



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received for
Ferns for the week was **€477.80**
The amount received for
Ballyduff for month of August was **€909.40**
The amount received from **Cloogue** for the
month of August **€352.23**
Vocations Collection €289.00
Sick & Retired Priests €49.00
Thank you for your generosity

Marriage

*Congratulations to
Declan Breen and Claire Nolan
who were married recently. We wish
them health and happiness in their
Marriage life..*

Tidy Towns Committee

It is beautiful to see the flowers as we
enter the village from Gorey. Well done.

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 sup-
ports 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

Guided Pilgrimages on the Lough Derg

Pilgrim Path will be offered on *Sunday*
26th September and Sunday 3rd October,
with Mass outdoors, weather permit-
ting. The full route is a 12km loop, with a
shorter 8km option. **Advance booking is**
essential. For further information email
info@loughderg.org or telephone 0(0353)
71 9861518. www.loughderg.org *Lough*
Derg Pilgrim Path, Pettigo, Co Done-
gal. F94 N289

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. 16. No. 4

18th & 19th September 2021

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

19th September

Welcoming the Child

In today's gospel Jesus is instructing those who will follow on from him and carry on his work for future generations. He took a little child and said to the disciples, 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.' As we continue our journey through the Season of Creation, we are reminded of Pope Francis' words in Laudato Si - On Care for Our Common Home, where he challenges us to reflect: 'What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?' (Laudato Si, 160). In the context of the environmental crises our world is facing, how are we welcoming the generations to come? Pope Francis does not hold back when referring to the challenges: 'We may well be leaving to coming generations debris, desolation and filth' (LS, 161). We know that climate change and the biodiversity crisis are driving so many problems in our world at present. 'Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the distribution of goods. It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day.' (LS, 25). Yet our pace of consumption does not ease. Young people are standing up and calling governments and world leaders to account, rightly concerned about their future.

During this Season of Creation, we must pray for our world, and act. How can we restore our common home and ensure that our world is liveable for the generations who are coming after us? Can your parish explore becoming an Eco-Parish, setting up a care for creation team, turning church grounds in areas which promote biodiversity? There is so much we can do, and no action is too small. We must listen to the cry of the earth and the cry of our young people. 'The one thing we need more than hope is action. Once we start to act, hope is everywhere. So instead of looking for hope, look for action. Then, and only then, hope will come.' - Greta Thunberg.

Reflection for weekend 18th Sept & 19th Sept 2021

Season of Creation

We, the people, have made mistakes. We have made mistakes in our relationships with those who came before us and the land that holds their histories. We have made mistakes in how we have managed and misunderstood the wild... We can continue on the path we have been on, in this nation that privileges profit over people and land; or we can unite as citizens with a common cause--the health and wealth of the Earth that sustains us. We have arrived at the hour of land.

A Prayer for the Synodal Pathway

Lord of all hopefulness, as we embark on this journey together,
may we listen and discern and be guided by the Holy Spirit, who constantly breathes new life into our world, our hearts, our families, homes and parishes.
May renewal and reform, fresh hope and healing come for all people of God in Ireland.
By virtue of our baptism may we each play our part in transforming the church through a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit which is your gift and promise, upon our land.
Grant us the encouragement we need to bring faith, hope and love in abundance to meet the challenges before us and to fulfil the Church's mission of proclaiming to the world, God's love and salvation in Jesus Christ.
A Mhuire Mháthair, mother of the Church, guard and guide us on our pilgrim way. Amen.

**Mass Time & Intentions
This Weekend**

**18th & 19th September 2021
FERNS CHURCH**

6.30pm: Myles Tyrell, Coolbawn
John Roche, Tombrack & deceased family
members

8.30am: People of the Parish

11.00am: Thomas & Kathleen Fortune,
Ballyandrew & deceased family members

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Jack & Mary Murphy, Ballyandrew &
their son Tim

Garrett & Eileen O'Leary, Clonee Upper &
deceased family members of The O'Toole &
Murphy Families, Clonee Lower

9.30am:

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

10.15am:

CONVENT

**Wednesday September 22nd 2021
7.00pm:**

**Mass Time & Intentions
Next Weekend**

**25th & 26th September 2021
FERNS CHURCH**

6.30pm: Jimmy Dunbar, Coolbawn
Christina Murphy, Tincurry & deceased family
members of The Murphy Family.

