

**ENTRANCE ANTIphon**

Did I not feel for those whose  
day was hard?  
Was not my soul grieved for the poor?

**PENITENTIAL ACT**

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to the Father:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you have given us the consolation of the truth:

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd, leading us into everlasting life:

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**

Merciful God, origin and reward of all charity, you called Saint Brigid to teach the new commandment of love through her life of hospitality and her care of the needy; give to your people, by her intercession, a generous spirit, so that, with hearts made pure, we may show your love to all.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

**LITURGY OF THE WORD****FIRST READING** Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands.

Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord.

In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord.

They will do no wrong, will tell no lies;

and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths.  
But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them.

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

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**  
**Ps. 145:7 - 10**

**R. How happy are the poor in spirit;  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven or  
Alleluia!**

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R)**

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger and  
upholds the widow and orphan. **(R)**

3. It is the Lord who loves the just  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. **(R)**

**SECOND READING**

**1 Corinthians 1:26 - 31**

**A reading from the 1st letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians**

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen - those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you,  
Father, Lord of heaven and earth,  
for revealing the mysteries of the  
kingdom to mere children. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL** Matthew 5: 1 - 12

**A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to Matthew**

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined

by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: 'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R)**

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
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The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. **(R)**

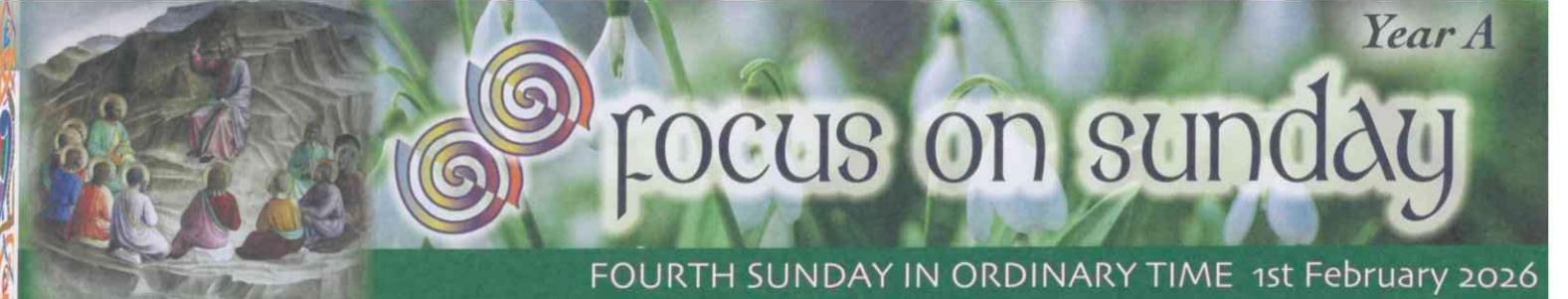
**The Gospel of the Lord.**  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**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**

As we present these gifts, O Lord, on the feast of Saint Brigid, may we come to know you as the source of all true love. Through Christ our Lord.

**AFTER THE CONSECRATION**

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

**COMMUNION ANTIphon**

**Come, you whom my Father has blessed,  
says the Lord.**  
I was sick and you visited me.  
In truth I tell you, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these, you did it to me.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

You give us food from heaven, Lord,  
to strengthen us in love; grant, we pray,  
through the intercession of Saint Brigid,  
that works of charity continue to flourish  
and the light of true faith not fail.

Through Christ our Lord.

**SOLEMN BLESSING**

May God, who in Saint Brigid has provided an outstanding example of generosity: make your ears be ever open to the cry of the poor.

**Amen.**

May you who greet Saint Brigid as Mary of the Gael receive from Jesus, Son of Mary, the reward promised to the pure of heart.

**Amen.**

May God fill you with his love, as you honour Saint Brigid, whose heart and mind became a throne of rest for the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain for ever.

**Amen.**

Go in peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 1st February 2026  
ST BRIGID, ABBESS, SECONDARY PATRON OF IRELAND

The gospel today is the charter of a Christian (The Beatitudes): Jesus' sermon on the mount. It is an invitation to live like him, and a challenge to serve him in our neighbour.



