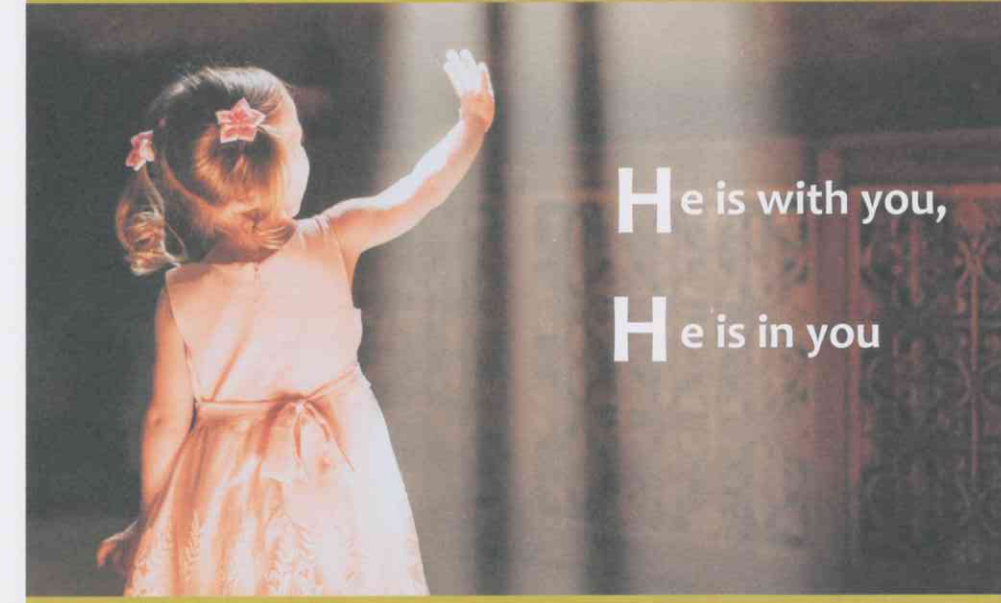


# focus on sunday

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 10th May 2026 Year A

Wherever the love and compassion of Jesus is present; there we find his Spirit. Wherever his people try to spread some justice and equality, we find his Spirit. In any work of reconciliation or of peace, his Spirit is present. We are called to be people who spread the work and the presence of his Spirit.



He is with you,  
He is in you



Today's Gospel gives us the greatest commandment of all: to love one another. While we have become accustomed to understanding this as one of the central tenets of Christianity, it is a very nuanced and complex love.

The dangers of revisionism present themselves when we speak of the new commandment versus the old commandment(s). With the risen Christ redeeming all creation since the dawn of time, we can understand the law of love as the fulfilment of prophecy and faithfulness to God through the journey of all God's people throughout salvation history. The love which Jesus calls us to is born out of the trials and sufferings of God's people as they worked to find a rightful place for God in their lives and in the particular cultures and societies of their times. And Jesus's promise to send his Spirit, the Paraclete, ensures the everlasting presence of this love.

This Gospel also distils the Temple theology of the Judaeo-Christian Scriptures. We are the tabernacles of God's love, a love intimately connected with truth. As we know from Pilate in the Gospels, truth is a nebulous commodity, particularly in our world today. What is our truth? How does our faith inform what we hold true? How do we love truth and, in doing so, also love those who do not believe our truth? The love John speaks of involves witness, reaching out to the margins, courage, and compassion. How do we embody this love as we live in our society today?

Dr Giovanna Feeley,  
DCU School of Theology, Philosophy, and Music

## Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey

Jesus tells that His Spirit will be with us, living in our hearts, enlightening our minds. Signs of The Spirit are everywhere, the breath we take, the sun that gives heat and light, the joy, colour, delight in Nature, smiles, friendship, helping hands, new ideas and inventions. Another name for Spirit is Love. May the love in our hearts grow as we follow the Way of Jesus.



## 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.  
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

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty ever-living God, who restore us to eternal life in the Resurrection of Christ, increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this paschal Sacrament and pour into our hearts the strength of this saving food.  
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.

Go in peace,  
Thanks be to God.



whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you. In a short time the world will no longer see me;

but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to 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

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord, together with the sacrificial offerings, so that, purified by your graciousness, we may be conformed to the mysteries of your mighty love. Through Christ our Lord,

the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

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

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 65: 1-7. 16.20

**R. Cry out with joy to God all the earth, or Alleluia!**

- Cry out with joy to God all the earth, O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise. Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds!' [R]
- 'Before you all the earth shall bow; shall sing to you, sing to your name!' Come and see the works of God, tremendous his deeds among men. [R]
- He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the river dry-shod. Let our joy then be in him; he rules forever by his might. [R]
- Come and hear, all who fear God. I will tell what he did for my soul. Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer nor withhold his love from me. [R]

## SECOND READING 1 Peter 3: 15 - 18

**A reading from the first letter of St Peter**  
Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.' Alleluia!

## GOSPEL John 14: 15-21

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

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

## GREETING

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

## 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

Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honour of the risen Lord, and that what we relive in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING Acts 8: 5 - 8. 14 - 17.

