



# Gerns Parish Newsletter



Vol. 16. No. 1

29th & 30th August 2020

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

## **The Deep End • Self-giving love**

I remember reading, during the early weeks of the coronavirus pandemic, an account of a 'day in the life' of an Irish healthcare worker. She described the precautions she had to take while attending to patients in hospital, the protective equipment she had to wear, and the strain of working in such a challenging environment. She talked about coming home from work to her family after each shift; how she had to immediately shower and change, stay apart from her husband and children so as not to put them at risk, and then go to sleep in a separate room. These extraordinary levels of self sacrifice have rightly come to be more appreciated in recent months. Doctors, nurses and other frontline workers have been going beyond the call of duty to take care of their patients, open sacrificing their own family life, health and safety in the process. They have had to put their own fears and anxieties aside in order to help others, and are rightly described as heroes; they remind us every day of the incredible ways in which people can make sacrifices for others, out of a sense of compassion, justice and love. In today's gospel, Jesus tells his followers that they must take up their cross. When he tells them that he is going to suffer and be put to death, they naturally react with shock. It seems like a strange path to choose. But he is not doing it simply to make life difficult for himself. His sacrifice stems from his passionate and compassionate love. We too are capable of making extraordinary sacrifices out of love. Those frontline workers who carry on in the most difficult

## **Reflection for weekend 29th Aug & 30th Aug 2020**

In 1994 golfer Davis Love III called a one-stroke penalty on himself during the second round of the Western Open. He moved his marker to get it out of another player's putting line and later gave himself an extra stroke, and that one stroke caused him to miss the cut. He was eliminated from the tournament, (ironically, if he'd made the cut, even if he finished last he'd have earned 2,000 dollars that week) At year's end Love was 590 dollars short in winnings to automatically qualify for the Masters and needed to win a tournament in order to into one of the golf's most coveted events. Fortunately, the story ends well. The week before the big event he qualified by winning a tournament in New Orleans, and went on to earn 237,600 dollars by finishing second in the 1995 Masters. Later when Love was asked how he'd have felt if he'd missed the Masters because of calling a penalty on himself, he replied, 'The real question is how I'd have felt if I'd won and spent the rest of my life wondering if I'd cheated.' It's easier to maintain your integrity than to try and recover it. Paul instructed Timothy: 'In everything set...an example by doing what is good...show integrity...and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say' (Titus 2: 7-8) It

## ***Mass Time & Intentions***

### ***This Weekend***

**29th & 30th August 2020**

#### **FERNS CHURCH**

**6.30pm:** Peter & Sadie Nolan, Enniscorthy & formally Tinnashrule.

**8.30am:** Michael & Mary Nolan, Station Road

**11.00am:** Eileen Killeen, Coolbawn &

Eddie Gethings, Effernogue & Thomas & Catherine Gethings & deceased family members of The Gethings Family & Patrick & Sarah Nolan & deceased family members.

#### **BALLYDUFF CHURCH**

**7.30pm:** Aidan & Kitty Anne Doyle, Kilbride,

The Ballagh & Tommy Cashe &

Breda Curran, Blackwater &

Doris Stephenson, Ballybeg.

**9.30am:**

#### **CLOLOGUE CHURCH**

**SUNDAY**

**10.15am:**

## ***Mass Time & Intentions***

### ***Next Weekend***

**5th & 6th September 2020**

#### **FERNS CHURCH**

**6.30pm:** Patrick Kehoe, Castlemanor

**8.30am:**

**11.00am:** .

#### **BALLYDUFF CHURCH**

**7.30pm:**

**9.30am:**

#### **.CLOLOGUE CHURCH**

**SUNDAY**

**10.15am:** Fergus Whelan, Jasmine, Forties

## **THE PRIEST ON DUTY**

**Rev. Ricky O'Connor C.C.**

**085 7662706**

## **Convent Chapel**

The Convent Chapel is open each day from 8.00a.m.-10.00p.m. for Adoration. Mass each morning will be at 9.00a.m.

**5th & 6th September 2020**

### **Ministers of the Word**

**6.30pm:** Mary O'Brien

**8.30am:** Richard Cotter

**11.00am:** Angela Swaine

### **Ministers of Holy Communion**

**6.30pm:** Maire Bernie & Mary Fortune

**8.30am:** Eileen Brickley & Sr. Cecelia

**11.00am:** Mary Sinnott & Tommy Davitt



## ***BAPTISMS***

We welcome into our  
community of faith

***Lana Grace & Ella Sophia***

***Redmond***

## **Ferns GAA Lotto**

Lotto Draw: Tues 25th August 2020

Jackpot Numbers: 10, 28, 30, 32

Winner: No Winner

### **Ferns Lucky Dips**

1. Bernie Walker 2. TJ Cleere

3. Nicole Guinan 4. M. Nolan

**Next Draw:** Tues 8th September 2020

**Jackpot:** € 8,400

Location: Ferns GAA Club Grounds  
10pm

Tickets can be bought from sellers or  
local retailers. To play online use the link

## **Envelope Distributors**

Harvest Dues Envelopes are now ready  
for collection either in the Sacristy or  
Parish Office. Thank you all for your

## **First Friday Calls**

Fr Cushen will attend the sick on Friday  
4th September with Holy Communion.

## **Volunteers Needed**

For Vincent's, Buncloody. For more  
information please contact Zoe at  
vincents.buncloody@svp.ie or on

## A PRAYER IN THE TIME OF THE CORONAVIRUS

By Fr. Brian Grogan S.J.

Dear God, in 1879 the Apparition at Knock gave hope and courage to the people of Ireland in difficult times. We ask that Our Lady may now protect your beloved people from the Corona Virus.

