

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

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

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.

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, when Christ had been baptised in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your beloved Son,
grant that your children by adoption,
reborn of water and the Holy Spirit,
may always be well pleasing to you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING *Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.
'Console my people, console them,' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.'
A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.
Make a straight highway for our God across the desert.
Let every valley be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
let every cliff become a plain,

and the ridges a valley;
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'
Go up on a high mountain,
joyful messenger to Zion.
Shout with a loud voice,
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.
Shout without fear,
say to the towns of Judah
'Here is your God.'
Here is the Lord coming with power,
his arm subduing all things to him.
The prize of his victory is with him,
his trophies all go before him.
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,
gathering lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 103:1-3.3-4.24-25.27-30

R. Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are!

1. Lord God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and glory,
wrapped in light as in a robe!
You stretch out the heavens like a tent **[R]**
2. Above the rains you build your dwelling.
You make the clouds your chariot,
you walk on the wings of the wind,
you make the winds your messengers
and flashing fire your servants. **[R]**
3. How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your riches.
There is the sea, vast and wide,
with its moving swarms past counting,
living things great and small. **[R]**
4. All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up:
you open your hand, they have their fill. **[R]**
5. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. **[R]**

SECOND READING

Titus 2:11 - 14; 3. 4-7

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to Titus

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own

and would have no ambition except to do good.

When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Someone is coming, said John, someone greater than I.
He will baptise with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Alleluia !

GOSPEL *Luke 3:15-16. 21-22*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

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.'

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

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,
All bow for following two lines:
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

Accept, O Lord, the offerings we have brought to honour the revealing of your beloved Son, so that the oblation of your faithful may be transformed into the sacrifice of him who willed in his compassion to wash away the sins of the world. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

EUCHARISTIC 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

Behold the One of whom John said:
I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished with these sacred gifts,
we humbly entreat your mercy, O Lord,
that, faithfully listening to your Only Begotten Son,
we may be your children in name and in truth. Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
Go in peace.
Thanks be to God.



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 12th January 2025

At the baptism of Jesus, God witnessed that Jesus was his Son.
By baptism we too have been made God's children, chosen to bring his Good News to the world.



The baptism of Jesus was not just like our baptism. Baptism for us is entering the church and it is asserting the freedom from the sin. Even though Jesus was not the sinful one, he took part in the ritual of his people - plunging himself, if you put it like this, into the depths of his people. And plunging himself into the depths of our humanity. These depths include our sin as well as all our hopes.

And it's more than that. At the baptism, Jesus heard the words, You are my beloved Son. We could say he came out of the water a different man, Receiving his title from his Father. Later on, he would hear those words again at the Transfiguration. At that time, others would hear them also, Peter and James and John. At the Transfiguration, they were told to listen to him.

But here, nobody else heard the words. We know them because the writers of the Gospel. have shared with us what they heard from Jesus. Only Jesus could have told them what he heard.

The words of Jesus are extended to all of us. He would say, I am God's beloved Son. And because of that, you are his beloved sons and his beloved daughters.

Allow yourself today hear those words spoken to you. Substitute your gender and your name. And give thanks that you are the beloved of God.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey



At Baptism we celebrate that the baby has Three Special Friends: God The Father, who makes the sun shine on everybody; God The Son, Jesus, our forever friend, born at Christmas; and God the Holy Spirit who lives in our heart with every breath we breathe. The people touch the baby with welcome and blessing. The baby is carried with loving hands, beginning life. We are carried with loving hands too at the end of life to a new home of love and joy.



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.



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 44 No. 2


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 11th January	5.00pm	Kevin Flanagan, Irishtown Heights	1st Anniversary
	7.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
Sunday 12th January 2025 - The Baptism of the Lord	8.00am	Jerry Moore, Tinnakilly, Rosbercon	Anniversary
	9.00am	Tom & Kathleen Caulfield, Wexford Street	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Mai Fennelly, Callan, Kilkenny & New Ross	1st Anniversary
	12.00 Noon	Communion Preparation Program Mass "Baptism"	
Monday 13th January	8.00am	Juliet Lugun, Odisha, India	Recently Deceased
	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	Peter & Tilly Nolan & their children, Black Hill, Duncannon	Anniversaries
Tuesday 14h January	8.00am	Joseph & Pattie Kavanagh & their sons; PJ & Pat, Pondfields	Remembrance
	10.00am	Connie Dwyer, Charleton Hill	11th Anniversary
	10.00am	Eucharistic Adoration until 8.00pm	
Wednesday 15th January	8.00am	Josephine Power, Wexford Street	Anniversary
	10.00am	Joe Crosbie, Pondfields	Anniversary
Thursday 16th January	8.00am	Intentions of the people of the Parish	
	10.00am	Nicholas & Bridget Cooney, Ard Mhicil	Anniversaries
	3.00pm	Divine Mercy Holy Hour for Vocations & Religious Life in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel	
Friday 17th January	8.00am	Special Intentions	Special Intentions
	10.00am	Michael & Elizabeth Jefford & deceased family members, Bewley Street	Anniversaries
Saturday 18th January	10.00am	Parish Mass Association	
	5.00pm	Michael Byrne, Neville Street	Anniversary
	7.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
Sunday 19th January 2025 - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.00am	Eamon Somers, Mount Clonleth, Chambersland	Anniversary
	9.00am	Maureen Murphy, Ballyrue	Anniversary
	10.00am	Marie Goss (nee Delaney), Edward, Eileen & George Delaney, Ard Na Greine	1st Anniversary & Remembrance
	12.00 Noon	Rose St. Ledger (nee Murphy), Mount Carmel Confirmation Preparation Program Mass "Enrolment"	Months Mind



