

# DECEMBER 2018

## NEW ROSS, FETHARD-ON-SEA UNION

**Minister-in-Charge:** Rev'd Ivan Dungan

**Parish Office:** 051-422281/ 086-3681485

**Reader Emerita:** Mrs Joan Deacon

**Website:** [www.newross.ferns.anglican.org](http://www.newross.ferns.anglican.org)

**Safeguarding Trust Panel:** We are a parish union committed to upholding good practice in our ministry with children and young people. Our panel, in the event of any concern, is made up of

Ms. Olive Power 087- 907 6671

Ms. Suzanne Barrett 087- 228 7535

Rev'd Ivan Dungan (DLP) 086-368 1485

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### DIARY for DECEMBER 2018

Raffle in aid of St. Mary's Church, New Ross will take place in the Church on Wednesday December 5<sup>th</sup> @ 8.00pm. All are welcome.

The annual Carol Service of St. Mary's Church takes place on Sunday December 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7.30pm. There will not be any service in the morning that day, please note. The Carol Service will feature new Ross Confraternity Brass, New Ross Singers and friends Tony Asple and Martin Ryan. Please come along and support it and, this year, bring a friend. Refreshments served.

The Carol Service in St. Mogue's Church Fethard will be on Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup> @ 8.00pm. it will feature Poulfur National School children's choir and orchestra and there will be carols by Eddie Doyle and Hazel Cloney-Doyle. Refreshments in the village community hall after the service.

**Christmas services in our Union of parishes are as follows:-**

**Christmas Eve:** Whitechurch @ 9.00pm

**Christmas Day:** Fethard @ 9.00am and New Ross @ 11.00am

December 30<sup>th</sup> is a fifth Sunday of the month and the only services that day will be Killesk (Duncannon) @ 9.30am Christmas Carols with Readings from Scripture and Old Ross @ 11.00am also Christmas Carols and Readings from Scripture.

**The Union of Parishes of new Ross and Fethard-on-Sea wishes all our readers and visitors to this site a very Happy Advent, Christmas and a blessed New Year!**

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## Advent 2018

"It just comes around so quickly." I don't know how often I have heard this sentence over the years, and I suppose the older I get, the quicker this time of year comes around. Yes, it's Advent, those four weeks before Christmas, when we concentrate our minds (and hearts) on the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time.

We're in such a 'dizzy' time in our society right now, when adherence to organised religion is very much on the wane, and unfortunately, so is belief in God, that people will tell you they are not sure any more about faith and belief in Jesus Christ, especially true here in the Western world.

But it doesn't really matter though what society thinks, after all, society changes its mindset every generation, because the once-for-all faith of the church (not necessarily the organised one) still stands. **Jesus Christ died for the sins of the world, he rose again on the third day and he will return again on the Last Day for his faithful brethren.**

This is the truth and this will come to pass, because Jesus Christ is God's answer to the world since the Fall of Man and there is no other answer. He will come on that Day of Days looking for those from the living and the dead who repented of their sin and believed in his holy Gospel of life.

Over and over again in the Gospels and in Paul's letters, we hear the reminder to stay awake and not be deceived. Even in the passage in Luke 21 for the first Sunday of Advent, Jesus himself warns, in verse 34-36, *"But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day will come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."* (English Standard Version)

Shouldn't we take Jesus' warning to heart? Repent therefore and believe, lest you perish!

Ivan Dungan,

Minister