



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received for
Ferns Church €815.10

Ballyduff Church €111.00

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

Cloogue 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 8.30p.m. - 9.00p.m. on South East Radio. If you can please tune in.

Season of Creation

The month of September and until the feast of St. Francis has been dedicated by Pope Francis as 'Season of Creation'. In 2015 Pope Francis produced his Encyclical on creation which is a master piece, called 'Laudato Si' on Care for our Common Home. Some copies of this are available in the Parish Office. Each day let us be conscious of God's goodness in our world. We are blessed with Water, Food, Fresh Air, Beauty, etc.

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) (Now Mon-Fri 9.00a.m.)

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, CLOOGUE

Weekend Mass Time: Sunday 10.15am

Eir Code: Y21 CD 96

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. Cloogue: 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

Parish Website: www.FernsParish.ie



Ferns Parish Newsletter



Vol. 16. No. 4

19th & 20th September 2020

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Deep End....Unequal opportunities

Jesus does not see things as we do. Time and time again in his parables, he turns our expectations upside down and helps us to see things in a different light.

Today, he tells the story of the landowner who pays the same wages to all his workers – those who were hired at the crack of dawn and those who only joined late in the day. Naturally, the 'early birds' are put out by this – they feel it is unjust, even though they received the wage they were promised.

Maybe we sympathise with the complainers. In our individualistic society, we can fall into the trap of thinking that only certain people deserve good things. Those who work hard, who are law-abiding, who make the most of opportunities – they deserve a decent standard of living. Think of how often we hear people complaining about those who are struggling, saying they do not deserve assistance or 'handouts'? Such criticisms fail to take into account that not everyone has the same opportunities or privileges in life.

But in this parable of Jesus, the landowner treats everyone the same, regardless of their productivity. He recognises that not all of them had the same opportunity – some were just luckier than others, in the right place at the right time. God is just and generous, and he expects us to have the same respect for everyone, regardless of their position in life.

Sadly we do not live in an equal world where everyone's dignity is respected and everyone has equal opportunities. In this Season of Creation, we are mindful in particular of the world's poor who suffer most as a result of environmental destruction – damage that is often caused by the comfortable lifestyles of others.

'Enlighten those who possess power and money, that they may avoid the sin of indifference, that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live. The poor and the earth are crying out.' (Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*)

Reflection for weekend 19th & 20th September 2020

During the Season of Creation, the Christian family is united in a liturgical time of prayer and action to care for creation.

(Dr. Chad Rimmer, Program Executive in the LWF Department for Theology, Mission and Justice)

We have learned many lessons during the COVID-19 pandemic. Perhaps the most universal experience has been related to social distancing. We have seen how prolonged distancing from human beings can diminish our emotional well-being and create acute crises in mental health.

But what about our physical distance from non-human creation? Physical distancing from the non-human members of the Earth community also diminishes our physical and mental well-being, and is the root of all sorts of economic, political, social and ecological disintegration. Human beings have been socially distancing from the non-human members of society for far too long. Do we still conceive of non-human creation as part of our society? Are not the animals, plants, rivers and mountains our neighbours? Are we not freed from economic gain and consumption to love these non-human neighbours as ourselves? More ways to help our common home: **a)** turn off your engine if it's sitting idle for more than 10 seconds. **b)** Pick up litter when you see it, and **c)** save unused water for plants **d)** recycle where possible **e)** use various recycle centres regularly.

**Mass Time & Intentions
This Weekend**

19th & 20th September 2020

FERNS CHURCH

6.30pm: Thomas & Kathleen Fortune
Ballyandrew & deceased family members.
&

Miley Tyrell, Coolbawn

8.30am: Christina Murphy, Tincurry

11.00am: Molly Conroy nee O'Brien, formally
of Ferns & Newbridge, Kildare

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Jack & Mary Murphy, Ballyandrew &
their son Tim

9.30am: Kitty Murphy, Kilbora

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

SUNDAY

10.15am:

**Mass Time & Intentions
Next Weekend**

26th & 27th September 2020

FERNS CHURCH

6.30pm: Jimmy Dunbar, Coolbawn
&

John Roche, Tombrack & deceased family
members & Bab & Paddy Murphy, Tombrack

8.30am:

11.00am: Mary Nolan, Tombrack
&

Martin Murphy, Ballylough

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Tom Conroy, Coolnaleen

9.30am:

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

SUNDAY

10.15am:

Convent Chapel

The Convent Chapel is open each day
from 8.00a.m.-10.00p.m. for
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.
Mass each morning will be at 9.00a.m.
Monday to Friday inclusive.

