



### Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received for  
**Ferns** for the week was **€385.70**

The amount received for  
**Ballyduff** was €

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

*Thank you for your generosity*

### Great News

It was refreshing to hear during the week that our churches will reopen for public celebrations of Mass in May and that numbers at funerals are now at 25, which is much more reasonable for people to mourn their dead and attend Mass to remember them in the full Christian way, by celebrating the Eucharist. It was great having our Live Streaming system installed in the church so that people could participate in daily Eucharist. Please God, there will be a positive response to attendances.

### Covid 19 Vaccinations

The HSE has asked that all over 60 years of age register for vaccination.

### 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](http://www.svp.ie/requesthelp)

Email: [StAidan.Ferns@svp.ie](mailto: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](mailto:frpaddycushen@gmail.com) **Eir Code: Y21 N9 W7**

**Rev Ricky O'Connor. C.C.** Tel: 085 7662706

E-mail: [revrickyfern@soutlook.com](mailto:revrickyfern@soutlook.com) **Eircode: Y21 K1 C0**

**Parish Office:** Tel: 053-9366514. E-mail: [fernsparish@gmail.com](mailto: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.fernسادoration.com](http://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, 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](http://www.fernsparish.ie)



# Ferns Parish Newsletter



Vol. 15. No. 36

1st & 2nd May 2021

5th Sunday of Easter B

### Bound Together

Have you ever visited a vineyard, with its rows of vines, heavy with clusters of ripe grapes? If you're not familiar with vines, think of an apple tree laden with apples, or a fruit bush ripe for picking. In today's Gospel, Jesus uses the metaphor of a vine to describe his relationship with his disciples. He tells them that he is the vine, and they are the branches. The life of Jesus flows into us and sustains us, and this is the reason our lives can bear fruit in love, in kindness, patience, compassion and welcome.

The symbolism of the vine works on many levels. If a branch is separated from the vine, it cannot flourish on its own. It must be connected to the vine from which it gets its nourishment. Each of us must be firmly rooted in Jesus and nourish that relationship. He invites us to 'remain' in him - to rest in him, to be part of him. And if you look at a vine plant, often its branches are so entangled, it can be hard to know where one ends and another begins. We note that Jesus is addressing the disciples as a group rather than as individuals: 'you are the branches'. We are a community, and we grow together, bound together by the love of God.

Today, we reflect on what it means to be so intimately connected with Jesus, the true vine. We bring to mind the many gifts he has given us, and the ways in which his love bears fruit in our lives.

### The Year of St. Joseph

The year 2020 marks the 150th anniversary of Pope Pius IX proclaiming St. Joseph, the foster father of Jesus, as the Patron of the Universal Church.

"Quemadmodum Deus" was promulgated in 1870. To mark this anniversary, Pope Francis through the Apostolic Letter "Patris corde" has proclaimed the "Year of St Joseph" to run from Tuesday, 8th December 2020, through to 8th December 2021.

### Prayer to St. Joseph

O, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires.

O, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage, to the most loving of Father's.

O, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms. I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name, and kiss his fine head for me, and ask him to return the kiss, when I draw my dying breath.

**St. Joseph, patron of departing souls, please pray for me.**

**Mass Time & Intentions  
This Weekend**

**1st & 2nd May 2021**

**FERNS CHURCH**

**6.30pm:** The deceased family members of the Fortune Family, Clone Rd and Effernogue

**8.30am:** People of the Parish

**11.00am:** Jim Lawlor, Castle Manor  
Aidan Doyle, The Heath, Clonee.

**Mass Time & Intentions  
Next Weekend**

**8th & 9th May 2021**

**FERNS CHURCH**

**6.30pm:** Elizabeth (Ciss) Ralph, Tombrack  
Aidan & Katie Ann Doyle, Kilbride,  
The Ballagh

**8.30am:** People of the Parish

**11.00am:** Peg Davitt & deceased family  
members of The Davitt & Kearney Families,  
Coolbawn



**BAPTISMS**

We welcome into the faith  
**Seanie Luke Gibbons**  
who was baptised recently.

