



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received for
Ferns for the week was **€400.20**
The amount received for
Ballyduff for month of July was **€405.50**
The amount received from **Cloogue** for the
month of July **€277.00**
Vocations Collection €289.00
Sick & Retired Priests €49.00
Thank you for your generosity

St. Patrick's College, Maynooth

Higher Diploma in Theological y Studies
Are you looking for an introduction to
Theology, a qualification that allows you
to teach Religious Education or a start on
your journey to a masters degree in The-
ology or Pastoral Ministry?
Information Email admissions @spcm.ie.
Commencement date 24/9/21

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 practi-
cal 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

TEACH na bPaisti

18 Aldercourt, Ferns, Y21 A2X6 Child-
care Facility with outside playground
available to rent. Long or Short Term
Lease considered. Please contact Quinn
Property Gorey 053.9480000

"Yesterday I was clever, so I wanted to
change the world. Today I am wise, so I
am changing myself."

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**

Assistant: Very Rev. Pat Stafford , 086 234 4674

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-Tuesday & Thursday 9.00a.m.)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament daily from 8.00a.m. - 10.00p.m. (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 Al-
tar & 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. 51

14th & 15th August 2021

Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary 15th August 2021 The slow work of God

'Only God could say what this new spirit gradually forming within you will be. Give Our Lord the benefit of believing that his hand is leading you, and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete.' (Pierre Teilhard de Chardin)

These beautiful words from French philosopher Pierre Teilhard de Chardin SJ speak to the sometimes-tortuous experience of waiting. In it the author gives us permission to not have all the answers, to allow our faith time to grow and develop. Above all, he invites us to do that most difficult of things: live in the present moment, and surrender ourselves to God in that moment.

This poem comes to mind as I think about today's celebration of the Feast of the Assumption, when we recall Mary's role in the life of Jesus and in salvation. In our Gospel extract we meet Mary, pregnant and celebrating with her relative Elizabeth. Given the circumstances, it would be understandable if she was unsure and fearful. Her future is uncertain, as is that of her soon-to-be-born son. She cannot yet comprehend the enormity of what is to come. But Mary seems content to wait. When Elizabeth proclaims Mary as 'blessed', Mary bursts into prayer, praising God for his greatness and for 'looking upon his lowly handmaid'.

In modern terms, it is a lesson in mindfulness. When we find ourselves impatient, struggling to comprehend or to trust God's ways, let us turn to Mary who accepted God's plan with trust and hope, allowing it all to unfold one step at a time.

Reflection for weekend 14th Aug & 15th Aug 2021

'There is only one path to heaven. On earth, we call it love' (author unknown)

This Sunday is the feast of the Assumption of Mary into heaven. It is always a turning point in late summer, not just for those getting the Leaving Cert results but also a reminder that the school holidays will soon be winding down as we head for September. At the heart of this feast day is a sense of hope. Mary was taken up into heaven to show the other side of death. Death is always so final, but as believers we believe in eternal life. It's the hinge on which we rest everything. The Assumption of Mary is a reminder that we are merely pilgrims as we journey through this world. What happened to Mary is God's plan for all of us too. Sometimes we need a boost and a reminder that there is a meaningful purpose to life. Today is certainly one of those days. As we journey we need to give 100% to what needs getting done. This means when we do something, no matter how small, it's best to give it our all. In our Gospels, Jesus constantly encouraged people to do their best, to keep focussed and especially on the really important things in life. As Samuel Johnson said 'Knock the 't' off the 'can't' When we find ourselves saying 'I can't', we pray for the encouragement to say 'I can'.

(Thoughts by Fr James Mc Sweeney)

**Mass Time & Intentions
Next Weekend**

14th & 15th August 2021

FERNS CHURCH

6.30pm: Dan & Sarah O'Connor, The Glen, Effernogue.

Anne Byrne nee Nolan, Layland, Lancashire, formerly Kiltown.

