

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

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 is omitted awaiting its Christmas Proclamation.)

OPENING PRAYER

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....



LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Zephaniah 3:14-18

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem!
The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away.
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem; Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you,

he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Isaiah 12:2-6

R. Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

1. Truly God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. [R]

2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name. [R]

3. Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds, make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. [R]

SECOND READING Philippians 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 3:10-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!' A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise

you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

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.



focus on sunday

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE) 15th December 2024

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray, be offered to you unceasingly, to complete what was begun in sacred mystery and powerfully accomplish for us your saving work. 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.
When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, 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

Say to the faint of heart:
Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We implore your mercy, Lord, that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults and prepare us for the coming feasts. 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.

The coming of Jesus is joyful news for all his people.
Our hope at Christmas is to be bearers of his joy.



They came to John to be baptised. They asked him, 'What should we do?' John didn't tell them to say their prayers or attend the synagogue, important as that might be. He told them to live justly. Those that had more than they needed were told to

share with those who had less than they needed. Those with power and authority were told not to abuse that power for their own self-interest. They were to avoid the temptation to greed. The Messiah that John proclaimed was someone who was coming to inaugurate the Kingdom of God on earth, a Kingdom that would be, by definition, a Kingdom of justice, where people would live together in love, caring and sharing with each other. Compassion is showing kindness to another person. Justice is the word we use to describe compassion within the community or society as it strives to make things fairer for everyone. Justice is essentially political, it is 'political love.' It involves addressing systemic issues and ensuring that no one is left behind. So we Christians must be political. We must be on the side of those who are unwanted, discriminated against or denied their fair share of society's resources. John's exhortations - to share what we have, to avoid greed and use power or influence for the sake of others and not ourselves - are just as valid today as then. Together, compassion and justice form the foundation for a peaceful society.

Fr. Peter McVerry

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey

Jesus was always saying that people don't realise how good they are, getting up everyday for work for family, walking the floor at night minding children, having to watch what others want on TV, paying money for accommodation, clothes, food and books instead of buying fancy extras for themselves. All this is unselfishness. That is what Jesus noticed and praised in people. Lord, bless our preparations for Christmas. Help us to make home happy by working for each other.



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 Homes.



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Priest on Duty
051 421214 (24 Hr)



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



Please call into the Sacristy BEFORE Mass to remind the celebrant of the Intention.			
Date	Time		
Saturday 14th Dec	5.00pm	Frances Kelly, Parkfield	1st Anniversary
	7.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
Sunday 15th December - Third Sunday of	8.00am	Peter Caulfield, Knockmullen & Kilmore	2nd Anniversary
	9.00am	Philomena & Liam Bruen, Dundalk	Anniversaries
	10.00am	John Joe & Marcella Meehan, Charleton Hill	Anniversaries
	12.00 Noon	Leonard Warren, Cross Street	Months Mind
Monday 16th Dec 	8.00am	Kathleen & Lawrence Kehoe, Newbawn	Anniversary
	9.30am	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	Martin O'Neill & his brother Jim, Cross Street	Anniversary
	7.00pm	Reconciliation Service	
Tuesday 17th Dec	8.00am	Intentions of People of the Parish	
	10.00am	Rita & Pat Reidy, Garryowen,Limerick	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Eucharistic Adoration until 8.00pm	
Wednesday 18th Dec	8.00am	Jerry O'Rourke, Ballyrue	30th Anniversary
	10.00am	Margaret & Paddy Flynn, Stokestown	Anniversaries
Thursday 19th Dec 	8.00am	Stella, Robert, & Nicholas Katus, Lower Michael St.	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Elizabeth & John Cooney, Robert Street	Anniversaries
	3.00pm	Divine Mercy Holy Hour for Vocations & Religious Life in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel	
Friday 20th December	8.00am	Willie, Anne, & Nickey Murphy, Priory Street	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Novena 1	
	11.00am	CBS Secondary School Carol Service	
Saturday 21st December	10.00am	Parish Mass Association	
	5.00pm	Nick Cooney, Charleton Hill	Remembrance
	7.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
Sunday 22nd Dec - Fourth Sunday of 	8.00am	Pat Lee, Church Lane	1st Anniversary
	9.00am	Michael & Annie Cleere, sons Paddy & Eddie,daughter Margaret, Newtown Commons	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Benny Rowe, The Maudlins	1st Anniversary
	12.00 Noon	Tom O'Brien, Glenbarra, Rosbercon	Months Mind



Sanctuary Lamp Intentions:
Available @ €10.00 / week.
Commencing Saturday @ 10.00am to the following Saturday.
Our Lady's (Left):
Fr Tom Ryan, Luke, his brother Gerry & sister Biddy
Altar (Centre):
Owenie Furlong, Remembrance
St. Joseph's (Right):
Thomas Moloney & Michael Breen
Blessed Sacrament Chapel:
William St.Ledger



