

## ENTRANCE ANTIphon

O sing a new song to the Lord;  
sing to the Lord, all the earth.  
In his presence are majesty and  
splendour, strength and honour in his  
holy place.

## 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

Lord Jesus, you healed the sick:  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Lord Jesus, you forgave sinners:  
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
Lord Jesus, you give yourself to heal us  
and bring us strength:  
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,  
direct our actions according to your good  
pleasure, that in the name of your beloved  
Son we may abound in good works.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ....

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING *Isaiah 8: 23 – 9:3*

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

In days past the Lord humbled the land  
of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but  
in the days to come he will confer glory  
on the Way of the Sea on the far side of  
Jordan, province of the nations.  
The people that walked in darkness  
has seen a great light;  
on those who live in a land of deep  
shadow a light has shone.

You have made their gladness greater,  
you have made their joy increase;  
they rejoice in your presence  
as men rejoice at harvest time,  
as men are happy when they are dividing  
the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,

the bar across his shoulders,  
the rod of his oppressor,  
these you break as on the day of Midian.

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps. 26:1.4.13-14*

*R. The Lord is my light and my help.*

1. The Lord is my light and my help;  
whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
before whom shall I shrink? **[R]**
2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord,  
for this I long,  
to live in the house of the Lord,  
all the days of my life,  
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,  
to behold his temple. **[R]**
3. I am sure I shall see the Lord's  
goodness  
in the land of the living.  
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.  
Hope in the Lord! **[R]**

## SECOND READING

*1 Corinthians 1:10-13.17*

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

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of  
our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the  
differences between you, and instead  
of disagreeing among yourselves, to be  
united again in your belief and practice.  
From what Chloe's people have been  
telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear  
that there are serious differences among  
you. What I mean are all these slogans  
that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am  
for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for  
Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out?  
Was it Paul that was crucified for you?  
Were you baptised in the name of Paul?  
For Christ did not send me to baptise,  
but to preach the Good News, and not to  
preach that in the terms of philosophy in  
which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be  
expressed.

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus proclaimed the Good News of  
the kingdom and cured all kinds of  
sickness among the people.  
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Matthew 4:12-23 (or \* 4:12-17)*

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

\*Hearing that John had been arrested  
Jesus went back to Galilee, and  
leaving Nazareth he went and settled  
in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the  
borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this  
way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be  
fulfilled:

*Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!  
Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan,  
Galilee of the nations!*

*The people that lived in darkness  
has seen a great light;*

on those who dwell in the land and  
shadow of death a light has dawned.  
From that moment Jesus began his  
preaching with the message, 'Repent, for  
the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.\*

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee  
he saw two brothers, Simon, who was  
called Peter, and his brother Andrew;  
they were making a cast in the lake with  
their net, for they were fishermen. And  
he said to them, 'Follow me and I will  
make you fishers of men.' And they left  
their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another  
pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee  
and his brother John; they were in their  
boat with their father Zebedee, mending  
their nets, and he called them. At once,  
leaving the boat and their father, they  
followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee  
teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming  
the Good News of the kingdom and  
curing all kinds of diseases and sickness  
among the people.

*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 Christ did not send me to baptise,  
but to preach the Good News, and not to  
preach that in the terms of philosophy in  
which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be  
expressed.

*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.

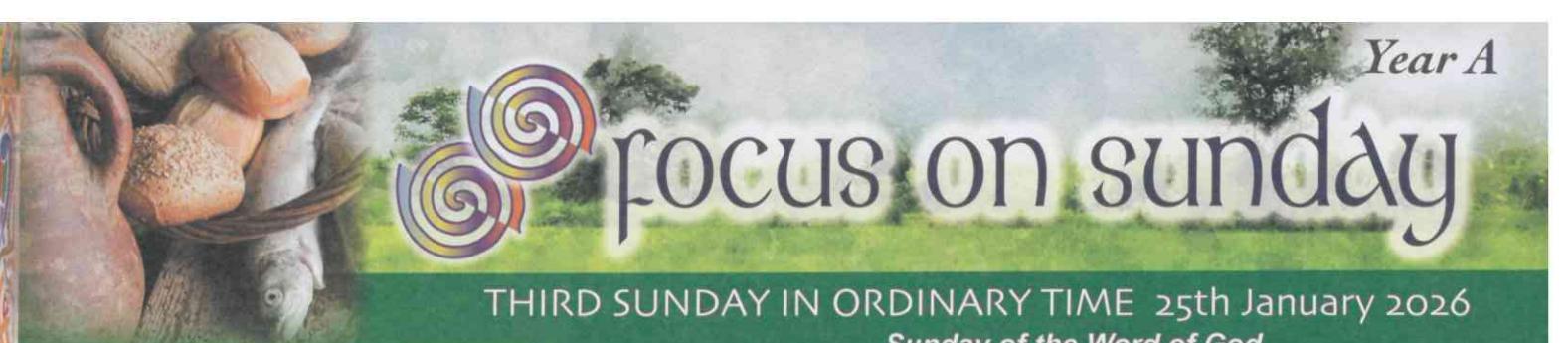
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the  
right hand of the Father.

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



## THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 25th January 2026

## Sunday of the Word of God

The gospel and the life of Jesus makes true the words: "The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light". Christian life is a calling that this may continue to happen in every age, every place and in every society.



