

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O people of Sion, behold,  
the Lord will come to save the nations,  
and the Lord will make the glory of his  
voice heard in the joy of your heart.

## 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 is omitted awaiting its  
Christmas Proclamation.)*

## OPENING PRAYER

Almighty and merciful God,  
may no earthly undertaking hinder those  
who set out in haste to meet your Son,  
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom  
gain us admittance to his company.  
Who lives and reigns.....

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING **Isaiah 11: 1 - 10****A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,  
a scion thrusts from his roots:  
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,  
a spirit of wisdom and insight,  
a spirit of counsel and power,  
a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the  
Lord.

(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)  
He does not judge by appearances,  
he gives no verdict on hearsay,  
but judges the wretched with integrity,  
and with equity gives a verdict for the poor  
of the land.

His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless;  
his sentences bring death to the wicked.  
Integrity is the loincloth round his waist,  
faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb,  
the panther lies down with the kid,  
calf and lion cub feed together  
with a little boy to lead them.  
The cow and the bear make friends  
their young lie down together.  
The lion eats straw like the ox.  
The infant plays over the cobra's hole;  
into the viper's lair  
the young child puts his hand.  
They do no hurt, no harm,  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the country is filled with the  
knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters swell the sea.

That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as  
a signal to the peoples. It will be sought  
out by the nations and its home will be  
glorious.

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

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Ps. 71:1-2.7-8.12-13.17**

**R. In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.**

1. O God, give your judgement to the  
king,  
to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice  
and your poor in right judgement. **[R]**

2. In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.  
He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to earth's bounds. **[R]**

3. For he shall save the poor when they  
cry  
and the needy who are helpless.  
He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor. **[R]**

4. May his name be blessed for ever  
and endure like the sun.  
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,  
all nations bless his name. **[R]**

SECOND READING **Romans 15:4-9****A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans**

Everything that was written long ago in  
the scriptures was meant to teach us  
something about hope from the examples  
scripture gives of how people who did not  
give up were helped by God. And may he  
who helps us when we refuse to give up,  
help you all to be tolerant with each other,  
following the example of Christ Jesus, so  
that united in mind and voice you may  
give glory to the God and Father of our  
Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you  
to treat each other in the same friendly  
way as Christ treated you. The reason  
Christ became the servant of circumcised  
Jews was not only so that God could  
faithfully carry out the promises made  
to the patriarchs, it was also to get the  
pagans to give glory to God for his mercy,  
as scripture says in one place: For this I  
shall praise you among the pagans and  
sing to your name.

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Prepare a way for the Lord, make his  
paths straight, and all mankind shall  
see the salvation of God. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL **Matthew 3: 1 - 12****A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.**

In due course John the Baptist appeared;  
he preached in the wilderness of Judaea  
and this was his message: 'Repent, for  
the kingdom of heaven is close at hand'.  
This was the man the prophet Isaiah  
spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of  
camel-hair with a leather belt round his  
waist, and his food was locusts and wild  
honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea  
and the whole Jordan district made their  
way to him, and as they were baptised  
by him in the river Jordan they confessed  
their sins. But when he saw a number of  
Pharisees and Sadducees coming for  
baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers,  
who warned you to fly from the retribution  
that is coming? But if you are repentant,  
produce the appropriate fruit, and do not  
presume to tell yourselves, "We have  
Abraham for our father," because, I tell  
you, God can raise children for Abraham  
from these stones. Even now the axe  
is laid to the roots of the trees, so that  
any tree which fails to produce good fruit  
will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I  
baptise you in water for repentance, but  
the one who follows me is more powerful  
than I am, and I am not fit to carry his  
sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy  
Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his  
hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and  
gather his wheat into the barn; but the  
chaff he will burn in a fire that will never  
go out.'

