

focus on sunday

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 8th February 2026

International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking

The followers of Jesus are the "light of the world" if they are seen to care for the oppressed, the hungry and the homeless. When such care is shown then the light of Christ is seen in our world.

You are the light of the world.



'Pass the salt please' – how often we say that. While not a food, it is an essential ingredient of our food.

'Make sure the lights are off' – we heard so often at home growing up, before we left lights on like we do now! Jesus talks of spiritual light. 'The light shines in the darkness but darkness cannot overcome it.'

Jesus uses these ordinary things of life to talk of the depth of his message. The gospel must be linked to our life. The Eucharist needs salt --- the salt of our lives, that we live out the gospel. Without our working with Jesus, the salt is missing, and the lights are out! The Eucharist we celebrate must also be linked to our life. We all have a bit of salt and a bit of light that gives flavour to the gospel as we bring the gospel in our own way in a life of truth, love, compassion, work for justice. And we shine our own light. This little light of mine... I have salt and a light that none other has, of generosity, care, sensitivity, prayer. If we feed, shelter, clothe and help our neighbour, we are 'the light that rises in the darkness'.

Maybe this week Recall when you were the light for others, in whatever way you have cared for others over this time. Many are helped in ways only you can help with your cluster of gifts and talents. As you sprinkle salt and turn on a light, make a silent prayer for those who may need your prayers!

Donal Neary SJ (Editor, Sacred Heart Messenger)

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey

Jesus liked talking about "Light." God is full of light. We light a candle to pray. At the candle shrine there was a Jesus Story about a man, who was robbed and hurt. Two men passed by. A third man stopped, helped to lift up the man, and bandage his wounds. God is full of kindness for everyone. God's light is in our hearts to help others at home, at work, in our travelling.



PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O Lord, our God, who once established these created things to sustain us in our frailty, grant, we pray, that they may become for us now the Sacrament of eternal life. 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.

THE SIGN OF PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And with your spirit.

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

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be consoled. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall have their fill.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, who have willed that we be partakers in the one Bread and the one Chalice, grant us, we pray, so to live that, made one in Christ, we may joyfully bear fruit for the salvation of the world. 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.

Liturgical texts: concordat cum originali: †Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin Other texts: cum permissu: †Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin. Excerpts from the English translation of the Roman Missal: © 2010, International Committee on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Used with permission. The Jerusalem version of the Scripture is copyright Darton, Longman & Todd & Doubleday & Co. Inc. Responsorial psalms are copyright The Grail & or Geoffrey Chapman Ltd.

GOSPEL Matthew 5:13 - 16
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.'

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

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.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

GREETING

In the name of the Father 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 forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care, that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace, they may be defended always by your protection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 58: 7-10
A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and turn not from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over.

Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you. Cry, and the Lord will answer;

call, and he will say, 'I am here.' If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 111: 4 - 9

R. The good man is a light in the darkness for the upright or Alleluia!

1. He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just. The good man takes pity and lends, he conducts his affairs with honour. [R]
2. The just man will never waver:
he will be remembered for ever. He has no fear of evil news; with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. [R]
3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
Open-handed, he gives to the poor; his justice stands firm for ever. His head will be raised in glory. [R]

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2: 1-5

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!





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)



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newrossparish.ie



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Ross Parish


Volume 45 No. 6



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 7th February	5.00pm	Jim Howlett, William Street	1st Anniversary
	7.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
Sunday 8th February <div>5th Sunday of Ordinary Time</div>	8.00am	Ross Stewart, Wicklow	Recently Deceased
	9.00am	Pat Kehoe, The Maudlins	Anniversaries
	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, An Caislean Maol & Inistioige, Kilkenny	Months Mind
Monday 9th February 	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 st Saturday of the month the Novena to Our Lady of Fatima is held @ 9.15am	
	10.00am	Michael Cullen, Victoria Place	14th Anniversary
Tuesday 10th February 	8.00am	Billy Foley, Irishtown	Anniversary
	10.00am	Andy Doyle, Priory Lodge	3rd Anniversary
	Adoration takes place after 10.00am Mass until 8.00pm		
Wednesday 11th February - Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes 	8.00am	Intentions of the People of the Parish	
	10.00am	Michael Farrell & Granddaughter Ruth, Camblin	Anniversaries
	3.00pm	Anointing of the Sick ONLY	
Thursday 12th February 	8.00am	Robert , Stella & Nick Katus, Lower Michael Street	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Mary & Brian Fortune, Shanbough	Anniversaries
	3.00pm	Divine Mercy Holy Hour for Vocations & Religious Life in The Blessed Sacrament Chapel	
Friday 13th February	8.00am	Morning Prayer & Communion Service	
	10.00am	Margaret & Thomas Kielthy, Michael Street	Anniversaries
Saturday 14th February	8.00am	Morning Prayer & Communion Service	
	10.00am	Parish Mass Association	
	5.00pm	Elizabeth (Betty) Brothers (nee O'Neill), Michael Street	1st Anniversary
	7.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
Sunday 15th February <div>6th Sunday of Ordinary Time</div>	8.00am	Frances & Derry O'Sullivan, Southknock	Anniversaries
	9.00am	Maurice Foley & members of the Foley & Brennan Families, Cross Street & Castlecomer	Anniversary
	10.00am	Tom Doyle, Charleton Hill	Anniversary
	Children's Sunday School in the Sacristy during 10.00am Mass		
	12.00 Noon	Kathleen Lenehan (nee Dempsey), Hospital Road	Months Mind




