



# Gerns Parish Newsletter



Vol. 16. No. 2

5th & 6th September 2020

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

## **The Deep End.....Our common home**

Today we mark the first Sunday of the Season of Creation 2020, which runs from 1 September to 4 October. This special season in the church calendar celebrates the joy of creation, while encouraging awareness of initiatives to protect the natural environment.

We are reminded during this time of our duty to care for what Pope Francis calls 'our common home'. When we hear the word 'home', we tend to think of the immediate place where we live and the people we share it with – our house or living space and our immediate family, neighbours and community. Each of us lives within a particular web of relationships that we call home. But we must be conscious too that we live in a wider relationship with the earth and with all of creation. We all live in a common home, and we all must care for it, and for each other.

Our gospel today sees Jesus offer some advice about living in community. He first acknowledges that communities are far from perfect. We all struggle with our relationships and duties. But he makes one thing clear: in a community, we all have a responsibility to each other and to work to build harmony.

This responsibility extends beyond our immediate environment to our world. In this Season of Creation, we remember in particular those across the world who are suffering as a result of environmental damage. The way we live on this earth has consequences for the world and its people, and indeed for future generations. Over the next few weeks, let us consider how we might make some changes that reflect our care for others and for our common home.

## **Reflection for weekend 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

### ***"they ....went through the towns, preaching" Luke: 9***

One night a man walking to church saw four boys hanging out on a street corner, so he invited them to go with him. They did, and they went back again the following Sunday. Actually, these four boys became the nucleus of the Sunday school class he began to teach. Years later his friends decided to contact the four boys, see what had happened to them, and invite them to write a special birthday letter to be read at a surprise party for their old teacher. Their letters were real eye-openers. One boy had become a missionary in China, one was president of the US Federal Reserve Bank, one was the private secretary to President Herbert Hoover, and the fourth was President Hoover himself. Sometimes your small encounters are God-encounters that take place when you're busy with other things or on your way to somewhere else. If you're not prepared you'll miss a real blessing, a chance to grow and an opportunity to put God's interest ahead of your own. Jesus left the comfort of Heaven to walk the road of human need. He didn't set up a throne in each town and say, 'This is My place, if you want to see Me come here'. No, He went to the marketplace. He went to the boats of fishermen. He went to the homes of ordinary people. Jesus went through the towns preaching the Gospel. What seems like a small encounter may be a

## **Mass Time & Intentions**

### ***This Weekend***

**5th & 6th September 2020**

**FERNS CHURCH**

**6.30pm:** Patrick Kehoe, Castle manor

**8.30am:**

**11.00am:**

**BALLYDUFF CHURCH**

**7.30pm:**

**9.30am:**

**CLOLOGUE CHURCH**

**SUNDAY**

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

## **Mass Time & Intentions**

### ***Next Weekend***

**12th & 13th September 2020**

**FERNS CHURCH**

**6.30pm:** Mary (Molly) Murtagh & her husband Steven, her sister Philomena, her father & mother Thomas & Ellen Murphy, formally of Coolbawn.

**8.30am:**

**11.00am:**

**BALLYDUFF CHURCH**

**7.30pm:**

**9.30am:**

**CLOLOGUE CHURCH**

**SUNDAY**

**10.15am:**

## **THE PRIEST ON DUTY**

**V. Rev. Patrick Cushen P.P.**

**053 93 66152/087 238 7559**

## **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.

## **Volunteers Needed**

For Vincent's, Bunclody. For more information please contact Zoe at [vincents.bunclody@svp.ie](mailto:vincents.bunclody@svp.ie) or on

**12th & 13th September 2020**

**Ministers of the Word**

**6.30pm:** Ena Gray

**8.30am:** Dermot O'Brien

**11.00am:** Eleanor Hawkins

**Ministers of Holy Communion**

**6.30pm:** Ann Bernie & Brid Breen

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

**11.00am:** Ann Swaine & Michael Breen



## **BAPTISMS**

We welcome into our community of faith

**Ben Anthony Murphy &**

## **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 ferns-

## **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. If we have 12 it would mean once monthly. We

## **Ballyduff Cleaners September**

Cleaners this month of Monasootha.

## **First Communion.**

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

**Ballyduff 26th Sept. 11.00am**

**Tombrack 26th Sept. 1.00pm**

## 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

## Booking weekend Mass intentions

If you are booking Mass intentions please call to the parish office and collect an envelope for your donation to the celebrant. At times, unfortunately, when the Mass is celebrated the celebrant is forgotten. We are most grateful for the faith,

## 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 the house in question.

***Please know it, it is so important.***

## 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

## Novena To Saint Pio

### Begins on September 14th

*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 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

## Our Schools

Thankfully, since the beginning of the new school year, all is going very well and the guidelines prepared by the schools are been greatly adhered to, which helps the safety of all concerned. The children feel well settled down and safe under the new conditions. For this success to continue, we ask you, in your prayers to remember all involved in our schools, children, teachers, parents, grandparents, etc. Unfortunately, we will not be able to have our New School Year Mass as in former years but we continue to ask God's blessing on all involved in our schools and the safety of all concerned. Parents please encourage your



### **Sunday Envelope Collection**

The amount received for  
**Ferns Church €586.20**

**Ballyduff Church €44.00**

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**

**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**

Please God, all will go well in our schools and the sacraments of First Communion will take place as planned and Confirmation will be able to take place shortly afterwards. Safety of our children is paramount and when all is safe we can celebrate these great events in the faith life of the children. Please prepare through prayer and knowledge of these great sacraments. Parents, we ask you to please encourage your chil-

### **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: revrickyfern@soutlook.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.fernسادoration.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, CLOGOGUE**

**Weekend Mass Time:** Sunday 10.15am

Weekday: Tuesday 9.30a.m. **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. 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