



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received for
Ferns for the week was **€98.00**

The amount received for
Ballyduff was €

The amount received from **Cloogue** for
December was €

Thank you for your generosity

SVP St Aidan's Conference Ferns

Whatever your reason for getting in touch,
if you need support from the
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul we are
here to help you. There are a wide range of
supports we can offer you, from
practical help and advice, to a friendly ear
all in the strictest of confidence.

Web: www.svp.ie/requesthelp

Email: StAidan.Ferns@svp.ie

Phone: 086 721 9303

Catholic Schools Week (cont. from page 2.)

Our prayer for each and every person in
our school community is:
When evil darkens our world, give us light.
When we stumble and fall, lift us up.
When doubts assail us, give us faith.
When nothing seems sure, give us trust.
When ideals fade, give us visions.
When we lose our way, be our guide!
That we may find serenity in your presence
and purpose in doing your will.

John D. Rayner

The theme for each day is as follows:
Communities of faith & Resilience -

Monday - Faith

Tuesday - Community.

Wednesday -Love

Thursday—Challenge

Friday—Hope.

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament daily from 8.00a.m. - 10.00p.m. (www.fernssadoration.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 or on our Parish Website **www.fernsparish.ie**



Ferns Parish Newsletter



Vol. 15. No. 22

23rd & 24th January 2021

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Now is the time

More than 50 years ago, in his famous 'I have a dream' speech, Martin Luther King Jr talked about 'the fierce urgency of now'. He urged people to take positive action and to march forward together to address inequality and injustice, and his energy and conviction brought about massive change.

That sense of 'fierce urgency' seems to grab Jesus and the disciples in today's Gospel. In the opening chapters of Mark's Gospel everything happens 'at once' or immediately. There is a sense of hurry; the time has come, the kingdom of God is near, and Jesus needs helpers to work alongside him. Simon, Andrew, James and John are certainly ready, so ready that they are prepared to leave behind their livelihoods, and even their families, to attend to the urgent business of spreading the Good News.

Jesus asks the same of us, his modern-day disciples: 'Follow me'. We are summoned too. We are challenged to set aside our worldly concerns, to see the world in a new way, and to begin a new adventure with Jesus. For every person in our world who is suffering or oppressed or in need, there is a 'fierce urgency of now'. The work of the kingdom is too immediate to wait.

'This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilising drug of gradualism. Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God's children... The whirlwinds of revolt will continue to shake the foundations of our nation until the bright day of justice emerges.'

Martin Luther King Jr

Reflection for weekend 23rd & 24th January 2021

Fratelli Tuti: Chapter 7- (Pope Francis) Paths of Renewed Encounter

In many circumstances, peace and fraternity require healing between groups who have experienced conflict. Pope Francis outlines some ways to move forward toward lasting peace. He recognizes that true peace must be based on truth, along with justice and mercy. Unity is often best achieved when people work together to address the problems they share. The process of peacemaking is on going and requires work, especially a care for the most vulnerable in society. Conflicts will arise but can be resolved through dialogue and honest negotiation. This does not mean that whole societies can be reconciled and forget past sins; rather, "reconciliation is a personal act" and human evils like the Shoah and the atomic bombings must be remembered as symbols of the depths of human evil. (246-247)

Mass Time & Intentions

This Weekend

23rd & 24th January 2021

FERNS CHURCH

6.30pm: Mary Christopher, Coolbawn 1st Anniversary & Charlie Christopher, Coolbawn, Month's Mind

Declan Murphy, Ballymorgan
John, Bridget, Sean & Noel O'Neill, Monasootha

Shay, Girlie & Declan O'Neill,
Monasootha

8.30am: People of the Parish

11.00am: Noel Killeen, Pairc Mhuire

Leo Maguire, Clone

Isaac & Mary Connolly & their son

Patrick, Tinahely

Joe Crowley, Tinashrule

Sean Redmond, Ballymore

Mass Time & Intentions

Next Weekend

30th & 31st January 2021

FERNS CHURCH

6.30pm: William Bolger, The Dell,
Ballycarney.

Mary Ann Dunne, The Harrow.

8.30am: People of The Parish

11.00am: John & Jenny Fowler,
Baylands.

Pat Hayden, Ballyduff

James & Mary Breen, Milesheogue

Christian Unity Week

The Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity commenced on Monday 18th January and will continue until 25th January the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul on the road to Damascus. Let us pray that the unity for which Christ prayed will be achieved through prayer and cooperation between all Christians.

Covid 19 Precautions

1. Please be most prudent in your behaviour and how you protect yourself and others.

2. When entering and leaving the Church please sanitise your hands.

3. Wear masks when in the Church or in places where people gather.

4. Avoid meeting in groups to celebrate events of any kind.

5. Wash your hands regularly before leaving and returning home.

6. Church seats are sanitised regularly, but make sure you sanitise when entering and leaving.

You cannot be too careful at this time of the virus.

7. When receiving Holy Communion always receive on the hand. Do not remove your mask before you approach the Priest/Eucharistic Minister. When Holy Communion is put in your hand step aside take off your mask and consume the Eucharist.

8. Observe the 2 meter guideline.

Please, Please, Observe all the guidelines given by the HSE.

Catholic Schools Week

Sunday 24th—Sunday 31st January
No one could have foreseen during Catholic Schools Week 2020 how different life would be just 12 months later. Our focus on faith and resilience is to remind us of the powerful role our Catholic schools have in the lives of so many young people. It is a source of comfort, care, belonging and strength. It was so important for our students to return to school, not simply to get back into the academic life, but, more importantly, to reconnect with their friend and teachers—to experience community. We have focused the week around the three theological virtues—faith, hope and love—while acknowledging the challenge that we are all facing at this present time and the need to feel a sense of belonging in our community again. *Cont. page 4.*

Sincere Sympathy

Is extended to the Jordan Family, on the death of Owen Jordan, Coolbawn
The Doyle Family on the death of Tom Doyle, Coolnaleen
The Morrissey Family on the death of Raymond Morrissey, Camolin
The Kehoe Family on the death of Mikey Kehoe, Corah, Ballycarney
The Ronan Family, on the death of Sheila Ronan, Clologue.
R.I.P.

May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace and may God in his mercy console the bereaved.

Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary during the Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary,
you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.
You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings
and carried our sorrows
to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.
Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Missing you – A prayer for grandparents and grandchildren missing each other

Lord,
I am missing their tiny hands in mine
I miss their wrinkles and their smile
I am missing their visits and our weekly walks
I miss their voice and our face to face talks
I am missing hearing all about their day
I miss them showing me the way
I am missing hugs and kisses
I miss sharing fun and wishes
I am missing tucking them in on sleepovers
I miss story time snuggled under the covers
I am missing joining our hands in prayer
I miss just having them there
I am missing seeing them grow
I miss them sharing all the things they know
I am missing the Rites of passage that have passed
I miss being them being with us at Mass
I am missing the grand-children's ring on the door bell
I miss granny and grandad and hope they are well.
I am missing their presence day and night,
I miss my grandparents, my guiding light.
Please bless my grandchildren,
and keep them safe and sound.
Pease mind granny and grandad until we can have them around. AMEN

Marriage

*Congratulations to
Michael Irwin and Bronagh Ryder
who were married recently. We wish them health and happiness in their future lives together.*

THE PRIEST ON DUTY

V. Rev. Patrick Cushen P.P.
053 93 66152/087 238 7559