



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received for
Ferns for the week was **€458.20**
The amount received for
Ballyduff for month of July was **€405.50**
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

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

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE manage a national support line
and additional supports for older people
who have concerns or are facing difficul-
ties relating to COVID-19 (Coronavirus).
Professional staff are available to answer
queries and give advice and reassurance
where necessary. The support line is open
seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling
0818 222 024.

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.fernsparish.ie



Ferns Parish Newsletter



Vol. 16. No. 1

28th & 29th August 2021

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time 29th August 2021

What's on the inside

'It's what's on the inside that counts.' How often do we hear this? Yet we get contradictory
messages and we are also bombarded with messages about how we should dress or act, or
what is appropriate behaviour. Rules about outward behaviour govern many aspects of life,
from our school and work environments to our churches.

Today, Jesus has something to say about the tension between outward appearances and
what's on the inside. To the religious authorities who challenge Jesus, outer appearances and
traditions are important, and they rebuke Jesus for allowing his disciples to eat with 'unclean
hands'. However, Jesus explains that it is not external actions that make a person unclean. It
is what's on the inside that indicates the true nature of our hearts. 'Lip-service' is not worth
much if our hearts are not in tune with God. As Jesus puts it, 'You put aside the command-
ment of God to cling to human traditions.'

It is an invitation to examine how we put our faith into practice, individually and as a
church community. Which human traditions do we 'cling' to? Do we become so focused on
outward rituals that we risk losing sight of the teaching of Jesus and its radical implications?
Do we treat our religious life as checklist of observances, or as a real encounter with Jesus?
'The words of the Sacred Scripture were not written to remain imprisoned on papyrus, parch-
ment or paper, but to be received by a person who prays, making them blossom in his or her
heart.' (Pope Francis)

Our New Bishop

Monsignor Gerard Nash D.D. will be Ordained Bishop of Ferns on Sunday 5th Septem-
ber in St. Aidan's Cathedral, Enniscorthy at 3.00p.m. Due to Covid 19 restrictions it
will be live streamed from the Cathedral. In preparation for his ministry we are asked
to remember him in prayer. A Novena (9days) of Prayer commenced on Friday for him,
a copy is included in the newsletter this week. Please pray for his success in diocese.

Reflection for weekend 28th Aug & 29th Aug 2021

Love is one thing that unites all of human existence. It has the ability to inspire, to en-
courage, and to lighten your heart.

If we could only realise the world of a difference our love can make in someone's life. I
don't think we fully appreciate our goodness, how much our kindness matters and how
our love transforms others. We do it and we simply move on. If we could just know the
amount of hidden energies we release in others when we do our bit and our best, we'd be
amazed. The hectic pace of life quickly moves us on. But God has actively been in-
volved in that moment and in the next moment we do it again. It would be a great shame
to underestimate the great good you are doing. *People change when they are given hope,
above all they change when they are loved. They come out of their shells and hidden
energies are released in them.* (Flor McCarthy) The message is simple today....love one
another. (Reflection by Fr James McSweeney)

Mass Time & Intentions

This 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:

CLOGUE CHURCH

10.15am:

CONVENT

Wednesday September 1st 2021

7.00pm:

Mass Time & Intentions

Next Weekend

4th & 5th September 2021

FERNS CHURCH

6.30pm: Peter & Sadie Nolan, Enniscorthy & formally Tinashrule.

Patrick Kehoe, Castle Manor

8.30am:

11.00am:

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm:

9.30am: CLOGUE CHURCH

10.15am: Fergus Whelan, Ballinakill

BAPTISMS

We welcome into our community of faith

Lorcan Martin Leacy

Joseph John Byrne

Grace Eileen Kearney

Tadhg Robert Gleeson

who were baptised recently.

THE PRIEST ON DUTY

V. Rev. Patrick Cushen P.P.

053 93 66152/087 238 7559

4th & 5th September 2021

Ministers of the Word

6.30pm: Brendan Kenny

8.30am: Maureen Kavanagh

11.00am: Eleanor Hawkins

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.30pm: Maire Bernie & Mary Fortune

8.30am: Eileen Brickley & Sr. Cecelia

11.00am: Eleanor Hawkins & Mary Sinnott

Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

1. Personal prejudices and agendas can block us from listening to the what another person has to say. Who do they think they are? Perhaps you have experienced this. What difference has it made to you when you were able to focus on the content of what was being said and leave to one side your own prejudices about the speaker?
2. It has been said that there is nothing as useless as the right advice at the wrong time. We may want to reach out to another but may be unable to because at that moment the other person is not ready to be helped. Like Jesus we can 'do no deed of power'. As Jesus had to be patient and wait for another opportunity, so do we. What have you learned about the importance of patience in working with others?
3. Religion easily brings up prejudices. Some dismiss religion as superstition, old hat, or based on an outdated world view. Even among believers, prejudice can make it hard for individuals to listen to an alternative way of looking at things, to consider a different way of celebrating liturgy, or to live at peace with difference. Yet a closed mind can lead to a stagnant faith. When have you found that a willingness to consider a different perspective led to a deepening and strengthening of your faith?

Sincere Sympathy

Is extended to Nora Furlong & Family, Knockveagh, on the death of her brother Fr. Michael Keane SPS, Kiltegan, who died recently.

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

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 ourladyisland.ie
Coffee Shop and Gift Shop open daily
Pilgrims welcome to Church and Island

First Friday

All invalids in the parish on the sick list will be visited on Thursday & Friday 2nd & 3rd September with Holy Communion.

Simply Divine

On Simply Divine programme this week Maria Colfer speaks with a man who carried a 12 foot wooden cross through streets and has walked over 25,000 miles carrying that same cross through more than 180 countries, on all seven continents. But he says he has had the opportunity to introduce thousands of people to the man who hung on the cross. Hear his story at 10.04a.m. on Sat 4th Sept on South East Radio.

THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS WEEK

As he comes to the end of his time as bishop of Ferns, we talk to Bishop Denis Brennan as he looks back on his fifteen years of service – the highs, the lows and his hopes for the future. The newsletter insert includes an extract from St John Paul II's '*Pastores Gregis*' on the ministry of a bishop. The homily for the Twenty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time is offered by Fr Lar O'Connor who comments on Jesus' attention to our motives rather than external actions. We have an article that marks the beginning of the 'Season of Creation' from 1st September to 4th October. Finally, we include a conversation between David Quinn from the Iona Institute and David Nugent of Atheist Ireland on how faith or lack of faith has implications for social stability, values and ethics. Check out these and other resources available at www.thehookoffaith.com

Back to School

It will be great to have our schools open again next Tuesday and please God all will be safe and well for all the pupils, teachers and parents. Great preparations have taken place to facilitate the safety of all involved for which we are most grateful to our teachers and school staff. Hopefully, all will cooperate with the guidelines to help keep everyone safe. Please wash your hands and use sanitisers regularly. Keep yourself and others safe.