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):
Muriel Murphy, The Rower, Kilkenny - Remembrance.

Altar (Centre):
Maragret Bennett, Pondfields - Anniversary Remembrance.


St. Joseph's (Right):
Deceased members of the Dalton Family, Chapel Lane, The Maudlins & Pondfields - Remembrance.

Blessed Sacrament Chapel:
Special Intentions



ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:
We remember & pray for the souls of - James Forristal, The Rower, Kilkenny, Ger Roche, Bewley Street, Margaret, Lily & John Dunphy, Irishtown, Kenny & John Boland, Charleton Hill, John Whelan, Berkeley, Marian Maher (40th Anniversary), Mountross, Michael & Margaret Sutton, Michael Street, Andy Doyle (3rd Anniversary) Priory Lodge, Kay Delahunty (2nd Anniversary), Marsh Lane, & Michael & Margaret Sutton, Michael 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.



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

Over 55s Climate Course

Join us for a cuppa and chat

Wednesdays 10.30am - 12.30pm
Enniscorthy Library
Y21 AD92

FREE 6 step Course with Jacinta Barrins

Jacinta Barrins is a retired UN Diplomat and former University of Galway staff member with a lifelong career focused on the Environment and Climate Change

Week 1 - Wednesday 25th February 2026
Understanding Basics - Learn Basic Climate terms and discover how simple tasks like making a cup of tea relate to Climate Change

Week 2 - Wednesday 4th March 2026
Changing Behaviour - Discuss the challenges to taking Climate Action

Week 3 - Wednesday 11th March 2026
Carbon Footprint - Find out how to measure the impact of daily activities such as energy use, transportation, food waste etc.


Week 4- Wednesday 18th March 2026
One Action - Choose ONE Action to do to help the planet and get expert support

Week 5 - Wednesday 25th March 2026
Challenges - Discuss the barriers that might hold you back from implementing the ONE Action


-BREAK-

Week 6 - Wednesday 6th May 2026
Share Progress - Share Progress with the group on the ONE Action and talk to your family & friends about Climate Change


Booking Essential - To Register:
Email: climateaction@wexfordcoco.ie or Phone: 053 9196029




Comhairle Contae Loch Garman
Wexford County Council




CLIMATE ACTION
WEXFORD
OUR COUNTY. OUR OPPORTUNITY. OUR FUTURE



Age Friendly
WEXFORD



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.

Women's Retreat

with Fr. Mark Byrne SOLT

Franciscan Friary, Wexford Town

Sunday 22nd of February
10am - 4pm

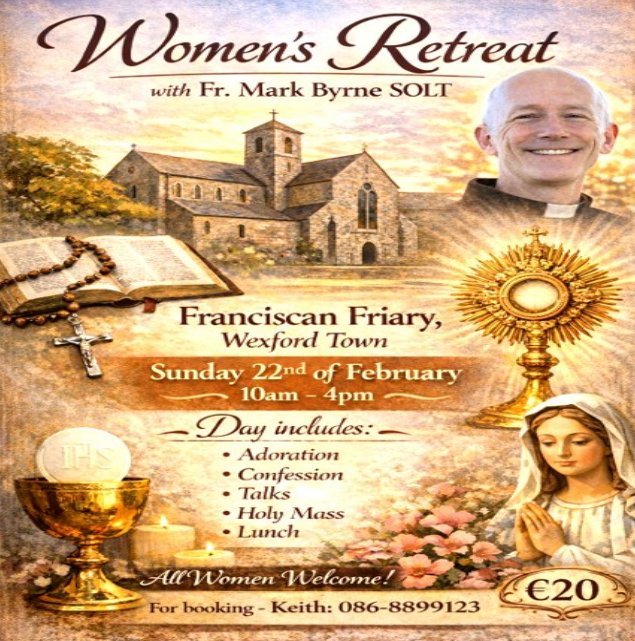
Day includes:

- Adoration
- Confession
- Talks
- Holy Mass
- Lunch

All Women Welcome!