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.**

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for

# 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. 19**

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	Celebrant	Occasion
Saturday 9th May	5.00pm	Kathleen Daly (nee Murphy), Ballyrue Upper	1st Anniversary
Sunday 10th May 	8.00am	Martin Maddock, Hewittsland	5th Anniversary
	10.00am	Liam Bruen, Dundalk Willie Reeves, Mount Carmel	Anniversary 6th Anniversary
	12.00 Noon	Honor Kelly (nee McCallan), Dunbrody Heights	Months Mind
Monday 11th May 	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	Martin & Mary Guy, Ard Na Greine & deceased	Remembrance family members
Tuesday 12th May 	8.00am	Carmel Hunt, Pondfields	9th Anniversary
	10.00am	Mary & Francie Doyle, Priory Street	Birthday Remembrance
Adoration will place every Tuesday after Mass until 8.00pm			
Wednesday 13th May	8.00am	Morning Prayer & Communion Service	
	10.00am	People of the Parish & Parish Mass Association Tony & Mary Murphy, Mountgarrett & their granddaughter; Aoife	Remembrance Anniversaries
Thursday 14th May 	8.00am	All Irish Carmelites	Remembrance
	10.00am	William Marshal, founder of New Ross Town in 1207	807th Anniversary
	3.00pm	Divine Mercy Holy Hour for Vocations & Religious life in The Blessed Sacrament Chapel	
Friday 15th May 	8.00am	Diocese of Ferns Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2026. A Mass of Gathering for the Pilgrimage to Lourdes, will take place in St. Aidan's Cathedral, Enniscorthy. All are Welcome.	
	10.00am	Larry Lyons, Longstone Drive	16th Anniversary
Saturday 16th May	8.00am	Morning Prayer & Communion Service	
Sunday 17th May 	5.00pm	Larry Cash, Hewittsland	1st Anniversary
	8.00am	Special Intention	
	10.00am	Margaret & Tom Howlett, Camblin Derek Butler, Mount Carmel	Anniversaries 3rd Anniversary
Children's Sunday School in the Sacristy during 10.00am Mass			
World Communications Day	12.00 Noon	Goretta Crowdle, Irishtown	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 or a 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):**  
Sharon Eyre Maguire, Carlow - 1st Anniversary

**Altar (Centre):**  
Willie Reeves, Mount Carmel - Anniversary

**St. Joseph's (Right):**  
In Thanksgiving

**Blessed Sacrament Chapel:**  
Winnie & Jim Monaghan, Charleton Hill & London, UK - Anniversaries

**MAY 2026 MINISTERS OF THE WORD:**

5.00pm - Margaret Rossiter  
10.00am - Claire Nixon  
12.00 Noon - Aileen Dunne

**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:**

5.00pm - Marian Dalton, Mary Rowe & Fiona Cullen  
10.00am - Maureen Clarkin, Catherine O'Gara & Margaret Campion  
12.00 Noon - Roy Murphy & Murray O'Brien

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

**3-Day and 5-Day Residential Retreats July 2026:** Led by Fr. Prince Clarence SJ

3-Day Retreats: Faith Formation based on the teachings of the Catholic Church and Inner Healing Adoration. Dates: July 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> and July 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>

5-Day Ignatian Retreat: This is an opportunity to reflect on life in light of God's boundless love and to develop a deeper knowledge and understanding of Jesus. Dates: July 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>

Venue: De La Salle Retreat Centre, Castletown, Co. Laois, R32 N6D8. These retreats are strictly residential. Visit our website for more details: [www.ruachcatholicministry.org](http://www.ruachcatholicministry.org)  
Contact: Oonagh 086 1736181 or Phyllis 085 7733037

**History Notes - Part 123:**  
**THE NEW ROSS POOR LAW UNION**

The New Ross Poor Law Union was founded in 1840, and the Workhouse was built a year later. The site was a square ten acres in size; its boundary wall, tall and ivy covered but intact, still borders three sides of the site. Our town's two local hospitals, the District Hospital and The New Houghton Hospital now occupy these grounds. The old establishment gave the name Poor House Road to the roadway which ran past it from Three Bullet Gate, now known as Hospital Road. The Workhouse building followed the standard layout, with two main wings linked by a central corridor. The western block housed the administration offices and board room, with school rooms added later. The eastern section housed the main accommodation, both male and female, with the master's quarters. The dining hall and chapel were in the connecting corridor. During the famine period, sheds were erected to cater for the overflow, and a local building served as a temporary facility. A 72-bed fever hospital was built at the rear of the Workhouse with a linking pathway. This Fever Hospital served the southeast area until it was replaced by the present New Houghton Hospital which was built on its footprint. The New Ross Poor House was drawn into the conflicts of the Land Wars of the 1880/1890s and attracted national publicity. An old townsman I knew remembered Arthur Kavanagh of Borris House, born without arms or legs, passing on his horse to board meetings of the local Poor Law Union, accompanied by his groom. And my father as a boy delivered milk to the Union, as it was then known, from the family dairy in the Maudlins. **Courtesy of Jim Sutton**