**Focus**

An alternate wisdom. Today we read and hear from the opening verses of Matthew's most famous passage, *The Sermon on the Mount*. The Beatitudes are at the heart of Jesus' teachings and are far from a tick box exercise in order to receive God's love, on the contrary, they speak a language of grace. They do not condemn, rather they give us a glimpse of a life that is lived out of the call to love God and neighbour, spoken in a way that motivates rather than criticises. While the first part of each beatitude speaks about the present and is rooted in human experience, the second part invites us to contemplate what is to come. The Beatitudes are not idealising some future utopia either but are lived and experienced in the here and now. The beatitudes praise. This is what a real metanoia (a turning around) looks like. As the Sermon on the Mount unfolds, we are invited into whole relationships, with God, with our loved ones, even with our enemies! The Beatitudes are a predisposition for what follows, like a compass, they orient us towards restoration. And the first Beatitude sets the scene for everything that follows: "Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven".

This Beatitude, ironically, praises spiritual poverty or emptiness and invites us to gently examine our inner attitude and attachments. For when we are free, we are open to receive God's grace in our hearts. The reward is not necessarily referring to the afterlife. The kingdom of heaven is a state of being that can be experienced in the here and now. The Beatitudes promise comfort, greater awareness and intimacy with God. Through the Beatitudes, Jesus blesses those that this world crushes: the meek, the peacemakers, those who are persecuted. They turn the world upside down with their dramatic reversals and are the essence of the in-breaking kingdom of heaven. This week perhaps you can spend time ruminating on one of the Beatitudes each day. See what arises. Living the Beatitudes in today's world involves living an alternative reality to the status quo. We are invited to dream and to take risks. What might this look like for you?

**Jane Mellett & Triona Doherty. Adapted from The Deep End – A Journey through the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Matthew, Messenger Publications, Dublin, 2022.**

**Jesus' Story**  
Fr. Liam Hickey

Jesus tells the people of new ways to be happy. Because God is Love, we are called to love God with our mind and heart. Our mind helps us to know about things, our heart helps to love and to give. It is not enough to see people who are hungry, who are lonely, who are different, who are at war. We have to try to help. We help with our heart, by talking, and listening. Peacemaking is trying to put oneself in the other person's shoes, to feel how they feel.



# 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.



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051 421 348  
Priest on Duty  
051 421214 (24 Hr)



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Volume 45 No. 5



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 31st  
January

5.00pm

Kathleen Shelly (nee Walsh), Mount Carmel & Lincoln, UK

1st Anniversary

7.00pm

Polish Community Mass

Sunday 1st  
February - Feast  
of St. Brigid - 4th  
Sunday in  
Ordinary Time

8.00am

Michael & Mary Ann Barron, Irishtown & Nora & Michael Savagh, Middleton, Cork

Anniversaries

9.00am

Edward & Ethna O'Neill, Abbeyview

Anniversaries

10.00am

Sean Rossiter, Southknock

Anniversary

Children's Sunday School in the Sacristy during 10.00am Mass



12.00 Noon

Roseanna Moran (nee Ryan), Dunmore Road, Waterford & New Ross  
Barney (Golly) Power, Graiguenamanagh, Kilkenny & New Ross

Months Mind  
Months Mind

Monday 2nd  
February - Bank  
Holiday - Parish  
Office Closed

**CANDLEMAS DAY**



8.00am

Morning Prayer & Communion Service

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

Arthur & Eileen Dugdale, Ballykerogue

Anniversaries

Candles will be blessed @ Mass. Please ensure your name is clearly marked on you candles when leaving them at the altar & that  
they are collected in a timely manner on the same day. Thank you.

Tuesday 3rd  
February

**FEAST OF  
Saint Brigid**



8.00am

Rina McManus, Lower Southknock & May Lannigan, Bewley Street

Anniversaries

10.00am

Mary & Michael Horgan, Fisherstown, Campile

Anniversaries

Blessing of Throats will take place at all Masses



Adoration takes place after 10.00am Mass until 8.00pm

Parish Pastoral Council meeting in the Sacristy after blessing of throats

1.00pm

Blessing of Throats ONLY, silence is necessary as Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is taking place.

7.00pm

Blessing of Throats ONLY, silence is necessary as Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is taking place.

Wednesday 4th  
February

**FEAST OF  
Saint Brigid**



8.00am

Intentions of the People of the Parish

10.00am

Fergal May, Henry Street

Anniversary

Thursday 5th  
February

**FEAST OF  
Saint Brigid**



8.00am

Patrick & Bridget Greene, Jamestown, Glenmore

Anniversaries

10.00am

Special Intention

Special Intention

3.00pm

Divine Mercy Holy Hour for Vocations & Religious Life in The Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Friday 6th  
February