For booking - Keith: 086-8899123

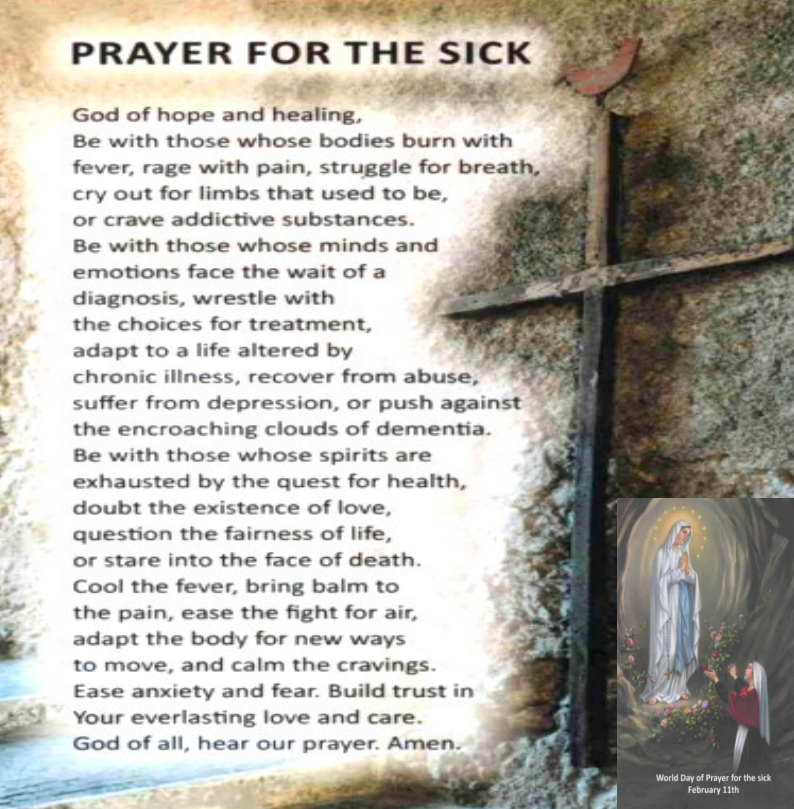
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New Ross Parish Community strives to be a welcoming, life-giving PEOPLE, nourished by FAITH, WORSHIP of God and SERVICE of all in the example of Jesus Christ.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

God of hope and healing.
Be with those whose bodies burn with fever, rage with pain, struggle for breath, cry out for limbs that used to be, or crave addictive substances.
Be with those whose minds and emotions face the wait of a diagnosis, wrestle with the choices for treatment, adapt to a life altered by chronic illness, recover from abuse, suffer from depression, or push against the encroaching clouds of dementia.
Be with those whose spirits are exhausted by the quest for health, doubt the existence of love, question the fairness of life, or stare into the face of death.
Cool the fever, bring balm to the pain, ease the fight for air, adapt the body for new ways to move, and calm the cravings.
Ease anxiety and fear. Build trust in Your everlasting love and care.
God of all, hear our prayer. Amen.



St. Michael's Church, Gorey will have the blessing of their new organ on Sunday 15th February at 5pm. It will be a special service of blessing and "Awakening" of the pipe organ. It will be the first time in 125 years that the pipe organ has been blessed in St Michael's Church, Gorey. So we invite you to this unique service. The Organist for the service is Dr David Adams.

Grásta

Upcoming Courses


PRE-MARRIAGE COURSE
6th-8th March 2026
13th-15th November 2026

MARRIED COUPLES COURSE
7th-8th March 2026
14th-15th November 2026


- Weekend Course
- Accommodation & Meals Included
- Course Delivered by Married Couples
- Catholic Church Approved
- Connect & Grow Together

WEBSITE: grasta.org
EMAIL: info@grasta.org

RCN: 20206787




BOOK NOW:



grasta.org

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GRASTA_COURSES

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE 2026 - 20th to 27th May 2026
Dublin to Dubrovnic - Spiritual Director Fr. Jim Finn - €875
Fully Guided daily programme by Marian Pilgrimage Guides. Single room Supplement €170. Prices are P.P.S. Flights, Bus transfers, B&B & Dinner included. (Not Included: Travel Insurance €35 up 79 years €70 for those over 80) For more information Contact Ann Murphy 087 2254206

Totus Tuus 2026 Fatima Pilgrimage
The Totus Tuus annual pilgrimage to Fatima will take place from 28th August to 4th September. Learn about the Fatima Message, the Rosary, the First Saturdays, the lives of the three visionaries, and visit the tomb and home of Blessed Alexandrina Da Costa, who lived solely on the Eucharist for 13 years. The cost is €915 which includes, flights, half board accommodation, airport transfers, day trip to Balasar, trip to Valinhos and Adjustrel, trip to the Irish Dominican Sisters' Convent. There are places available to fly from Cork Airport, and also from Dublin Airport. Limited places are available. For more information call Damien on 087 20 49 048