**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.**

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble  
prayers and offerings,  
and, since we have no merits to plead our  
cause, come, we pray, to our rescue  
with the protection of your mercy.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## 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.*  
**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

**Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the  
heights, and behold the joy which  
comes to you from God.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Replenished by the food of spiritual  
nourishment, we humbly beseech you,  
O Lord, that, through our partaking in this  
mystery, you may teach us to judge wisely  
the things of earth and hold firm to the  
things of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

Go in peace.  
**Thanks be to God.**



## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 7th December 2025

The message of repentance during this season of  
Advent is a call to each one of us to look deeply into  
our lives, to renew and deepen our relationship with God.

PREPARE  
THE WAY

Growing up in the 1950s and 60s, I was told that holiness,  
my relationship with God, consisted in obeying the laws,  
which the Church told me God had laid down. Sin was  
defined as a breaking of these laws. Matthew focuses John

the Baptist's ire on the Pharisees and Sadducees, those religious leaders  
who also demanded, in God's name, exact obedience to the multiplicity of  
laws that they had laid down. The religious leaders, Jesus said, had "tied  
up heavy burdens and laid them on peoples' shoulders" (Matt 23 v 4).  
This focus on obedience to laws often led to a feeling of righteousness,  
and a sense of superiority over those who did not, or could not, obey the  
laws (Pharisee and the Publican, Luke 18 v 9-14). They were sinners who  
were rejected and excluded by God and therefore should be rejected and  
excluded by the people of God. The law was intended to show people  
how to love God and to love one another, but the religious leaders had  
made it, not just a substitute, but an obstacle, to the development of a  
relationship to God. When Jesus, out of compassion, healed the sick on  
the Sabbath, he was condemned for "breaking the law" by working on the  
Sabbath. St. Paul reminds us that all the commandments can be summed  
up in this phrase, "Love is the fulfilment of the law." (Romans 13 v 8-10).  
Jesus revealed that God's passion is not the observance of laws; God's  
passion is compassion. We are called to holiness, to grow into the image  
and likeness of God, by growing in compassion.

**Fr. Peter McVerry SJ**

**Jesus' Story**

*Fr. Liam Hickey*

John the Baptist came to tell people about Jesus, who was the Face of  
God's Love. He gathered people around a river and blessed them. We  
can always pray wherever we are. At Mass we are always reminded of  
ways God is present for us everyday, everywhere.



# 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, Cooneys, Ryans & Doyles 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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Volume 44 No. 49

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

Please call into the Sacristy BEFORE Mass to remind the celebrant of the Intention.

| Date                    | Time       |  |                       |
|-------------------------|------------|--|-----------------------|
| Saturday 6th December   | 5.00pm     | Anita Bolger, Creywell & Ard na Greine, Dublin   | 1st Anniversary       |
|                         | 7.00pm     | Polish Community Mass  |                       |
| Sunday 7th December     | 8.00am     | Special Intentions   | Special Intentions    |
|                         | 9.00am     | Eoghan Brennan, Tower Grove  | 6th Anniversary       |
|                         | 10.00am    | Marian Cashin, Woodbine Close & her son; Michael   | 1st & 3rd Anniversary |
|                         | 12.00 Noon | Betty Doran (nee Power), High Hill   | Months Mind           |
| Monday 8th December     | 8.00am     | Kathleen & Larry Kehoe, Newbawn  | Anniversaries         |
|                         | 9.30am     | Rosary is recited every morning in the Parish Church from Monday to Saturday, however on the 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month the Novena to Our Lady of Fatima is held @ 9.15am |                       |
|                         | 10.00am    | Nancy Martin, Ard Na Greine  | Birthday Remembrance  |
|                         | 1.05pm     | Bill Lenehan, Hospital Road  | Anniversary           |
| Tuesday 9th December    | 8.00am     | Special Intentions   | Special Intentions    |
|                         | 10.00am    | Mary O'Neill & deceased family members, Irishtown  | Remembrance           |
|                         | 10.00am    | Eucharistic Adoration until 8.00pm   |                       |
| Wednesday 10th December | 8.00am     | Intentions of the People of the Parish   |                       |
|                         | 10.00am    | Rita & Pat Reidy, Garryowen, Limerick  | Anniversaries         |
| Thursday 11th December  | 8.00am     | Jim & Bridget Hawe, Piltown, Kilkenny  | Anniversaries         |
|                         | 10.00am    | Pat Hamilton, Pondfields   | Anniversary           |
|                         | 3.00pm     | Divine Mercy Holy Hour for Vocations & Religious Life in The Blessed Sacrament Chapel  |                       |
| Friday 12th December    | 8.00am     | Morning Prayer & Communion Service   |                       |
|                         | 10.00am    | Patrick & Nancy Richardson, Fairgate   | Anniversaries         |
| Saturday 13th December  | 8.00am     | Morning Prayer & Communion Service   |                       |
|                         | 10.00am    | Parish Mass Association  |                       |
|                         | 5.00pm     | Sean (Seanie) Furlong, Ballyrue Lower  | 1st Anniversary       |
|                         | 7.00pm     | Polish Community Mass  |                       |
| Sunday 14th December    | 8.00am     | Thomas St. Ledger, Charleton Hill  | Anniversary           |
|                         | 9.00am     | Philomena & Liam Bruen, Dundalk, Louth   | Anniversaries         |
|                         | 10.00am    | Marcella & John Joe Meehan, Charleton Hill   | Anniversaries         |
|                         | 12.00 Noon |  |                       |



