



# Gerns Parish Newsletter



Vol. 16. No. 9

24th & 25th October 2020

30th Sunday in Ordinary

## Love

The Pharisees continue their harassment of Jesus in today's Gospel by asking him which commandment is the greatest. What follows is the most famous verses of the New Testament: '*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul ... And ... You shall love your neighbour as yourself.*' We probably can't hear this enough. Love is the greatest commandment and this is a radical statement. Because this love is *agape* love, i.e. a love of those we don't even know or even like! It is a love that binds all of humanity.

We cannot separate love of God and neighbour; they are like two sides of a coin; they only work together. If we do not treat others with compassion, then how can we say we love God? Jesus often spoke about approaching the altar whilst holding a grudge against someone (Mt 5:24) and continuously challenged those who were hypocrites. Those critical of social justice movements in the church often say we should not be involved in doing 'social work'. But this is exactly what we must do because this is *how* we love God, by loving our neighbour who is suffering, who is oppressed, who is in pain. We can love God and love people, there does not have to be a dichotomy.

There is a beautiful practice in India of using the mystical phrase '*Namaste*' in greetings, which means: 'the Divine in me greets the Divine in you'. Usually this is accompanied by a deep bow towards the person. How wonderful it would be to really see God present in each other and, more importantly, in those that society would rather cast aside. In this way we are being true to the greatest commandment.

## Reflection for weekend 24th & 25<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020

*Cast your burdens upon the Lord (Psalm 55:22)*

A hiker with two heavy holdalls was walking down a road in 90 degree heat. A truck driver stopped and told him to hop on. Later when the driver looked in his rear view mirror, the hiker was standing in the truck still holding his bags. As Jon Walker points out many of us 'stand in the truck of faith carrying our burdens, thinking they're independent of the lift we're taking'. We think God can carry us but not our burdens... Yet the Psalmist says "Cast your burden on the Lord, and he shall sustain you." Rest in His power and grace... confident He's looking out for your best interests. Rest requires dependence, and one sign that you're not resting in God is worry....the need to control. Next time you feel overwhelmed settle into a chair, "Be still and know that He is God" (Psalm 46:10)

## **Mass Time & Intentions**

### ***This Weekend***

**24th & 25th October 2020**

#### **FERNS CHURCH**

**6.30pm** John Dwyer, 'Rockville' & Mary Errity,  
Pairc Mhuire.

Jack, May & Gerard Lacey, The Dell,  
Ballycarney

Liam Nolan, William & Mary Carton,  
Tomnalossett.

Thomas Kavanagh, Ballybeg

**8.30am:** Martha & Joseph Killeen, Ferns.

**11.00am:** Bridget & Martin Murphy,  
Ballylough their daughter Statia Meion & their  
son Martin Murphy.

Patrick & Mary Dwyer & their son Tony & his  
wife Nancy.

Col Bob Rayburn, Ferns.

John & Eileen Roche, Cloogue

Catherine Burke, Bolacreean

#### **BALLYDUFF CHURCH**

**7.30pm:** ~~~

**9.30am:** ~~~

#### **CLOOGUE CHURCH**

##### **SUNDAY**

**10.15am:** ~~~

## **Mass Time & Intentions**

### ***Next Weekend***

**31st Oct & 1st Nov 2020**

#### **FERNS CHURCH**

**6.30pm:** Elizabeth Mackey, Station Road  
Edward Cooney, Corah Ferns

James & Cathy Byrne, Monasootha

**8.30am** Martin & Bridget O'Neill & their sons  
Tomas, Brendan & Ciaran, Tombrack  
Mary & Lil Bolger & Mary & Jim Doyle  
Bolachoir & deceased family members.

**11.00am** James (Jim) Dunbar, Cloogue &  
Ferns

Pat Somers, Bunclody

### **Summary of Bishop Brennan's Pastoral Letter**

A summary of Bishop Brennan's Pastoral  
letter is included as an insert in today's  
newsletter.

### **New Encyclical of Pope Francis**

The third encyclical of Pope Francis was prom-  
ulgated on 4th October, the feast of St. Francis  
of Assisi called "***Fratelli Tutti***" on human frater-  
nity and social friendship in  
particular that love, which is at the heart of  
the Gospel – reaches out to all of our  
'brothers and sisters' who share our  
common humanity, especially the  
vulnerable, deprived and needy.

