm.

Wednesday 1st May: Mass bookings will commence for October 2024.

Monday 6th May: Bank Holiday. Parish Office Closed.

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 July 2024.

Next Weeks Readings: SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT Gn 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18. Ps 115: 10, 15-19, R/ Ps 114: 9. Rm 8: 31-34. Mk 9: 2-10.

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 21st January to the 11th February 2024 @ € 7710.56 (Envelopes No. 716 & 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. 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.

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

History Notes—Part XIII
The Parish Office, Robert Street

The premises, now known as the Parish Office in Robert Street, was built by a Mr. Mc Cormack for the Primitive Methodist congregation in the late 1700s to accommodate three hundred persons. McCormack featured in the Battle of Ross in 1798 as aide to loyalist General Henry Johnson. The famous travelling preacher, John Wesley, preached there. The Methodist mission ended in New Ross in the 1930s. When the parish acquired the building in the 1950s it was in very poor condition. Fr. Pat Doyle gathered a local team of volunteers around him and the building was re-roofed, all joinery, including the floors, was replaced and toilet facilities were added. A major refurbishment of the interior completed preparations, and the hall resumed its old role of public service. Local Catholic organisations met there regularly including the Legion of Mary and Children of Mary, and dances and hops attracted crowds of happy young people. The upstairs part of the building, the old gallery, has been the band practice hall of The Confraternity Brass Band, for many years under the baton of Nick Cooney. Recent refurbishments have further developed excellent parish administration office facilities and meeting rooms.

Courtesy of Jim Sutton

SYNODAL JOURNEY

The continued success of the Synodal journey already begun in our Diocese requires on-going engagement in our parish communities. As part of this journey seven people will be chosen which will include one Priest and one Religious who will undertake training as facilitators to work with parishes and other groups in the Diocese to continue to develop Synodality in the life and mission of the Church in Ferns. This training will begin in April. We are also currently preparing two documents one on best practice of synodality in the diocese and the second on How can we imagine the life of the Church in Ireland where people are co-responsible for the Church's mission in different ways. These documents have to be submitted by March 25th and they will be sent as part of the Irish National Synodal Team to Rome for the Synod meeting in October next. Our Holy Father Pope Francis continually reminds us that there can be no Synod without prayer. Please continue to pray for our Synodal journey.

8.00pm - 9.00pm every Friday during Lent
commencing Friday 16th February
and concluding with
"PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS"
on Good Friday Night 8pm
Good Counsel College Church, New Ross, Y34 R297



LENTEEN PRAYER

Lenten Reflections
Every Friday Night
during Lent @
7.00pm
in New Ross Parish
Church.
All Welcome.

Lenten Programme:
St. Mary's & St. Michael's Parish Church, New Ross

Reflections on Lent	16 th February at 7.00 p.m.
Stations of the Cross	23 rd February at 7.00 p.m.
Scripture Reflection	1 st March at 7.00 p.m.
Scripture Reflection	8 th March at 7.00 p.m.
Remembering our Emigrants & Immigrants	15 th March at 7.00 p.m.
Stations of the Cross	22 nd March at 7.00 .m.
Jesus Speaks from the Cross	29 th March at 7.00 p.m.

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.