**Sanctuary Lamp Intentions:**  
Candles are a wonderful part of our Catholic tradition. We light them at all prayers in our Church. Candles aid the focus of our prayer. Have you been asked by a family member of friend to "Light a candle for me" as comfort & assurance of Prayer?  
Available @ €10.00 / week. Commencing Saturday @ 10.00am to the following Saturday.

**Our Lady's (Left):**  
The Ryan Family - Remembrance

**Altar (Centre):**  
John Bowe - Remembrance

**St. Joseph's (Right):**  
The Bowe Family - Remembrance

**Blessed Sacrament Chapel:**  
Mary O'Neill - Remembrance



**RECENTLY DECEASED:**  
We remember & pray for the souls of - Niall Maddock, Mountross & Carlow Town, Bridget Rowe (nee Bolger), Mary Street, Sr. Maura Kehoe, Templeaudigam & Glasnevin, Dublin, Ethna Hennessy (nee Briody), Creywell, Thomas (Tommy) Brennan, Camblin, Michael O'Connor, Ard Na Greine, Breda McDonald (nee Rowe), Ballygunner, Waterford & Campile, Andrew (Andy) Murphy, Terrerath, & Jackie Johns (nee Long) Rosbercon who have passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

**ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:**  
We remember & pray for the souls of - Detta Wilson, Robert Street, Dolores Sutton, Southknock, Annie & Val Reynolds, Kilkenny, Patrick McCarthy & deceased family members Ryleen, James & Mary Whelan & deceased family members, Ryleen, Paschal Murphy (5th Anniversary), Hewittsland, Dawn Doherty, Glenmore, Elsie Ronan, Mount Carmel, Brendan O'Leary, The Bosheen, Declan Kehoe, Robert Street & Jack Shannon, Henry Street, whose anniversaries occur 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.



**BAPTISMS:**  
Baptisms take place on the First Saturday & Third Sunday @ 1.00pm each month. A Minimum two weeks notice is required & a maximum of four candidates per booking. No Private Baptism booking can be accommodated. 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.



**DECEMBER 2025**  
**MINISTERS OF THE WORD:**  
5.00pm - Gordon Doyle  
9.00am - Helen Doyle  
10.00am - Lizzie Connors  
12.00 Noon - Pat Wickham