**FEAST OF  
Saint Brigid**



8.00am

Morning Prayer & Communion Service

10.00am

Charles & Kathleen Dalton, Dublin

Anniversaries

Saturday 7th  
February

**FEAST OF  
Saint Brigid**



8.00am

Morning Prayer & Communion Service

10.00am

Parish Mass Association

5.00pm

Jim Howlett, William Street

1st Anniversary

7.00pm

Polish Community Mass

Sunday 8th  
February

**Fifth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time**



8.00am

Ross Stewart, Wickow

Recently Deceased

9.00am

Pat Kehoe, The Maudlins

Anniversary

10.00am

Tom O'Shea, Newtown Commons

2nd Anniversary

Children's Sunday School in the Sacristy during 10.00am Mass



12.00 Noon

Jason Roche, Caislean Maol & Inistioge, Kilkenny

Months Mind

## History Notes - Part 109:

GRAVES & COMPANY LIMITED

Graves was the largest and most important industry in town for more than a century from its foundation in 1811. The Graves family from the Thomastown area set up a sawmilling operation on the quays to process timber floated downstream from their lands in Kilkenny. The New Ross enterprise in time developed into a builders' suppliers business and manufactured roofing felt and damp-course materials in the adjoining factory. Graves Patent Roofing was a valued product in England during the First World War years. The footprint of the old Graves site is on today's Lidl property fronting on to the river. In its heyday, Graves New Ross operated several sailing ships which traded with the American east coast. It also shipped fertiliser from Peru's Chincha Islands. It carried emigrants from our quays to the New World, amongst them President Kennedy's great grandfather, and back-loaded pine timber from the Canadian Murrish Valley. The firm had a shipping office in Liverpool and a member of the Graves family served as Mayor of that great maritime city. Today's Dunbrody Centre with its sailing ship, built locally as an exact copy of the original Dunbrody, is a fine memorial of the hectic days of emigration from our quays and is an outstanding tourist attraction. There is a story of an emigrant with too much to drink who woke up in his bunk as his ship sailed down-river and looked out the porthole. "Upon me soul" he exclaimed "only that I know I am in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean I would swear that's Carrigcloney!"



## FEBRUARY 2025

### MINISTERS OF THE WORD:

5.00pm - Mary Harnedy  
9.00am - Lizzie Connors  
10.00am - Maureen Clarkin  
12.00 Noon - Pat Rossiter

### MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:

5.00pm - Adrian & Mary Maher & Marian Dalton  
9.00am - Margaret Kehoe & Kitty Warren  
10.00am - Brendan Murphy, Margaret Campion & Liam Nolan  
12.00 Noon - Mairin Jackson & Rita Condon

Please contact your co-ordinator should you not be able to attend.



## RECENTLY DECEASED:

We remember & pray for the souls of -  
Susan Roche (nee White), Caislean Maol & Newbawn,  
Peter Holden, Rathgar, Dublin & New Ross,  
Dr. Jack Murphy, Ballymacar, New Ross & Enniscorthy &  
William (Willie) Cottrell, Campile,  
who passed away recently.  
May they rest in peace.

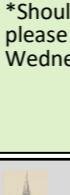
## ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:

We remember & pray for the souls of -  
Tom Doyle, Charleton Hill,  
Dick Bennett (2nd Anniversary), & his Son; Anthony, Donard & Pondfields,  
Jimmy Scully, Ballyrue,  
Jim & Bridget Higgins, Haughton Place,  
Esther & Patricia O'Connor Haughton Place,  
Mary Carletti Lalor, Chilcomb, UK,  
Anna & Paul Brassil & the Murphy family, "The Arch", Neville Street &  
Kathleen Berry (nee Cash) (4th Anniversary), New Ross  
whose anniversaries occur around this time.

## BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE:

We remember & pray for the souls of -  
Jean & Craig Tracey, Pondfields,  
whose birthday's 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.



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.

The Diocese of Ferns Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place this year from 16th-21st May 2026. We are Inviting applications for Assisted Pilgrims and Helpers to join us on this wonderful pilgrimage. Contact Will Neville, President of the Hospitalité on 086 889 1899 or Tricia Murphy, Pilgrimage Secretary on 086 323 4551 for more details for helpers or assisted pilgrims. (Booking link for general pilgrims. [Pilgrimages to Lourdes | Marian Pilgrimages | Ireland](#))

## 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 or 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):** Special Intention

**Altar (Centre):** Michael & Mary Horgan, Fisherstown, Campile - Remembrance

**St. Joseph's (Right):** Special Intention

**Blessed Sacrament Chapel:** Special Intention

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026:** Feast of St. Brigid. Masses as usual.

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026:** Parish Office Closed. Bank Holiday. Presentation of the Lord Candlemas Day. Blessing of Candles will take place at 10.00am Mass in Parish Church. Please ensure your name is clearly on your candles & collected in a timely manner on the day.