



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received for
Ferns for the week was **€715.00**
The amount received for
Ballyduff for month of **May** was **€453.30**
The amount received from **Cloogue** for
January-May was **€1363.50**
Vocations Collection **€289.00**
Sick & Retired Priests **€49.00**
Thank you for your generosity

St Peter's College Past Pupils Union

School Sports Development fund
Ticket Draw – Tickets €10 each
1st Prize € 2000, 2nd Prize €500
3rd Prize €250, 4th Prize €250
All proceeds go to Astro Pitch
Development Fund
Draw will take place in St. Peter's College
on July 30th 2021
Tickets can be purchased by phoning SPC
PPU PRO, Tel: 0877971077 or
www.idonate.ie/raffle/stpetersppu

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

Patrons

As of last year the patrons
will be live streamed.
Cloogue July 25th
(last Sunday July)
Ballyduff 8th August
(2nd Sunday August)

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**

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, 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. 42

12th & 13th June 2021

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

'It is like a mustard seed'

Something we may not often think about is Jesus' earthly relationship with creation. Jesus walked everywhere, went to quiet places to pray, preached from mountains, from boats on the water; his followers included fishermen in tune with the rhythm of the sea. In Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* – On Care for Our Common Home, he reminds us that Jesus '*was in constant touch with nature, lending it an attention full of fondness and wonder*' (*Laudato Si'*, 97). Jesus' parables are full of imagery from the natural world and in today's Gospel we have an example of this in the parable of the mustard seed. People of Jesus' time may have preferred the image of the lofty 'cedars of Lebanon' to explain God's kingdom, mustard plants however, only stand a few feet tall. Jesus is turning the ideals of power and triumph on their head. There is an ancient text which forbade planting mustard seeds in Palestinian gardens because the shrub takes over wherever it is planted and attracts unwanted birds. Author and activist, Shane Claiborne, compares it to *kudzu*, a wild vine that could blanket entire mountain areas, smother trees, even crack cement buildings. This mustard seed image of God's dream for this world is one which suggests that it will grow even in places where it is not wanted, putting cracks in seemingly mighty structures.

The New Testament not only tells us of the earthly Jesus and his tangible and loving relationship with the world. It also shows him risen and glorious, present throughout all of creation (Col 1:19-20). '*The very flowers of the field and the birds which [Christ's] human eyes contemplated and admired are now imbued with his radiant presence*' (*Laudato Si'*, 100). As we watch out for traces of the mustard seed kingdom this week, let us also embrace the joy of Christ in all of creation.

Benemerenti Medals

We congratulate Mary Skelton and Michael Andrews, sacristans at Cloogue and Ferns Churches who received the well merited papal award 'Bene Merenti' from Bishop Brennan on the night of the Golden Jubilee. Both have been working most generously daily at our churches and their work is greatly appreciated by all. Well done, & well deserved.

Golden Jubilee Celebrations

I thank all involved in the preparations and the celebrations on Friday week, which were most memorable for me. Before hand we were not dealing with ordinary circumstances and there were worries about crowds, social distancing, etc. It was great to have a manageable congregation, within guidelines. I thank all who attended and all who were most understanding and prudent in their judgement in whether to come or not. It was great to have Live Streaming and people could see all virtually.

I thank very sincerely all involved in various ways. The Church looked magnificently, the grounds were lovely. I thank the Parish Council for their organising of the event and everyone in the parish who made it such a memorable occasion for me. *Fr. Paddy*

**Mass Time & Intentions
This Weekend**

**12th & 13th June 2021
FERNS CHURCH**

6.30pm: Jimmy, Patricia and Donal Levingstone, Pairc Mhuire.
Jimmy Kearney, Tombrack (Months Mind)
8.30am: People of the Parish
11.00am: Louis O'Toole, Kiltomas.
Mary O'Leary, The Square.

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm:

9.30am: James O'Neill, Bolinaspect and his sister Mary Delaney.