**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)

The Diocese are holding our **Safeguarding Training Sessions** for all volunteers in our parishes once again this year as it has been 3 years since our last big sessions. These are aimed at all volunteers in the parishes. The NBSCCI policy states that this training is a **requirement** for all those who volunteer directly with children or vulnerable adults, for example, altar server supervisors (including sacristans), children's choir leaders, children's liturgy group leaders, mixed choir leaders, sacramental preparation facilitators (if parish based), youth group leaders (if parish based), eucharistic ministers who visit homes/nursing homes & home visitation team members. **Please tell these volunteers in your parish that it is mandatory for them to attend on Tuesday 16th June @ 7.00pm in St. Michaels Pastoral Centre Y34 N799.**

Other volunteers who do not work directly with children or vulnerable adults should also be encouraged to attend. The more people who are aware of safeguarding best practice in the Catholic Church, the safer place it is for our most vulnerable groups.

For those that have returned their **CHY's Tax Rebate Forms**, thank you. If you still have one please return to the Parish Office.

**Congratulations to all the children that received their Sacrament of Holy Communion last weekend. Thank you to the parents, teachers & sacramental program facilitators in their preparation.**

**PARKING** in undesignated areas within the Church Grounds is not acceptable, as this may cause a dangerous situation should an emergency occur. **PLEASE CO-OPERATE. Thank you.**

*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.*

**WILLIAM MARSHAL: 1147-1219.....Courtesy of Seamus Kiely**  
Founder of New Ross, The Hook Lighthouse and numerous important structures which are still standing today.  
William Marshal: - Politician, Baron, Magna Carta, Regent of the Realm, Earl of Pembroke, Knight Templar.  
He was the greatest Knight of the Medieval Period. William Marshal became a celebrated tournament champion, winning over 500 tournaments. William Marshal rose from obscurity to the highest position in the land. He was a real-life Lancelot - Brave, Chivalrous and a powerful character behind the Throne. In the Middle Ages it was a time of Kings and Queens and court nobility, brutal battles and barbarity. William Marshal befriended the great figures of the day, from King Henry II, Richard the Lionheart and the infamous King John. He also helped to negotiate the terms of the Magna Carta in June 1215 - The first Bill of Rights, which, within 10 weeks was rescinded by King John and Pope Innocent III.  
William Marshal re-introduced the Magna Carta with his own seal in 1217. It was Knights like William Marshal who stemmed the tide of Royal tyranny, ensuring that not one person is above the law and helped create the world we now live in. History records many posthumous tributes to William Marshal, all laudable.  
William Marshal died on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May 1219 aged 72 - 807 years ago.

Wexford Chamber Choir presents **Songs for Springtime** an uplifting concert of early, traditional, sacred and contemporary music. Fri 15 May, 7.30pm at St Senan's Church, Enniscorthy and Sun 17 May, 3.00pm at St Peter's College Chapel, Wexford Tickets €20.00 from or on the door.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**  
We remember & pray of the souls of - John Bradley, Knockavilla, Michael McNamara, Ballygunner, Waterford, New Ross & Cloonfad, Roscommon, Lina Macerniene, "Diva Nails & Beauty", South Street & Louise Hennessy (nee Muldowney, Southknock, who passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

**ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS:**  
We remember & pray for the souls of - Willie O'Farrell (10th Anniversary), New Ross, Sharon Maguire (nee Eyre) (1st Anniversary), Carlow, Imelda O'Rourke, Hewittsland, Rose & Robert Bennett, Pondfields, Nellie & Jimmy Brazil, Barrack Lane, Winnie & Jim Monaghan, Charleton Hill & London, UK, Teresa & Michael Walsh, Charleton Hill & their daughter; Kathleen Shelly, UK & Nancy Byrne, Cross 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.

Wexford Volunteer Centre is hosting a **Volunteer and Community Services Expo in Talbot Hotel on Thursday 21st May 2026 from 1pm until 8pm.** This event will be FREE and open to the general public and schools to attend. Come learn about community organisations, local charity groups and activities. Sign up to open volunteer positions and get involved with all across county Wexford, or simply just see what is happening in your local area. Limited (FREE) stands are available at this event where you can showcase your charity, community organisation or services. Contact [info@volunteerwexford.ie](mailto:info@volunteerwexford.ie) or 053 900 6639 to apply.

There will be a one day coach trip to Knock Shrine on Sunday July 5th for the Ferns Diocesan Day Pick-up Points: Wellingtonbridge, Campile & New Ross. Fare € 88 including two meals contact details Nicholas Bowe phone 087 9418661.

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