8.30am: People of the Parish

11.00am: Mary Nolan, Tombrack
Sarah & Miley Breen, Coolbawn

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Aidan & Margaret O'Neill, Ballybeg
Tom Conroy, Coolnaleen House

9.30am: Kitty Murphy, Kilbora

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

10.15am:

THE PRIEST ON DUTY

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

25th & 26th September 2021

Ministers of the Word

6.30pm: Mary Cash

8.30am: Dermot O'Brien

11.00am: Joe Sinnott

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.30pm: Margaret Maguire & Michael Bernie

8.30am: Eileen Brickley & Sr. Cecelia

11.00am: Ann Swaine & Michael Breen

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

1. John objected when a person, who was not in their group, cast out demons in Jesus' name. Jesus himself had no problems with this. Jealousy can poison our outlook even when what is done by another is good. 'S/he is invading my patch.' Perhaps you have seen, in yourself or in others, the negative effect of jealousy and the contrasting positive effect of being able to rejoice that good is being done, irrespective of the person doing it.
2. In strong terms Jesus condemns those who are destructive of the life of others, particularly the 'little ones'. Just as Jesus came that we might have life and have it to the full, we likewise are here to make a positive difference to others. What was it like for you when you were able to do something that was helpful to another?
3. Rather dramatically Jesus tells us to cut off a hand, or tear out an eye, rather than harm another. It is not to be taken literally but it does mean that we should not be casual about our efforts to live a good life. When have you experienced the benefits of an element of seriousness in your approach to life?

BAPTISMS

We welcome into our
community of faith

Tori-Faye Mary Moynihan

Jake Noel Murphy

Ava Lily Jordan Ryan

Katherine Elizabeth Connors

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.*

A Prayer for our Earth

All powerful God, you are present in the universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with your peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle, for justice, love and peace. (Laudato Si')

First Communion Congratulations

We congratulate the children from Ballyduff who received their First Communion on Saturday last. It was a beautiful ceremony and we congratulate the children, teachers and parents for the way the children have been prepared and turned out. We pray that they will regularly return to the Lord to receive his great gift.

**Gorey Further Education & Training
Centre Free, Part Time Courses**

Return to learning: Basic Computers, Intermediate Computer, Everyday Maths & Reading & Writing Skills. Family Learning: Child Development & Play, Reading with your kids & School Maths for Parents. Accredited Modules in Computers, Office Procedures, Intercultural Studies, Career Preparation, Painting & Decoration & Managing Personal Finance. Please Contact: Mary Jordan 086 8533145 or maryjordan@wwetb.ie

Diaries

For 2022 are now in. Anyone wanting to book a Mass in Ferns, Ballyduff or Clologue can now do so by contacting The Parish Office on 053 9366514 or dropping into the office.

Icon Classes New Ross

What do you know about religious Icons? Well if you wish to find out more and have a chance to make your own, please contact Sr. Helen at the Carmelite Monastery on 087 2181687. Sr. Helen is starting new courses for both beginners and experienced artists alike, here in New Ross, on 22nd September. All brushes, paints, boards and tuition supplied. Spaces are limited, so book early.

THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS WEEK

The voice of Andrea Bocelli is one of the most recognised and popular around the world. In a video interview, he talks about the importance of his faith that inspires the lyrics and music he composes. The homily for the Twenty-Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time focuses on our call to become child-like before God but not childish. We have the usual newsletter insert and reflect on the lives of both St Matthew and St Pio whose feast days we celebrate this week. Finally, we have more article and resources to use as we make our way through the 'Season of Creation'. Check out these and other resources available at www.thehookoffaith.com