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

10.15am: Thomas & Anne Turner,
Ballycarrigeen & their son John

CONVENT

**Wednesday June 16th 2021
7.00pm:**

**Mass Time & Intentions
This Weekend**

**19th & 20th June 2021
FERNS CHURCH**

6.30pm: Dr Dan Purcell, Ballybeg.
Charles & Elizabeth Murphy, Coolpark &
deceased family members.
8.30am: People of the Parish.
11.00am: Joseph Morris, St Anne's, Ferns.
John Paul Cashe, Pairc Mhuire

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Margaret O'Neill, Monasootha

9.30am:

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

10.15am:

BAPTISMS



We welcome into the faith
**Arthur Alexander
Fernandes Baca
&
Orla Grace Bolger**
who were baptised recently.

19th & 20th June 2021

Ministers of the Word

6.30pm: Mary O'Brien

8.30am: Theresa Nolan

11.00am: Joe Sinnott

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.30pm: Ann Bernie & Brid Breen

8.30am: Eileen Brickley & Sr. Cecelia

11.00am: Ann Swaine & Eleanor Hawkins

**THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS
WEEK**

On the Hook of Faith, we begin a new series this week on 'A New Irish Catholicism'. In this series, we explore in what ways the Lord is renewing his Church. The homily for this Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time is offered by Fr Brian Broaders who unpacks a series of Jesus' parables on the seed that grows. We have the usual newsletter insert and a reflection by Bro. Solanus from the Friary in Wexford. We feature a video by Pope Francis on his intention for the month of June – that urges young people not to give up on the dream of married love. Finally, we have updated statistics from Holland that show the numbers dying from euthanasia are increasing rapidly – a fact that challenges its proposed legalisation here. Check out these and other resources available at www.thehookoffaith.com

First Penance

Congratulations to the children of Ballyduff National School who received the sacrament of First Penance on Tuesday last. We wish them every happiness.

THE PRIEST ON DUTY

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

EXAMINATIONS PRAYER

O Great St. Joseph of Cupertino, who by your prayers, did obtain from God, the grace to be asked at your examination, the only question you knew. Obtain for me, success like yours in the examination for which I am preparing, and in return, I promise to make your name known and cause it to be invoked. Amen. Best of luck to all the young people of the parish who will be sitting examinations.

Life is about more than exam results!

Sincere Sympathy

Is extended to the Dixon Family,
Carnew Road, on the death of Kieran
Dixon who died in Scotland.

R.I.P.

*May the souls of the faithful
departed rest in peace. May God
and Our Lady console the bereaved.*

First Holy Communion

The dates have now been set and the various schools have contacted the families involved. It is good news for all.

Reflection for weekend 12th & 13th June 2021

The grand connection between grandparents and grandchildren where the wisdom and serenity of the older generation is mixed with the energy and enthusiasm of the young - each can benefit the other. Pope Francis recognises this and has declared Sunday 25th July as the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

There are Blessings and Graces that being a grandparent can bring according to Ms. Stanton

1. Grandparents are blessed as they get a second chance to get it right. We know where we went wrong before
2. Wisdom of the years that has been gained by living- we can share
3. Humility - we know when we are wrong
4. To love –not always looking to be loved
5. To be generous –with your time and not just money
6. To be light-hearted and to laugh with the grandchildren and play with them
7. To listen – use your ears more
8. Question rather than declare or tell them what to do –if you ask the right questions they often come up with answer themselves
9. Be really present – show up and shut up
10. To pray – even when you are not there physically we can always pray for them.

Compiled by Peggy Stanton

Brought to you by the Diocesan Pastoral Council

**HAVE YOUR SAY on the shortlist for
the Ancient Connections Public Art
Commission**

Five artists have been shortlisted for consideration for the €175,000 commission to create two new pieces of public art, one for Ferns and one for St. David's, Pembrokeshire.

See the proposals displayed on the wall of St. Aidan's Church, Ferns and go to <https://>

haveyoursay.pembrokeshire.gov.uk to

vote on your preferred choice in our **Public Vote**. Deadline for the vote is **14th June 2021**.

NB: the location of the piece of art for Ferns will be decided through public consultation at a later date.

Please phone the Helpline (087) 338 6005 or email

acient.connections@wexfordcoco.ie for further information.

Eoin Green from Ancient Connections will be available after 11 o'clock mass in ferns this Sunday to explain the process that will be used in deciding which of the five options the people of Ferns would prefer.