8.30am: John Lancaster, Ballyboy

11.00am: John Byrne, Askinamoe

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Adrian Leonard, Ballybeg

9.30am: Sandy Murphy, Kilbora
Tom Furlong, Kilcloran & Deceased Family Members

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

10.15am: Margaret Doyle, Cloogue

CONVENT

Wednesday August 18th 2021

7.00pm: Jack & Kathleen Murphy

**Mass Time & Intentions
This Weekend**

21st & 22nd August 2021

FERNS CHURCH

6.30pm: Pat & Bridie Turner formally Newtown, Ferns

8.30am:

11.00am: Mick Redmond, Lodgewood
Eddie Gethings, Effernogue & Thomas & Catherine Gethings & Patrick & Sarah Nolan & deceased family members of The Gethings & Nolan Families

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Elizabeth Kavanagh, Ballybeg
Matt Murphy, Kiltomas

9.30am: Mary Walker, Ballyduff
Ned Nolan, Kilcloran (Months Mind)

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

10.15am:

THE PRIEST ON DUTY

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

21st & 22nd August 2021

Ministers of the Word

6.30pm: Ena Gray

8.30am: Sister Eileen

11.00am: Irene O'Toole

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.30pm: Mary Cullen & Dora Murphy

8.30am: Eileen Brickley & Sr. Cecelia

11.00am: Eleanor Hawkins & Christopher Power

**Seeing your Life through the
Lens of the Gospel**

1. The story of the Visitation is a story of two pregnant women reaching out to one another. For those of you who are mothers, perhaps you have been in that situation. What blessings do you recall in such encounters?
2. The story and the song of Mary are both celebrating the work of God in her life. When have you been particularly grateful for what was happening in your life? How did you express and celebrate your thanks?
3. Mary is praised for believing that God's promise to her would be fulfilled. How has your trust in God's promise to be with you helped you in your life?
4. Read the Magnificat a few times slowly and let your attention stay with whatever words or phrase you are drawn to. Place yourself in the position of the one saying the prayer. Let it be your prayer of thanksgiving for your own life.

Sincere Sympathy

Is extended to Emer Tomkins, her son Joseph & The Murphy Family, Cloogue on the death of John Richard Tomkins, Also to the family of Paul Gallagher Bolacreen, both died recently

R.I.P.

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

BAPTISMS

We welcome into our
community of faith

Caoimhe Mae Coleman

Alfie Kinsella Alford

who were baptised recently.

Charities Act Form (CHY3 Cert)

The parish and curacies can claim back income tax paid by subscribers of €250.00 or over in the year. It will not cost the taxpayer anything. Last year we received through this scheme a total of €4,247.70, which was great, considering especially with fundraising non-existent from sources outside the church, through various events. If all who received letters recently, to be signed for this scheme sent back the forms we would be eligible to receive €10,000.00 approx., which would be a tremendous amount, costing the taxpayer nothing. Already we have a number of forms returned and have forwarded them to the revenue commissioner. If you have received one of these letters, could you *please sign it and return.*

**Tombrack Community
Heritage Walk**

In aid of Tombrack Community Garden, takes place on Sunday 15th August. Leaving garden at 10.30am sharp. Adults €10 & children under 16 go free. Masks and High Visibility jackets will be required and all Covid regulations will be adhered to.

Reflections for August

Edith Stein - St Teresa Benedict of the Cross (1891-1942) 9th August
Edith managed to write little notes that were smuggled out to her Carmelite community from Auschwitz concentration camp. One note read; 'A "science of the Cross" can be gained only if one is made to feel the Cross in the depths of one's being.' Making the Sign of the Cross shows us that our lives are forever guided by the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

St Clare (1193-1253) 11th August

Clare is often portrayed in art as holding a monstrance with the Eucharist in defence of an attack by Saracen mercenaries on her convent community. Clare witnessed to holiness and humanity, wisdom and welcome to all. She was canonised two years after her death.

St Maximilian Kolbe (1894-1941) 14th August

Maximilian worked to spread the message of God's love in Poland and in Japan through the setting up of a printing press. He gave radical expression to God's love when he offered to take the place of a father who was going to be executed by the Nazis in 1941 in Auschwitz.

ENVELOPE DISTRIBUTORS

The Harvest Dues envelopes are now available for distribution. We would be grateful if all distributors would collect them at their convenience. Many thanks for your continued help.

Pilgrimage – Lady's Island

Restrictions in place due to Covid
Opening 15th August - 3pm in Church
Closing 8th Sept - 3pm in Church
Daily Masses 3pm and 8pm
Adoration 4-5pm Mon Wed & Fri.
Many musicians and speakers have been invited to take part throughout.
Small parish groups are welcome
Bookings on 087-6464198
Transmission via web-cam and 106FM
ourladyisland.ie
Coffee Shop and Gift Shop open daily
Pilgrims welcome to Church and Island

Rosary At Grotto

On Enniscorthy Road on Sunday 15th of August at 2pm to celebrate The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary. All are welcome.