Sanctuary Lamp Intentions:
Available @ €10.00 / week. Commencing Saturday @ 10.00am to the following Saturday.
Our Lady's (Left):
Arron Phillpot, Nunnery Lane - Remembrance
Altar (Centre):
Thomas St. Ledger, William Street - Remembrance
St. Joseph's (Right):
-
Blessed Sacrament Chapel:
Nicky Murphy, Rosbercon - Remembrance



RECENTLY DECEASED:
We pray for the souls of - John O'Connor, Mountross, Rose St. Ledger (nee Murphy), Mount Carmel, Carmel Ryan (nee St. Ledger), Camblin, Olive Hickey (nee O'Connor, Mountgarrett, Colin Tubritt, Saltmills, John Hendrick, Knockroe, Mary Teresa (Minnie) Cummins (nee Waters), Ballyhack, John (King) O'Connor, Cluain Fada, David Jones, Rosbercon, Teresa (Tess) Ryan (nee O'Connor), Rochestown & Bernadette Fortune (nee Cahill), Campile, who passed away recently. May they rest in peace.
ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:
We remember & pray for the souls of - Joe & Jo Carroll, Ard Mhicil their sons: Joe & Des & their granddaughter Aileen (Milwaukee, USA), Jerry Moore, Tinnakilly, Rosbercon, Glenis Coleman, Neville Street, Ann Heffernan, "Rosgar", Southknock & Davis No, India, whose anniversaries occurs around this time.
*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.



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:
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.

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 June 2025.

Next Weeks Readings: SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Is 62: 1-5. Ps 95: 1-3, 7-10, R/ v 3. 1 Cor 12: 4-11. Jn 2: 1-11.

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 Month December 2024 & 5th January 2025 @ € 11,925.00 (869 No. Envelopes & 2nd Collection combined). 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 & 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: **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. One way system in operation.

TAIZE: Meet for Prayers 1st Friday of every month in Good Counsel College Church @ 8.00pm

Holy Water Fonts: Holy Water Fonts at the Church Entrances are **NOT** Rubbish Bins. Please respect them.

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.



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.

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

PILGRIMS OF HOPE: As part of Jubilee 2025, students undertaking the Diploma in Pastoral Ministry from our Diocese will lead a prayer service in **Clonard Church at 7 pm on Fri 3rd January** which celebrates thanksgiving, hope and joy. This will be a great opportunity to share in the hope-filled journey of our Diocese by embracing a synodal Church where lay people take on important leadership roles in mission and ministry. This is an important part of our Diocesan Plan, which is called 'Our Future Church'. All welcome.

150th Anniversary of the Adoration Sisters in Wexford
New Year's Day, January 1st, 2025, marked a momentous occasion - the 150th anniversary of the Adoration Sisters' presence in Wexford. To celebrate this significant milestone, the five remaining Perpetual Adoration Sisters: Sr Peter, Sr Dominic, Sr Finbar, Sr Gabriel and Sr Rosella joined the community for the 10am Mass at Bride Street Church, where they spent most of their life. The Mass was celebrated by Bishop Ger Nash and Clergy from the Diocese in gratitude for the sisters' unwavering dedication and prayerful presence over the past 150 years. As part of this celebration, we are pleased to display eight pop-up banners in the church, showcasing the rich history and profound impact of the Adoration Sisters in our community. These banners will remain in the church from January 1st until Corpus Christi 2025, offering a visual journey through the sisters' ministry of prayer and intercession. We invite the faithful from around the Diocese to come together as we begin the new year in the Eucharist, giving thanks to God for the invaluable ministry of the Adoration Sisters and their continual intercession for the needs of our community. Please join us in marking this special anniversary and in offering prayers for the sisters and their ongoing mission with grateful hearts.
Fr James Cullen - Chaplain to the Perpetual Adoration Sisters

History Notes - Part 54
A RESERVED SIN: Back in the 1940s there was a society wedding in our local St. Mary's Church. The daughter of a local landed family was marrying a relation of an old Irish family from Kildare. It was a very grand affair with the bride arriving in a horse-drawn carriage accompanied by her family with invited guests appropriately attired. There was a large gathering of interested townspeople outside St. Mary's to enjoy the rare spectacle, including two sisters who were the wives of prominent business men in town. Some viewers followed the bridal party to the church door, while curiosity overcame the sisters who witnessed the full ceremony from the back of the main aisle. Both ladies were devout practicing Catholics and you can imagine their horror when they discovered they had, by the teaching of the day, committed a mortal sin by attending a Protestant ceremony. They duly went to confession only to discover that their transgression was a reserved sin which could only be forgiven by a bishop. There was great glee locally when the sisters took the bus to Wexford to be shriven by the bishop. Simple times.
Courtesy of Jim Sutton