May its victims be strengthened by the spiritual support of the Christian community and restored soon to full health.

We also pray for the medical personnel who deal with the virus.

This we ask in confidence through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

*Our Lady of Knock, pray for us.*

*St. Joseph, pray for us.*

*St. John the Evangelist, pray for us.*

*St. Patrick, pray for us.*

*St. Brigid, pray for us.*

### Raffle in Aid of Ballyduff Church

A raffle will take place for 2 beautiful Denby Dinner Services with the proceeds going towards the upkeep of Ballyduff Church. Tickets are available in Daybreak shop in Ferns, Cois na hAbhann in Camolin and the Parish Office in Ferns. Tickets are €2 each or 3

### Eir Code Address!!

Do you know your Eircode address? If in the event of emergency this is **most important.** Look it up and place it beside your phone or a prominent place in your home. As we have a new curate it would be most helpful to Fr. Ricky if he is called in an emergency to know the exact position of the house in question.

## Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel Matthew 16:21-27

1. Short-term loss is sometimes necessary for long-term gain, as a student studying, or an athlete training, can testify. When have you found that denying yourself proved to be worthwhile because of what you gained afterwards?
2. Jesus was teaching his followers that the path of discipleship would involve pain and suffering. Peter would have none of it. When have you found that taking up your cross brought you life, even though at the time it may have been difficult?
3. Jesus knew that because his message of good news was not acceptable to the authorities he would suffer and die. In spite of this, he trusted that the power of God would overcome evil. Have you seen a message of good news survive even though opponents tried to stifle it?
4. Jesus promised that those who suffer for the kingdom would be rewarded. Perhaps,

### Rosary

With the return of a more imminent threat from the Corona Virus we ask you to please, please increase your efforts in prayer for God's protection. In the past the Rosary was the constant support for our people. Please make an effort to offer the rosary or decade for our

### First Communion.

**Ferns 19th Sept. at 11.00a.m.**

**Ballyduff 26th Sept. 11.00am**

**Tombrack 26th Sept. 1.00pm**

### Back in School

It is great to have our schools open again and please God all will be safe and well for all the pupils, teachers and parents. Great preparations have taken place to facilitate the safety of all involved for which we are most grateful to our teachers and school staff.

Hopefully, all will cooperate with the guidelines to help keep everyone safe.



### **Sunday Envelope Collection**

The amount received for

**Ferns Church €547.50**

**Ballyduff Church €105.90**

If you wish, you may use **365 Banking** and transfer your contribution periodically to the parish account, please put your Sunday Envelope number on your donation or your name.

**Ferns Church No. 1 A/ C.**

**BIC: BOFII E2D**

**IBAN: IE16 BOFI 9065 6678 0456 47**

**Ballyduff Church**

**BIC: BOFII E2D**

**IBAN: IE32 BOFI 9066 0382 1179 14**

**Clogogue Church**

**BIC: BOFII E2D**

**IBAN: IE85 BOFI 9065 8260 5960 10**

### **Faith Matters**

As people can't meet in prayer groups other than Mass, for a number of weeks coming Sr. Stephanie will lead us in a Prayer experience on Monday nights

### **Ferns Confirmation**

Unfortunately, last weekend due to the scare of the Corona Virus it was decided as the most prudent step to postpone the celebration of the sacrament. Many parents had notified that school that they did not wish to put their children in danger last Saturday. Please God, all will go well in our schools and a date will soon be set. We are most appreciative of all who took a positive approach to the decision. Care of

### **ST. AIDAN'S PARISH INFORMATION**

**Very Rev Paddy Cushen. P.P.** Tel: 053-9366152 / Mobile: 087 2387559.

E-mail: frpaddycushen@gmail.com **Eir Code: Y21 N9 W7**

**Rev Ricky O'Connor. C.C.** Tel: 085 7662706

E-mail: revrickyferns@outlook.com **Eircode: Y21 K1 C0**

**Parish Office:** Tel: 053-9366514. E-mail: fernsparish@gmail.com **Eir Code: Y21 X5 W9**

**Weekend Mass Times:** Vigil Mass, Saturday 6.30pm Sunday 8.30am & 11.00am

Weekday Mass Times: Monday to Saturday day 9.30am.

**Convent:** (Wednesday 7.00pm- not at present due to Covid 19)

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament daily from 8.00a.m. - 10.00p.m.** (www.fernsadoration.com)

**Confessions:** Every Saturday after 9.30am Mass & First Thursday after 9.30am Mass and on request.

### **ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH, BALLYDUFF**

**Weekend Mass Times:** Vigil Mass, Saturday 7.30pm Sunday 9.30am **Eircode: Y21 FD 73**

### **ST. BRIDGET'S CHURCH, CLOLOGUE**

**Weekend Mass Time:** Sunday 10.15am

Weekday: Tuesday 9.30a.m. **Eir Code: Y21 CD 96**

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**Reconciliation Services:** Lent and Advent. **Baptism:** By appointment.

**Marriage:** At least three months notice must be given.

**Ferns St. Vincent de Paul:** Tel: 086 7219303

**Safeguarding Officers:** Denis Kinsella 087 2465720, Bernidina Roche 086 0786100

Ballyduff: Alan Byrne 086 8135149. Clogogue: Mary Skelton 087 6984703

### **St. Aidan's Church, Ferns**

Has a live Webcam Streaming for all Masses. The camera is focused on the Altar & Sanctuary. You can watch Mass & Services live from St. Aidan's Church by going to YouTube and searching for Ferns Church or on Facebook at Ferns Church Live