

focus on sunday



Today is a day of prayer to deepen our own sense of vocation, and to pray to the Lord to call men and women into a life of ministry and service within religious life.



The Good Shepherd is one of the most ancient Christian symbols: a mural found in the second-century Roman catacombs of St Calixtus is believed to be the earliest example of Christian art. The metaphor of shepherd for ruler was used

widely in pre-Christian writings, but today's Gospel sees Jesus imbuing the role with complex and contradictory characteristics. The Shepherd is also the sacrificial Lamb: in this one Gospel chapter, the phrase 'he lays down his life for his sheep' occurs ten times. And this act of surrender, born out of love for his flock, becomes an act of triumph, as he takes up his life again, echoing the journey from cross to Resurrection. In John's Gospel, the washing of feet replaces the Last Supper narrative, and the loving shepherd allegory corroborates Christ's servant leadership, while the declaratory "I am" utterance follows the Scriptural pattern of divine self-revelation.

The word 'pastor' has long been used to denote ordained leaders, and in 2013 Pope Francis urged priests: "Be shepherds with the smell of the sheep". The sheep in today's Gospel are astute, intelligent beings: they recognise the true Messiah. With Christ as the true Shepherd of us all, lay and ordained, we may ask ourselves on this Vocations Sunday: what call(s) am I answering in my life? What voices am I listening to? Who and what am I choosing to be led by, as the voice of God calls out to be heard, shepherding us to safety, comfort, and hope.

Giovanna Feeley, DCU, Liturgical Musicologist & Writer

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey



Bernadette was a little girl from Lourdes. She minded sheep. Our Lady from Heaven brought her messages about helping sick people. Bernadette was a "good shepherd." She did her work well. The Lady asked her to find special water to bless sick and worried people. The water flows today from a big rock, called The Grotto, where people bless, pray and light candles. Lourdes, is a place where smiles are brighter, and hugs are tighter.

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.
Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.

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

**The Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,
and be pleased to settle in eternal
pastures the sheep you have redeemed
by the Precious Blood of your Son.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
Keep your family, we pray, O Lord,
in your constant care, so that, under
your protection, they may be free from
all troubles and by good works show
dedication to your name.
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. Published by Logos Publications, 26 Tolka Valley Business Park, Ballyboggan Rd, Glasnevin, D11 WK38 Phone (01 830 6751).

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

GREETING

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
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

Almighty ever-living God, lead us to a share in the joys of heaven, so that the humble flock may reach where the brave Shepherd has gone before. Who lives and reigns....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 4: 8 - 12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up

perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 117:1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28-29

R. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. or Alleluia!

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.
It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men:
it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. (R)

2. I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour.
The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. (R)

3. Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord; I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour.
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end. (R)

SECOND READING 1 John 3: 1-2

A reading from the first letter of St. John Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd,
says the Lord;
I know my own sheep
and my own know me.
Alleluia!**



GOSPEL John 10: 11 - 18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John Jesus said: 'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and

scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock, and one shepherd. The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

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

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. 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

Grant, we pray, O Lord, that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries, so that the renewal constantly at work within us may be the cause of our unending joy.
Through Christ our Lord.



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 Parish Mobile 087 1212 707 (Text Alert Only) www.newrossparish.ie info@newrossparish.ie Visit us on Facebook/New Ross Parish

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

Table with columns: Date, Time, Name, Occasion. Includes entries for Sat 20th April, Sun 21st April, Mon 22nd April, Tues 23rd April, Wed 24th April, Thurs 25th April, Fri 26th April, Sat 27th April, Sun 28th April.

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

Our Lady's (Left): - Altar (Centre): James & Josephine Somers - Remembrance St. Joseph's (Right): - Blessed Sacrament Chapel: -

Wednesday 24th April 2024: Parish Monthly Coffee Morning will commence after 10.00am Mass in the Sacristy. All are Welcome.

Thursday 25th April 2024: An open evening organised by the Bethany Bereavement Support Group entitled "Journey Through Grief & Loss" with Denis O'Connor will take place on Thursday the 25th of April in St. Michaels Pastoral Centre @ 7.30pm.

Wednesday 1st May: Mass bookings will commence for October 2024. Monday 6th May: Bank Holiday. Parish Office Closed.

Thursday 16th - 21st May: Diocesan Annual Lourdes Pilgrimage. Sunday 19th May 2024: Communion Participation Mass @ 10.00am.

