



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received for
Ferns for the week was **€933.00**

The amount received for

Ballyduff was €

The amount received from **Clogogue** for
January was €

Thank you for your generosity

Church Lockdown

Although we are not allowed to attend Mass in the Church in person we are very fortunate to have Mass live streamed daily at 9.30a.m. plus Saturday at 6.30p.m., And Sundays 8.30a.m. and 11.00a.m. Please keep in touch with the local community of faith by joining in on Live stream, connection details below.

With our Parish website you can keep up to date with all that is happening in the parish by checking out

www.fernsparish.ie

Each morning you can join in, Monday to Saturday at 9.15a.m. for **Stations of the Cross** before Mass.

The Church is open each day after Mass to 4.00p.m. for private prayer or if people would just like to sit in the presence of the Lord or light a candle for ones intentions or the intentions of a friend.

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

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

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**



Ferns Parish Newsletter



Vol. 15. No. 29

13th & 14th March 2021

4th Sunday of Lent

14th March 2021 • Laetare Sunday Out into the light

Today, the 'middle' Sunday of Lent, is known as Laetare Sunday – *Laetare* means 'Rejoice!' We tend not to think of Lent as a time to rejoice, but signs of joy are central at Mass today, such as the use of flowers on the altar and rose-coloured vestments for the priest instead of the usual Lenten purple. The shadow of the cross still looms large, but we look forward with hope to Easter, when light will conquer the darkness.

We are offered an opportunity today to pause and reflect on our Lenten journey. In our gospel we hear that 'the [person] who lives by the truth comes out into the light'. On the other hand, Jesus says that those who 'prefer darkness to the light' live in fear that their actions will be exposed.

We hear a lot of talk these days about transparency. We have seen the damage caused by those whose private actions gravely contradict the message they proclaim in the public sphere. Some questions we might ask ourselves this Lent are: Am I living a truthful life 'in the light'? Am I honest in my dealings with others, trying always to choose what is right and just, or are there things I do in secret that are unkind or dishonest? Am I attentive to the needs of others or am I more inclined to think of myself? Lent offers us the opportunity to step out into the light, to allow the light of Jesus to sweep away any darkness or destructive habits and to begin again.

'We proclaim the resurrection of Christ when his light illuminates the dark moments of our existence, and we are able share it with others; when we know when to smile with those who smile, and weep with those who weep; when we accompany those who are sad and at risk of losing hope; when we recount our experience of faith to those who are searching for meaning and happiness... and there – with our attitude, with our witness, with our life – we say 'Jesus is Risen,' with our soul.' (Pope Francis)

Ferns Community Development Association

Table Quiz

Live streamed

This Thursday 18th March

Cost per table €15.00

This will be similar to the one held before Christmas in aid of the Christmas lights, that was a most enjoyable event and at a requests for another we will hold one on the above date. The profit will go towards facilities for our village.

Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Please encourage friends or relatives to join in.

More information: www.Fernsvillage.ie

Mass Time & Intentions This Weekend

13th & 14th March 2021

FERNS CHURCH

6.30pm: Martin Murphy Clone Road

8.30am: People of the Parish

11.00am:

Mass Time & Intentions Next Weekend

20th & 21st March 2021

FERNS CHURCH

6.30pm: Thomas Kirwan, Coolpark
Martin Byrne, Clonee Lane, Camolin

8.30am: People of the Parish

11.00am: Michael & Elizabeth Lacey,
Ballycarney & their daughter Brigid Mary
& deceased family members
Elsie Dunbar, Coolbawn

THE PRIEST ON DUTY

Rev. Ricky O'Connor C.C.

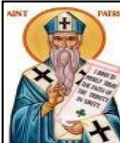
085 7662706

St Martin Magazine

Money is now due for the St Martin Magazine. If anyone is interested please contact Rita Plummer on 087 7738966.

Irish Catholic

The Irish Catholic Newspaper has now increased its price to €2.50 as and from 1st February 2021. For those who pay for the year we will need an additional €24 to cover from February 1st to December 31st 2021. For those who pay weekly we will require a back payment of €2 to bring you up to date. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.



