



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received for
Ferns for the week was €
The amount received for
Ballyduff for month of July was €468.70
The amount received from **Clogogue** 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

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, 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 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.fernsparrish.ie**

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

Sincere Sympathy

Is extended to Deirdre O'Brien and Fam-
ily, Coolnaleen on the death of her father
Michael (Mike) Kinsella, Corra, Bun-
clody and late of the Angler's rest.

R.I.P.

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



Ferns Parish Newsletter



Vol. 15. No. 52

21st & 22nd August 2021

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time 22nd August 2021

Leap of faith

Children are often adept at looking beyond the practicalities and seeing the pos-
sibilities. Where a parent or guardian might only see a messy room in need of
tidying, a child sees an obstacle course, a castle, a jungle, a magical fairy forest.
It can be refreshing to take a breath and remember that there is more to life than
our physical, tangible world with its daily routines and to-do lists. Sometimes
circumstances can leave us blinded to life's beauty or meaning.

In today's Gospel, some of Jesus' followers are finding it difficult to see be-
yond the physical. He has been teaching them that he is the living bread, but it is
hard for them to accept. They dismiss it as 'intolerable language' and they won-
der 'How could anyone accept it?' His teachings are too difficult to comprehend
and they are annoyed and offended. Some of them even walk away.

But Jesus is offering something more than the practicalities, more than physi-
cal food or drink: he offers the bread of life, living bread, his very self. It is a
difficult message, but Simon Peter gets to the heart of it: 'You have the message
of eternal life, and we believe.' He is able to see beyond the obvious, to hear the
truth at the heart of Jesus' words. Jesus demands a lot of his followers, who must
each decide whether or not they want to follow. Are we ready to make that leap
of faith?

THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS WEEK

As Mgr. Ger Nash prepares for his ordination as bishop of Ferns, we
begin a novena of prayer for him and our diocese. The homily for the
Twenty-First Sunday of Ordinary Time is offered by Fr. Lar O'Connor
where many of Jesus' disciples walk away over his teaching about the
Eucharist. Bishop Robert Barron comments on an article entitled 'The
Fading of Forgiveness' that suggests that society has become colder and
harsher because of a dearth of forgiveness and mercy. For the feast of St
Augustine, we feature some of his most famous quotes and Ibar Quirke
introduces us to a younger and less known person of holiness – Little Nel-
lie of Holy God. Finally, a recorded webinar by young people and for
young people on the theme of vocations. Check out these and other re-
sources available at www.thehookoffaith.com

**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, Kilthomas

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

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

10.15am:

CONVENT

Wednesday August 25th 2021

7.00pm: John McGrath, Bunclody &
Tommy Kearns, Ferns

**Mass Time & Intentions
Next Weekend**

**28th & 29th August 2021
FERNS CHURCH**

6.30pm: Grace Franklin, Tomsollagh
8.30am:

11.00am: May & Paddy Finn, Ballyrankin

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm:

9.30am:

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

10.15am:

THE PRIEST ON DUTY

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

*"It's not what we have in life, but who
we have in our life that matters."*

28th & 29th August 2021

Ministers of the Word

6.30pm: Mary Cash

8.30am: Denis Kinsella

11.00am: Frances O'Toole

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.30pm: Margaret Maguire & Michael Bernie

8.30am: Eileen Brickley & Sr. Cecelia

11.00am: Ann Swaine & Liz Villar

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

1. In this chapter Jesus teaches that the meaning of his life, and the meaning of all human life, lies in being prepared to give of oneself. Perhaps you can identify with what Pope Francis says: 'Those who enjoy life most are those who leave security on the shore and become excited by the mission of communicating life to others' (Pope Francis: The Joy of the Gospel, No.10)

2. 'This teaching is difficult', complained his hearers, including some of his own followers. Perhaps at times you also have wondered if you could go along with it. What helped you to overcome your resistance?

3. 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life.' In the midst of your doubts perhaps you have held on to your faith in Jesus because, like Peter, you found a more hopeful message in Jesus than you could find anywhere else. How has the gospel message been more attractive to you than any other?

4. 'The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life'. Recall the words and phrases of Jesus that are words of life for you.

BAPTISMS

We welcome into our
community of faith
Jack Patrick Skelton
Liam Danny Power
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 tax payer 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 forward them to the revenue commissioner. If you have received one of these letters, could you ***please sign it and return.***

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 19
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. Closing 8th Sept - 3pm in Church. Bookings on 087-6464198
Transmission via web-cam and 106FM ourladysisland.ie
Coffee Shop and Gift Shop open daily
Pilgrims welcome to Church and Island

Reflection for weekend 21st Aug & 22nd Aug 2021

The Influence We Can Exert.

"If dandelions were hard to grow, they would be most welcome on any lawn" (Andrew Mason)

The power each one of us has to influence others to good or evil is so great that it is almost without limit. The explanation of this is that when God finds a willing, a humble, a dependable worker, He uses him/her as a channel for His grace for others. A thought on names such as St Paul, St Dominic, St Francis of Assisi, and on the other hand Luther or Voltaire, will serve to show what it lies in one man to do- to influence a whole world, century after century. Man is small but a man who is in earnest about an idea is not small. He is going to influence others, and nobody knows where that is going to end. Let our dominating idea be the glory of God and the salvation of souls. (Frank Duff)

I can remember at school our science teacher telling us that a weed is a flower in the wrong place. It was a simple explanation but one I have never forgotten. The weed is also symbolic of those people that we don't like or that irritate us. These people, like a flower, also have good qualities. But because we see them as a weed they tend to be not welcome. The following prayer might help: 'Lord, it's hard to get on with everyone, in fact it's nearly impossible. When someone is really annoying me, help me to see the flower rather than the weed. Lord, I do want to give it a go, knowing that there are times too when I'm not always a flower!' (Thoughts by Fr James McSweeney)