**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:**  
5.00pm - Mary Rowe, Eddie Rowe & Marian Dalton  
9.00am - Wendy Cullen & Sr. Eucharia  
10.00am - Liam & Patsy Nolan & Margaret Campion  
12.00 Noon - Jagienka Borecka & Pat Rossiter  
Please contact your co-ordinator should you not be able to attend.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Sunday 7th December 2025:** Second Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of PEACE.  
**Monday 8th December 2025:** Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Holy Day. No Vigil Mass on Sunday 7th December. Masses @ 8.00am in Mount Carmel, 10.00am & 1.05pm in Parish Church. Parish Office Closed.  
**Sunday 14th December 2025:** SVP Annual Church Gate Collection. Third Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of JOY.  
**Thursday 18th December 2025:** CBS Secondary School Carol Service in the Church. @2.30pm.  
**Saturday 20th December 2025:** Mass in Parish Church @ 10.00am & 5.00pm. 'Gloria In Excelsis' Event in Parish Church from 1.00pm to 4.00pm. Polish Mass @ 7.00pm.  
**Sunday 21st December 2025:** Fourth Sunday of Advent we light the candle of LOVE. Mass in Mount Carmel @ 8.00am. Mass in Parish Church 9.00am, 10.00am & 12.00 Noon.  
**Monday 22nd December 2025:** Reconciliation Service @ 7.00pm

**Campile Hall Christmas Craft Fair:** The annual Christmas Craft Fair will be held in Campile Hall on Sunday December 14th from 10am to 4 pm. With a great selection of crafts from all over Wexford, this is the perfect opportunity to get some unique and locally made Christmas presents.

**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 please contact: Fr. Roger O'Neill - Vocations Director, Email: vocations@ferns.ie

**History Notes - Part 101:**  
**THE NEW ROSS CONFRATERNITY BAND**  
Fr. Denis Carton, curate of New Ross Parish and Director of the Confraternity had the idea in 1936 of forming a brass band in town. A collection was organised and a full range of second hand instruments was bought from an English supplier. The first band paraded with white sashes over the left shoulder as uniforms had not yet been secured. Mr. Flannery from Waterford was the first bandmaster who taught the many local young men to master their instruments. The town was very proud of the marching band in their blue jackets and white trousers as they led many parades with their marching tunes. Several sets of brothers were members over the years, including Shannons, Rossiters, Kielthys, Warrens, Bennets, Spencers and Roches. The first band hall was in Marsh Lane - the premises is now used by the Sea Scouts. A feature of the band hall was a billiard table for members enjoyment – an ideal facility to attract newcomers. On St. Patrick's Day, 1937, the band led by Mr Flannery paraded around the town and gave its first public performance. The band has a proud record of never missing a St. Patrick's Day parade. After the most part of a century, the Band marches on, sustained by many young members, both male and female, including descendants of former members. When local curate, Fr. Fortune died in 1939, the band attended and played him to his last resting place with one of its favourite marches - the Harlech March "Will ye no come back again".  
**Courtesy of Jim Sutton**

*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.*

Care Taker Vacancy for St. Mary's Youth Centre New Ross  
See: Jobs Ireland Number: CES-2421452 for details.



# BALLYVALOO

RETREAT CENTRE

# CAROL SERVICE

SUNDAY DEC 14<sup>TH</sup> 2025  
AT 7PM  
FOLLOWED BY FESTIVE REFRESHMENTS  
Voluntary Donations divided between St Vincent de Paul Society and Trócaire appeal for Gaza.

# ALL WELCOME

BALLYVALOO, BLACKWATER, ENNISCORTHY CO. WEXFORD Y21 X392

# NEW ROSS SINGERS

# Christmas Celebration

on Thursday December 11<sup>th</sup> 2025  
at 7.30 pm  
St. Mary's Church, New Ross

Conductor - Connie Tantrum  
Accompanist - Cecilia Kehoe  
Soloist - Eryn Buckley  
MC - Peggy Hussey

VOLUNTARY RETIRING COLLECTION  
MEALS ON WHEELS

**Advent Reflection 2 - PEACE (7th December)**  
Last Sunday we lit the candle of Hope, remembering the hope which comes in Christ. This week we dwell on the Advent Theme of PEACE.  
**REFLECTION:** God has a peaceful dream for the world, we have too. We dream of a peaceful world full of wolves, leopards & lions eating, sleeping & dancing with lambs, kids & calves. We dream of a peaceful; world where nations come together, where war is a memory & we all sit at the table together.

**We light the candle of PEACE.**  
*Pondering privately: Over the coming week we ponder on the words of Jesus: Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be called the children of God. Ask yourself: "Am I a peacemaker?"*

