



Without faith we are blind to the ways of God.
With the light of faith we can see the path Jesus laid down for us so that we may follow him and enjoy the glory of the resurrection when our time comes.



The story of the gospel today deals with the two types of sight. A man who was blind from birth was cured and then his spiritual blindness was also cured. He began to see with the eye of faith.

The eye of faith lets us see beyond the externals to the goodness inside. It lets us see past our preconceptions. We can sometimes see further with new sight.

Jesus offers this. Most of his cures point to the spiritual. The eye of faith. When I look at a homeless person, what do I see? Do I see into the soul of the person who wants shelter and a home just like me? At the refugee who wants to be safe just like we want our loved ones to be? Can we see death as the door to new life, as Jesus sees it – dying, we will rise again! How does God see you? First – immensely loved and loveable; able to love others; able to share his mission of love and compassion in the world. The blind man saw Jesus as the son of God; can we see others as Jesus sees them?

Jesus will say later – blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe. We pray for a strong spiritual sight. This is good news. We are happier when our spiritual sight is strong as well. Seeing people and the world with the eyes of Jesus brings joy and freedom. It sees the goodness in everyone, the possibility of a better world, and faith in the living God.

Donal Neary SJ (Editor, Sacred Heart Messenger)

Jesus' Story Fr. Liam Hickey

People thought that a blind man was a sinner that God did not like. Jesus meets the blind man, touches his eyes, and tells him to wash in the holy well. He sees immediately. All people and all sorts are God's Friends. Jesus said that He is The Light of the world, come to bless us. When we light a candle we ask to see what God is like.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

GREETING

In the name of the Father Amen. The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Have mercy on us, O Lord. For we have sinned against you. Show us, O Lord, your mercy. And grant us your salvation. May almighty God have mercy on us.... Amen.

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

OPENING PRAYER

O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. Through our Lord Jesus Christ,

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 16: 1.6-7.10-13
A reading from the first book of Samuel

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him, 'but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 22

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures

where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. [R]

2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. [R]

3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. [R]

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. [R]

SECOND READING Ephesians 5: 8-14
A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!



GOSPEL John 9:1.6-9.13-17.34-38
(Shorter Form Only)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been

blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, He said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man. 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born! And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

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

We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. 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.....

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

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

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

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that we may always ponder what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity. Through Christ our Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Look upon those who call to you, O Lord, and sustain the weak; give life by your unfailing light to those who walk in the shadow of death, and bring those rescued by your mercy from every evil to reach the highest good. Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. May the blessing of almighty God, 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. Published by Leane Dublin: 26 Tully Valley Business Park, Rathfarnham Rd, Clonsilla, D14 WK38. Phone: 01 920 6751.

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



Visit us on
Facebook/New
Ross Parish

Volume 45 No. 11

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	Intention	Notes
Saturday 14th March	5.00pm	Joan Cashin, William Street	Anniversary
	7.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
Sunday 15th March FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT	8.00am	Benny McCabe, Clonroche	Birthday Remembrance
	10.00am	Nancy Martin, Ard Na Greine Daisy (Margaret) Doyle (nee Dignan), Knockmullen & M&J Restaurant, South Street	Remembrance 1st Anniversary
	Children's Sunday School in the Sacristy during 10.00am Mass		
Monday 16th March HAPPY St. Patrick's 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 st Saturday of the month the Novena to Our Lady of Fatima is held @ 9.15am.	
	10.00am	Clodagh Kehoe (nee Cleere), Brooklawn	5th Anniversary
Tuesday 17th March HAPPY St. Patrick's Day	8.00am	Sr. Ann O'Donoghue, Carmelites, New Ross John Ronan, Irishtown	1st Anniversary Anniversary
	10.00am	Mary Power & her son, Jack, Church Lane Matthew Jefford, Town Wall	Anniversary 7th Anniversary
	12.00 Noon	Marian Kielthy, Mount Carmel	21st Anniversary
Adoration takes place after 10.00am Mass until 8.00pm			
Wednesday 18th March	8.00am	Morning Prayer & Communion Service	
	10.00am	Intentions of the People of the Parish & Parish Mass Association. John & Sheila Moriarty, 'Pinehurst', Mountelliott	Remembrance Anniversaries
Thursday 19th March	8.00am	Michael & Johanna Cullen & their son; Michael, Wexford	Anniversaries
	10.00am	Johnny Mullett, Mount Carmel	2nd Anniversary
	3.00pm	Divine Mercy Holy Hour for Vocations & Religious Life in The Blessed Sacrament Chapel	
Friday 20th March	8.00am	Morning Prayer & Communion Service	
	10.00am	Tom & Claire O'Flynn, Hospital Road	Anniversaries
Saturday 21st March	7.00pm	Lenten Stations of the Cross	
	8.00am	Morning Prayer & Communion Service	
	5.00pm	Marcella & John Joe Meehan, Charleton Hill	Anniversaries
Sunday 22nd March FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT	7.00pm	Polish Community Mass	
	8.00am	Bea Walsh, Irishtown	5th Anniversary
	10.00am	Dixie & Biddy Brazil, Abbey View Lal Sinnott, Maiden Lane *Communion Preparation Mass	Anniversaries 4th Anniversary
Children's Sunday School in the Sacristy during 10.00am Mass			
	12.00 Noon	Lee (Laurence) Furlong, The Bullawn	Months Mind & Birthday Remembrance

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):
Clodagh Kehoe (nee Cleere), Brooklawn - Anniversary
Altar (Centre):
Matthew & Thomas Jefford, Town Wall - Anniversary
St. Joseph's (Right):
Joan Cashin, William Street - Remembrance
Blessed Sacrament Chapel:
Owne Furlong, Ballyrue Lower - Anniversary