26th & 27th September 2020

Ministers of the Word

6.30pm: Brendan Kenny

8.30am: Denis Kinsella

11.00am: Josephine Murphy

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.30pm: Margaret Maguire & Michael Bernie

8.30am: Eileen Brickley & Sr. Cecelia

11.00am: Ann Swaine & Eleanor Hawkins



BAPTISMS

We welcome into our
community of faith
*Nastia Mirska &
Andy Joseph Connors*
who was baptised recently.

Parish Website

www.fernsparish.ie

The parish has a website with lots of
information on our Parish, its Churches
and Services. The weekly Parish News-
letter will be available on it every week-
end. This new adventure will be most
beneficial to parishioners, people away
from home in other countries and people
wishing to find out information on our
parish. We are most grateful to Enda Fur-
long who designed and put it up on line.
If you have any ideas contact the Office.

**Sacraments of Communion
and Confirmation**

First Communion.

Ballyduff 26th Sept. 11.00am

Tombrack 26th Sept. 1.00pm

The sacrament of Confirmation will be
administered in St. Aidan's Church Ferns
on Saturday 3rd October. Unfortunately it
had to be deferred twice already, please
God all will go smoothly this time.
This year's Sixth Class at 10.30a.m.
Last year's Sixth Class at 2.00 p.m.

THE PRIEST ON DUTY

V. Rev. Patrick Cushen P.P.

053 93 66152/087 238 7559

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 Ca-
molin and the Parish Office in Ferns. Tick-
ets are €2 each or 3 for €5.

**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 peo-
ple 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 spir-
itual 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.

St. Aidan, Pray for us.

St. Corona, pray for us. Amen.

**Congratulations First Communicants
Scoil Naomh Maodhóg, Fearna**

At long last we had a beautiful celebra-
tion of First Holy Communion on Satur-
day. All thirty three children we beauti-
fully presented by their parents for this
wonderful event, the reception of Jesus
sacramentally for the first time. Our dear
wish and that of Jesus is that they will
return regularly to Mass with their fami-
lies and receive Jesus to help them in life.
With Jesus at the centre of our lives we
will never stray. We need him always.
We offer the children our congratulations
on this great milestone in their life of
faith. May God bless them always.

We say very well done to their teachers
and school principal for the great prepa-
ration they made for this beautiful cele-
bration, especially their class teachers
Mrs. O'Grady and Mrs. Quinn.

**Novena To Saint Pio
Feast Day 23rd September**

*To obtain graces through the intercession
of Saint Pio*

Almighty God, you gave the Capuchin
Priest, Saint Pio of Pietrelcina the
immense privilege of sharing in a unique
way, the Passion of your Son.

Grant me through his intercession the
graces that I ardently desire,
And above all at the hour of my death
grant me the grace of being reconciled to
the will of Jesus and united with him in
the glory of his resurrection. Amen.

Due to Covid 19 we will not be able to
have our annual celebration of the feast
of St. Pio. We ask all in your prayers to
pray the Novena prayer and maybe attend
morning Mass on 23rd September his
feast day.

Let us ask the intercession of St. Pio to
help us in our struggle with Covid 19.

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
protection. 'Ask and you shall receive.'

Meals on Wheels

This service is available Mon, Wed. &
Fri. for those in need of a daily hot meal
at €5.00 each, great value for the elderly
in need. Volunteer Drivers are badly
needed for this most caring service. If
you can help please contact the parish
office. The run will take an hour. Thank
you to those who responded to our appeal
to avail of the dinners or to deliver them.

Mass Bookings 2021

We now have the 2021 diaries in the
office. Please ring 053 9366514 to book
or drop into the Parish Office.