**Chiropodist**

Denis Kinsella, Ferns available for  
house calls if necessary.  
Please call 087 2465720

**Sincere Sympathy**

Is extended to the O'Leary and Crean  
families on the death of Stephen  
O'Leary, Monageer who died  
suddenly. R.I.P. *May the souls of the  
faithful departed rest in peace.*

**THE PRIEST ON DUTY**

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

**Prayers for Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Mighty God,  
in whom we know the power of redemption,  
you stand among us in the shadows of our  
time.

As we move through every sorrow and trial of  
this life,  
uphold us with knowledge of the final morn-  
ing  
when, in the glorious presence of your risen  
Son,  
we will share in his resurrection,  
redeemed and restored to the fullness of life  
and forever freed to be your people. Amen.

Living God,  
long ago, faithful women  
proclaimed the good news  
of Jesus' resurrection,  
and the world was changed forever.  
Teach us to keep faith with them,  
that our witness may be as bold,  
our love as deep,  
and our faith as true. Amen.

Creator of the universe,  
you made the world in beauty,  
and restore all things in glory  
through the victory of Jesus Christ.  
We pray that, wherever your image is still  
disfigured  
by poverty, sickness, selfishness, war and  
greed,  
the new creation in Jesus Christ may appear in  
justice, love, and peace,  
to the glory of your name. Amen.

**First Friday**

Fr. Cushen will attend those on his sick  
list on Friday 7th May with Holy  
Communion.



**Collection now €2,719.00  
which is very good con-  
sidering lockdown. It has**

**surpassed last years figure which is mag-  
nificent and money is still being donated.**  
If you wish to contribute please leave your  
box in the Sacristy, Parish Office or Paro-  
chial House.

**"The Lord loves a cheerful giver".**

**The Diocese of Ferns Virtual Pilgrimage to Lourdes  
9th to 13th May 2021**

*The Masses and ceremonies will be on-line only and will come  
from St. Aidan's Cathedral, Enniscorthy.*

Join us at [www.churchservices.tv/enniscorthycathedral](http://www.churchservices.tv/enniscorthycathedral).

*Lourdes: A place of grace, peace and resilience*

**Sunday 9th May @ 10am:** Bishop Brennan will celebrate Mass  
launching the virtual pilgrimage and light the Lourdes Candle.

**7pm:** Fr Jim Doyle will guide us through a time of gentle  
prayer and adoration, recalling our quiet times at the grotto.

**Monday 10th May @ 10am:** Fr Odhrán Furlong will celebrate  
Mass and short reflection

**7pm:** Fr Matt Boggan guides us through the mysteries of the  
Rosary

**Tuesday 11th May @ 10am:** Fr Ricky O'Connor will celebrate  
Mass and share a short reflection

**7pm:** Fr Billy Swan will pray us around the Stations of the  
Cross

**Wednesday 12th May @ 10am:** Msgr Joe McGrath will  
celebrate Mass and share a short reflection

**7pm:** Fr Billy Caulfield will lead our evening prayer on God's  
healing grace

**Thursday 13th May @ 10am:** Fr Brian Broaders celebrates  
Mass and share a short reflection

**7pm:** Fr Aodhán Marken will bring the Virtual Pilgrimage to a  
close with a ceremony of Light

It will be celebrated from Sunday 9th to Thursday 13th May. There will  
be an evening celebration at 7p.m. and Mass each morning at 10am  
with a short homily. More information next week.  
Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us. St. Bernadette, pray for us.

**Mary's Meals**

Feeds almost 2 million hungry  
children every school day in a place of education. An Online Quiz, to support  
their efforts, takes place on the last  
Friday of EVERY month at 8pm. To join/donate go to  
[www.bit.ly/QuizforMM](http://www.bit.ly/QuizforMM) or  
contact Martin Colfer on 087 2596159.  
Thank you.