**Now in the Parish Office €5.00**

***A great encyclical well worth getting.***

### **Baptisms**

Baptisms suspended during  
lockdown. If urgent only six (6) can at-  
tend.

### **Church Opening**

Daily for private prayer. No public Mass,  
only live streamed at normal times

### **Rosary & Benediction**

Mon. to Fri. Ferns Church at 7.00p.m.

### **Convent Chapel**

The Convent Chapel will remain open  
each day from 8.00a.m.-10.00p.m. for

### **Envelope Distributors**

Pious List Envelopes are now ready for col-  
lection either in the Sacristy or  
Parish Office. Thank you for all your help, it  
is much appreciated.

Envelopes can be collected in the Parish Of-  
fice on Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

### **THE PRIEST ON DUTY**

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

085 7662706

### **Mission Envelope Appeal**

I am delighted to say that from a small number of Mission Envelopes returned from the Ferns area of the parish we have **€660.00**. Please if possible help and support this most worthy cause in these pandemic times. Your generosity will make a huge difference to all working on the missions and the spread of the gospel message in faith and care of the most vulnerable in our world. We are Missionary, let us respond fraternally.

You could text **MISSION** to **503000** to donate **€4.00** (€3.60 will go to the missions.)

When our churches reopen for Mass we will have an opportunity to contribute to a collection in the Church for this worthy cause. If you wish to make a contribution now there are envelopes for the Missions in each church which can be returned to the Sunday envelope box or bring it with you when Mass is open to all again.

### **October Month of the Holy Rosary**

Please make an effort to seek Our Lady's protection by praying the Rosary or a

LOTTO DRAW: Tues 20th October 2020

JACKPOT NUMBERS: 6, 30, 31, 32

WINNER: No Winner

### **FERNS LUCKY DIPS**

1. Mary Brickley
2. Marie Morris
3. Julie Breen
4. Ger & Theresa c/o Tom Guinan

NEXT DRAW: Tuesday 3rd November 2020

JACKPOT: €9,600

LOCATION: Ferns GAA Club

Grounds at 10pm

Tickets can be bought from sellers or local retailers.

To play online use the link [fernsgaa.com/lotto.html](http://fernsgaa.com/lotto.html)

### **A Prayer as I put on my Mask**

Creator God, as I prepare to go into the world, help me to see the sacrament in the wearing of the cloth—Let it be “an outward sign of an inward grace”. A tangible and visible way of living love for my neighbour, as I love myself.

Christ, the Son, since my lips will be covered, uncover my heart, that people would see my smile in the crinkles around my eyes. Since my voice may be muffled, help me to speak clearly, not only with my words, but with my actions.

Holy Spirit, as the elastic touches my ears, remind me to listen carefully and full of care—to all those I meet. May this simple piece of cloth be shield and banner, and each breath that it holds, be filled with your love. In your Triune Name and in that love, I pray .

### ***Sincere Sympathy***

Is extended to John Joe Dwyer, ‘Rockville’ Newtown Road and Billy Kavanagh and family on the death of Marie Dwyer on Monday last and buried in Ferns on Wednesday R.I.P

***May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace and may God in his mercy***

### **Enniscorthy Credit Union**

The Brenda O'Neill Memorial Scholarship Draw has a prize fund of €9,000 which is awarded each year in early November for students of both Third Level and PLC courses. It is completely free. All you need is to be a member and be starting a Third Level Course for the first time in 2020. Application forms can be downloaded from [enniscorthycu.ie](http://enniscorthycu.ie)

### **Ferns Favourites Cook Book**

A collection of baking recipes is on sale in aid of St. Edan's Cathedral, Ferns. . Sale price €10.



### **Sunday Envelope Collection**

The amount received for  
**Ferns Church €175.00**

**Ballyduff Church €**

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**

*"This 1st Nov., **Bishop Brennan** will lead a service of remembrance at the Cathedral in Enniscorthy at 3pm to remember the dead of the Diocese and their grieving friends and families... I am also inviting each priest of the diocese to do so, in his own church, at this time... Let us set aside this time for prayer and reflection, let us remember those who have died and who grieve, and let us ask God our Father for the resilience and the courage required,*

### **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 for €5. **Raffle in Aid of Ballyduff**

### **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, CLOGOGUE**

**Weekend Mass Time:** Sunday 10.15am

**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 or on our Parish Website

**www.fernsparish.ie**