Mass Times St. Patrick's Day Holy Day of Obligation Ferns

**Tuesday: Vigil 6.30pm
St. Patrick's Day: 8.30am & 11am**



A BLESSING ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY THE TRUE SUN



For this sun which we now see
Rises each new day for us at his
command,

Yet it will never reign
Nor will its splendour last for ever.
But we who believe and adore
The true sun that is Christ
Will never die, nor will those
Who have done his will,
But will abide for ever,
Just as Christ himself will abide for all
eternity,
Who reigns with God and Father
all-powerful,
And with the Holy Spirit before time
began,
And now and through all ages of ages
Amen. Confession, V:60.

Happy Mother's Day

Mothers are everything for us when we are small...our lives revolve around her. For everything that we need we call Mother. To protect us from all perceivable dangers we want her around us. To take us out we hold her arms. To kiss away our wound we run to her. And for a warm hug and love we look for her. She is the focal point of our lives, the greatest human being in the world or should we say divinity on earth. On the special occasion of Mother's Day pay tribute to your mother - the greatest blessing of God on you.



BAPTISMS

We welcome into the faith
Amelia Lilly Donegan
who was baptised recently.

Reflection for weekend 13th & 14th March 2021

"What I want is love, not sacrifice. Hosea 6:6

God values love above external religious practice.

What does this love look like? St Augustine offers a possible answer: "It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of others. That is what love looks like." For example Paolo, who is 19, lives in Peru, shows us what this love looks like. The settlement where he lives is built high into the steep hillside of southern Lima, the capital city. Paolo volunteers his time to help build a staircase down the hill so that his neighbours will be safe, especially in an emergency. He says: "For me, community service is really important. It is something that you do to improve your community to help it to grow and develop." To love, then, is to be attentive others – in our families, our workplaces, our communities and across the world. May we grow in love this Lent.

Let us pray: Blessed are you, Lord, you bless us with your love and call us to be a blessing to others. Amen. Let us reach out in love to others this Lent through

TROCAIRE (Mercy) or **CAFORD** (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development)

What does St Patrick teach us? St Patrick shows us a spirituality, which is very simple. He is loved, blessed and called by God and he responds. Patrick had stickability. His holy mountain in the West of Ireland – Croagh Patrick – has many lessons for us. We can see its majestic summit from a distance. But as we begin to climb, the summit vanishes and all we can see is the intervening slope. The summit is often covered by fog. For ordinary people Croagh Patrick is quite a difficult climb, and it demands grit and determination to get to the top. Patrick can lead us to ascend life's mountain where, like Moses and Patrick, we meet the living God.

Lenten Resolutions

Every day is a new beginning given to us by God. On Ash Wednesday many people made Lenten resolutions, some kept and others not. There is no reason if you faltered to stop completely. You can renew your commitment and please God, you will do better the next time. Let us **never despair, live in hope** and begin again. May God be with you.

Stations of the Cross

There will be Stations of the Cross each weekday morning at 9.15a.m. followed by 9.30 Mass.

Both celebrations are great ways of preparing for the great season of the Resurrection. We pray that we will use this Lenten season to change our lives and be more faithful to the message of Jesus.

Trocaire

Trocaire was established by the Irish Bishops Conference to help those in the Third World through evangelisation in the Catholic Faith, Education, Health Clinics, Hospitals, Farming support, Hygiene, irrigation, Horticulture, Poverty Relief, etc. Please try and support the efforts of Trocaire in helping those in deprived and war torn areas in the world. Our Irish nation is noted for the help of the deprived world wide. Our history shows we got help from other nations in our need, Let us care for those in need today. "I was hungry and you gave me food".

Marriage

Congratulations to

**Kevin O'Leary & Marie-Claire
Kinsella &**

Luke O'Connor & Margaret Dwyer
*who were married recently. We wish
them health and happiness in their
future lives together.*