**Follow me and I will make you fishers of men**

Jesus begins selecting his apostles to join him in proclaiming the Kingdom of God. No employment agency would have recommended those he chose. Many of them were fishermen, people of little education, of low standing in society, with no connections, and who lived precariously from day to day depending on how much fish they were able to catch. Another was a tax collector, despised by Israelites because he worked for the hated Roman occupiers, took taxes from the little people and often ripped them off to make himself rich. In fact the only one whom the employment agency might have recommended was Judas, who kept control of the money (little as it was) and possibly had some financial background! But what the apostles had was enthusiasm and loyalty; they were willing to learn and to work and suffer for their leader. We too are all called to make the Kingdom of God a reality in our midst. This is not just a task for priests and bishops. We may think we are unqualified, do not have any theological training, don't have access to people in power. But neither did the apostles. Their commitment ensured that their human powerlessness was replaced by God's power. Since God is compassion, those who live ordinary lives are uniquely placed to bring the Kingdom of God into our world, by being the compassion of God to those around us. In fact, those who are rich and powerful can only relate to the rich and powerful; it is the lives of ordinary people which can reveal God to both rich and poor alike.

Fr. Peter McVerry SJ

## Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey

Jesus wanted to tell people new ways to be happy. He asked Peter and Andrew to help him. They were fishermen. They will catch people now with God's message, telling everyone that God is Our Loving Father, giver of all blessings, knows each person by name, loves everyone, can never be angry, and always coaxes us to love, care and help 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, Cooneys, Ryans & Doyles Funeral Homes.



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



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087 1212 707  
(Text Alert Only)



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newrossparish.ie



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Volume 45 No. 4

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Friday 30th January 2026:**

Bishop Ger celebrates 10.00am Mass in Parish Church with local primary school pupils for Catholic Schools Week.

**Sunday 1st February 2026:**

Feast of St. Brigid. Masses as usual.

**Monday 2nd 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.

**Tuesday 3rd February 2026:**

Feast of St. Blaise. Blessing of Throats will take place at all Masses @ 8.00am in Mount Carmel & 10.00am in Parish Church. 1.05pm & 7.00pm, The Blessing of Throats ONLY in Parish Church. Mass bookings will commence up to & including July 2026.

**Wednesday 11th February 2026:**

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, World Day of the Sick, Anointing of the Sick at all Masses 8.00am in Mount Carmel & 10.00pm in Parish Church. Anointing of the Sick ONLY @ 3.00pm in Parish Church.

**Tuesday 17th February 2026:**

Shrove Tuesday, Pancake Day.

**Wednesday 18th February 2026:**

Ash Wednesday. Ashes will be given at all Masses.

## 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](mailto:vocations@ferns.ie)

## History Notes - Part 108: OLD FINDS

The streets of our town were littered with all kinds of debris in the aftermath of the Battle of Ross which took place on 5<sup>th</sup> June 1798. One of the items found was a Bronze Age leaf shaped sword seized from the insurgents during the conflict. The hilt of sword was damaged from the attachment of a leather handle but otherwise it was intact. It is believed to have been acquired by an American collector. A second find occurred in the summer of 1895 when a hoard of later Bronze Age ornaments was found "in the bed of a small river near New Ross". The find consisted of four large penannular bracelets, and a dress fastener. The eastern bank of the Barrow (the Kilkenny side) is well represented in the prehistoric period, with a portal dolmen, a standing stone and several fulachta fiadha (cooking places) supplying evidence of Bronze Age activity. I remember from my CBS schooling days a large glass-fronted press with an exhibition of relics of the Battle of Ross. The exhibits included a pikehead, a horse pistol, several army bayonets, musket balls and other war materials. I wonder what has become of this collection which is uniquely of New Ross provenance. **Courtesy of Jim Sutton**



**FEBRUARY 2025**

**MINISTERS OF THE WORD:**  
5.00pm - Mary Harnedy  
9.00am - Lizzie Connors  
10.00am - Maureen Clarkin  
12.00 Noon - Pat Rossiter



**Eucharistic Ministers**

**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.

## In Remembrance

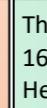
### RECENTLY DECEASED:

We remember & pray for the souls of - Vince Carroll, Clonmel, Tipperary & New Ross, Breda Kehoe (nee Kehoe), Enniscorthy & Clonroche, Johnny Hynes, St. Mullins, The Rower, Kilkenny & New Ross, Minnie Aylward (nee Waters), Rosbercon, who passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

### ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:

We remember & pray for the souls of - Gerry Kelly, Kathleen Anderson, Mount Carmel, Larry Malone (9th Anniversary), Pondfields, Mollie & Pat Hendrick, Bewley Street, Peter & Betty Furness, Bewley Street, Eoin Minihan, Woodlands Grove, formerly, Mount Elliott, Jim Dunne, Carlow, Catherine, James & John Rice, Irishtown, Teresa Rochford (15th Anniversary), Parkfield, Nicholas & Bridget Cooney, Ard Mhici, Maudie Dunphy, Glenmore (2nd Anniversary) 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.



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](#))



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Why not drop a line to our Spiritual Director, Fr Des Farren by text on 089-4672000, by phone on 01-4123456, or come and pay us a visit at Radio Maria Ireland, St. Anthony's Business Park, Ballymount Road, Dublin 22. D22 R7W2

### Poor Clares Galway. Half-Day Retreat for women 18-35

with Beth Davis of Blessed is She Ministries

An opportunity to encounter God's love and deepen your life of prayer and communion with God.

The event will take place from **2pm to 6pm** on **Sunday the 1st of February**.

For more information and to register:  
<https://cherisheddaughters.eventbrite.ie>



### 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):** Mollie & Pat Hendrick, Peter & Betty Furness, Bewley Street - Remembrance

**Altar (Centre):** Michael & Elizabeth Jefford & deceased family members, Bewley Street - Remembrance

**St. Joseph's (Right):** Jim Dunne, Carlow - Remembrance  
**Blessed Sacrament Chapel:** The Laffan Family - Remembrance

## Congratulations

### BAPTISMS:

We welcome into our Christian Community: Sonny Smith, Woodbine Close, who was baptised recently in our Parish Church. 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.

### 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.

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.