Eucharistic Ministers

MARCH 2026

MINISTERS OF THE WORD:
5.00pm - Mary Rowe
10.00am - Georgina Fleming
12.00 Noon - Pat Wickham

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:
5.00pm - Rita Sinnott,
Anne Rochford & Liam Nolan
10.00am - Nan Furlong,
Kathleen & David Maher
12.00 Noon - Jagienka Borecka & Murray O'Brien

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

CATHOLIC SUNDAY school

Sunday's during 10:00am Mass

BOOK A PLACE FOR YOUR CHILD / GRANDCHILD
CALL THE PARISH OFFICE ON 051 421348

History Notes - Part 114:
LDf AND LSF STORIES (PART 1 OF 2) -
Activities of the LDF in New Ross during the Emergency Period (1939/1945) were not without their lighter moments:

- A scheme was set up to get word to the LDF in town in the event of an invasion of enemy on the Hook peninsula if normal communications were cut. A two-hour warning plan provided for the word sent in stages by cyclists, to be rushed to town at speed. The plan was tested with a mock invasion message being put into operation on a Monday morning. The message arrived in town on Wednesday afternoon.
- A retired British Army officer from near town was persuaded to train the new LDF recruits. An element in the large force of recruits who were of republican persuasion, objected to being ordered around by a British officer. The recruits paraded on the Quay and when the officer ordered 'Right turn', the ringleader of the republicans ordered 'Left turn'. The clash and confusion in the ranks had to be sorted out.

A mock invasion at Fethard was staged and Paddy Fleming was positioned in a tree near Burkestown with a make-believe machine gun consisting of a loud rattle to meet the invaders. Four invading cyclists in uniform passed and Paddy machine-gunned them vigorously, but they kept cycling. Paddy shouted at them that he had shot them but in typical army language they replied '**** off, we are a tank'

Courtesy of Jim Sutton

In Remembrance

RECENTLY DECEASED:
We remember & pray of the souls of -
Gene Davitt (nee Keane) New Ross & Perth, Australia,
Anne O'Sullivan (nee Doyle), Rosbercon,
Miriam Morley (nee Walsh), Midleton, Cork & New Ross,
Pat Malone, Bewley Street, New Ross & Athenry, Galway,
Fr. William Howell, former PP Gorey & Camolin,
D.D Sriyani Elizabeth, Sri Lanka,
John Culleton, Church Street,
who passed away recently.
May they rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:
We remember & pray for the souls of -
Martin Wickham, Pondfields,
John & Sheila Moriarty, 'Pinehurst' Mountelliott,
Clodagh Kehoe (nee Cleere), Brooklawn &
Mollie Tomkins (13th Anniversary), The Maudlins &
Martin & Nancy Mernagh, Harvey Place
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.

HAPPY Mother's DAY

Mother's Day Blessing

Almighty God, we ask Your blessing on each mother today. Fill their hearts with laughter and joy. Surround them with love from family and friends. Grant them health, peace, and fulfillment as they pursue their calling. Let them know their value and worth in Your eyes and ours. In Jesus' name, Amen.

HAPPY St. Patrick's DAY

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 15th March 2026: Fourth Sunday of Lent & Mothers Day. Fr. Odhran Furlong's Months Mind will take place @ 12.00 Noon in the Parish Church.

Monday 16th March 2026: Parish Office is Closed.

Tuesday 17th March 2026: St. Patrick's Day, Bank Holiday. Parish Office Closed. NO Vigil Mass. Masses @ 8.00am in Mount Carmel, 10.00am & 12.00 Noon in Parish Church.

Friday 20th March 2026: Stations of the Cross @ 7.00pm. Parish Office will close @ 12.30pm.

Sunday 22nd March 2026: Fifth Sunday of Lent.

Friday 27th March 2026: Stations of the Cross @ 7.00pm.

Rise & Shine Collection
14 & 15 MARCH

Rise & Shine brings local children and young people with additional needs on a week-long pilgrimage holiday to Lourdes each Easter.

All donations greatly appreciated!

New Ross St. Patrick's Day Parade will start at the later time of **2.30pm on Tuesday 17th March.**

All floats must be in the Irishtown, Corcoran's pub area for 1.30pm and all walking group must be at the Good Council College for 1.15pm, looking forward to seeing you all there!

NEW ROSS DRAMA FESTIVAL 2026:
This year's festival kicks off on March 18th, running for eight nights to March 27th. We have a great selection of new plays & new groups performing in St. Michael's Theatre over the eight nights. Box office is now open in St. Michael's (051) 421255 with Patrons tickets €60 or €15 nightly (students half price) or call into St. Michael's Theatre to confirm your booking.

OUR FUTURE CHURCH

We are fundraising for 'Our Future Church' to inspire faith and build hope in our parish communities. This will continue to train lay people for ministry and mission - to guide children and families as they prepare for Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation - to offer prayer services - and to support families and loved ones in times of illness and bereavement. There are envelopes for donations within the church and you can also give online at ferns.ie - Please join us in this vital mission to sustain parish life and build 'Our Future Church'. The main weekend for collection is the 21st and 22nd March 2026. Thank you.

Our Future Church

Marriage Enrichment Weekend

St. Mary's Retreat Centre, Knock
20-22 March 2026

Rediscover the joy of your love

- Heartfelt conversations
- Peaceful surroundings
- Time to reflect and grow together

Apply online at www.marriagecounter.ie
Limited places - book early!

Mass for deceased members and benefactors of the Ferns Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place on the 19th March @ 7pm in St Senan's Parish Church Enniscorthy.

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.

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