RECENTLY DECEASED:
We pray for the souls of -
Anita Bolger, Creywell, New Ross, Ard na Greine & Dublin,
Sean (Seanie) Furlong, Ballyrue Lower, New Ross, Bridget (Bridie) Murphy (nee Mernagh), Glenmore, Marian Cashin (nee Bailey), New Ross, Mary Murphy (nee Doyle) Wexford Town & Ballyleigh, New Ross who have passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:
We remember & pray for the souls of -
Grace Lee, Mount Carmel, Bridget O'Mahony, Camblin, Jerry O'Rourke, Ballyrue, Lawrence Ryan, Dowleys Barn, Joan Kearney, Castleisland, Co.Kerry Kieran O'Grady, Mountgarrett Brendan O'Leary, The Bosheen, Josie J Goggins, The Maudlins, Ellen Larkin, Mary Street, Pat Hamilton, Pondfields, Ann Doyle, Ard Mhicil & Ger St. Ledger, Tower Grove whose anniversaries occurs around this time.
*Should you wish to have a loved one included in this



WEDDINGS :
To Book your wedding please contact the Parish Office. A minimum of six months notice is required for Wedding bookings. Bookings are secured on receipt of marriage application forms, photographic ID & Church booking fee.

BAPTISMS:
We welcome into our Christian Community: who were baptised recently in our Parish Church. Baptisms take place on the First Saturday @ 12.00 Noon & Third Sunday @ 1.00pm each month. A 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. If you are not residing in New Ross Parish, a letter from the Parish you do reside in, is required stating they have no objection to your child being baptised in our parish.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 15th December 2024: Third Sunday of Advent: JOY Advent Wreath Liturgies will take place at all masses.
Monday 16th December 2024: Reconciliation Service@ 7.00pm
Friday 20th December 2024: Parish Office Closing for the Christmas Holidays. CBS Secondary School Carol Service will take place in the Church @ 11.00am.
Saturday 21st December 2024: Gloria In Excelsis Event in Parish Church from 1.00pm to 4.00pm. Confessions between 2.00 - 4.00pm.
Sunday 22nd December 2024: Fourth Sunday of Advent: LOVE Advent Wreath Liturgies will take place at all masses.
Tuesday 24th December 2024: Christmas Eve Advent: LIGHT Advent Wreath Liturgies will take place at all masses. Masses in Parish Church @ 5.00pm, 7.00pm & Polish Mass @ 9.00pm. Mass in Mount Carmel @ 8.00pm.
Wednesday 25th December 2024: Christmas Day. Mass in Mount Carmel @ 8.00am. Masses in Parish Church @ 9.00am, 10.00am & 12.00 Noon.
Thursday 26th December 2024: Masses as usual. Polish Mass @ 6.00pm.
Tuesday 31st December 2024: Please note Adoration will take place from 10.00am to 4.00pm

St Joseph's AC Festive 5k Fun walk/ Run
St Stephen Day 26th December @ the Pink Rock at 12 Noon. Donations on the Day. This year the Club will be benefiting from the proceeds which will be used to Development and upkeep the Club grounds.

History Notes - Part 51
Last week : HOLY SMOKE
We were in the outside vestry getting ready to serve Mass. Billy ("Builder") Quinlan, the hard man of our group, was getting the last pulls from a butt when there was step in the hallway and Fr. Nolan walked in, stood on the mat, and looked around. There was a big picture of the Blessed Virgin high up on the wall. Fr. Nolan remarked "I did not know The Blessed Virgin used smoke!" as he watched a big cloud of smoke drifting past the picture. Meanwhile, Builder had stuffed the butt into his trousers pocket. Who was smoking? the priest demanded. We all shook our heads in denial. Immediately there was another step in the hallway and Mrs. Foley arrived behind Fr. Nolan. He ushered her into the inside vestry and closed the door. Builder let a little yell and pulled out his pocket full of smoke and sparks. The rest of us fell around the place laughing.
Courtesy of Jim Sutton

CHRISTMAS STOCK NOW AVAILABLE IN
NEW ROSS PARISH OFFICE:
Christmas Parish Mass Association Cards (€6)
New Ross Parish Novena Cards (€4)
New Ross Parish Christmas Cards (€1) & many other gifts.

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.

Advent Reflection 3 - JOY (15th December)
On the first Sunday of Advent with lit the candle of Hope remembering the hope which comes in Christ.
Last Sunday we lit the candle of Peace, we lit the candle of Peace, remembering God's dream of a peaceful world.
This week we dwell on the Advent Theme of JOY.
REFLECTION:
In Advent, we are in a time of waiting. Like the Israelites who wandered through the Wilderness, waiting to come into the Promised Land, we wait for the coming of the Joy of Ages. We wait for the day where we can join our voices with the angles to sing "Joy to the World, the Lord is come!" We wait for the day when everlasting joy will be on each of us.
We light the candle of JOY.
Pondering privately: This week, we take time to sit still & with a sense of deep gratitude to God we reflect on the blessings in our lives.



PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS: "God our Father, we trust in your loving kindness. Bless our Diocese of Ferns with many priestly and religious 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". To find out more about a vocation to the priesthood in the diocese of Ferns, contact Fr Billy Swan at billyswan68@hotmail.com



PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS

- Position your heart on the Lord.
- Release hard feelings.
- Eliminate excessive preparations.
- Pray as you prepare.
- Accept limitations with grace.
- Read the Word each day.
- Encourage someone.