Wednesday 22nd May 2024: Communion Rehearsal in Parish Church @ 7.00pm (Ms. Fitzpatrick, Ms O'Shea, Ms. O'Neill, Ms. Allen & Ms. Walsh Classes).

Thursday 23rd May 2024: Communion Rehearsal in Parish Church @ 7.00pm (Ms. O'Connor, Mr. O'Mahony & Parish based Program).

Saturday 25th May: First Communion for pupils of Bunscoil Nic Amhlaidh & Parish Based Programme @ 11.00am (Ms. Fitzpatrick, Ms O'Shea, Ms. O'Neill, Ms. Allen & Ms. Walsh Classes) & 1.00pm (Ms. O'Connor, Mr. O'Mahony & Parish based Program).

Sunday 26th May: The Most Holy Trinity. Communion Thanksgiving Mass @ 10.00am. Wednesday 29th May 2024: Parish Monthly Coffee Morning will commence after 10.00am Mass in the Sacristy. All Welcome.

Sunday 2nd June: The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ. Corpus Christi Procession @ 3.00pm - Communion Participants attending.

An Open Evening entitled: JOURNEY THROUGH GRIEF & LOSS with DENIS O'CONNOR Date: Thursday 25th April 2024. Time: 7.30pm. Venue: St Michael's Pastoral Centre Michael St., New Ross.

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 & including September 2024.

Next Weeks Readings: FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Acts 9: 26-31. Ps 21: 26-28, 30-32, R/ v 26. 1 Jn 3: 18-24. Jn 15: 1-8.

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.

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 14th April 2024 @ € 1,689.00 (Envelopes No. 178 & 2nd Collection combined). Should you wish to become a regular Parish Contributor, please contact the Parish Office.

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 & 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).

Irish Catholic Newspaper: Available in the Parish Office @ € 3.00 each.

Church Carpark: ALL DAY PARKING PROHIBITED. Church grounds constitute a sacred space. Parking is reserved exclusively for Church users. 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.

History Notes—Part XXI

SPRING TIDES IN NEW ROSS

People have almost forgotten that up to a few years ago, it was routine to have spring tides flooding the quays and Rosbercon and adjacent streets. This natural phenomenon happened a couple of times each year and was associated with the full moon cycle. The flooding waters advanced part of the way up the streets linking the Quay and South Street, while Marsh Lane was particularly vulnerable.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

"God our Father, we trust in your loving kindness. Bless our diocese of Ferns with many priestly, religious and lay vocations. Give the men and women you call the light to understand your gift and the love to follow in the footsteps of your Son. Amen"

Area Visitation

Fr. Tom Orr is available to visit households in the Bullawn, Chapel Lane and Mary Street area. If you would like a visit please contact the Parish Office.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

We pray for the souls of - Dick Coady, Carrigclone, Glenmore, Lalo Malone (Months Mind), Hewittsland, Colum (Colm) Lawless, New Ross & Drimnagh, Dublin and Daniel (Dan) Doran, Cardiff, Wales & Waterford who passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:

We remember & pray for the souls of - TJ Hearne (2nd Anniversary), The Maudlins, Bridget Howlett (35th Anniversary), Raheen, Adamstown, Michael & Gretta O'Mahony, Clonmel, Tipperary, Bridget Dalton, her husband Michael & her sons John & Michael, Chapel Lane Patrick Doyle (13th Anniversary), Lower Mount Carmel and Patricia Rowsome (6th Anniversary), Mount Ross, whose anniversaries occur around this time.

BAPTISMS:

Baptisms take place on the 1st Saturday & 3rd Sunday each month @ 1.00pm. Minimum two weeks notice is required & 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 & Photographic ID for the Guardian.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

will be observed on Sunday, April 21st, 2024. It is also known as 'Good Shepherd Sunday' because the Gospel is always from John chapter 10 where Jesus speaks of himself as being a caring shepherd. The purpose of this day is to publicly fulfil the Lord's instruction when he asked us: "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). A whole year has been dedicated to prayer and promotion of the vocation to the diocesan priesthood. The theme of the year was entitled 'TAKE THE RISK FOR CHRIST'. Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood and religious life and the Church will always having pastors who care for God's people with the heart of Christ himself.

MAY PROCESSION in honour of Our Lady Sat 11th May '24 Franciscan Friary Wexford Town Holy Mass 11am Procession gathers 11.30am in the Friary carpark Followed by Tea and Coffee All Welcome!

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.