



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received for
Ferns for the week was **€597.50**
The amount received for **Ballyduff** for month
of **September** was **€528.00**
The amount received from **Cloogue** for the
month of **September** **€398.10**
Vocations Collection **€289.00**
Sick & Retired Priests **€49.00**
Thank you for your generosity

Harvest Thanksgiving

This weekend the first Sunday in October we celebrate Harvest Thanksgiving in all our churches. We are celebrating the Month of Creation at present and it is a fitting time to thank God for the fruits of the earth and all their benefits to humankind. We have food to nourish us, water to refresh us and keep us hydrated, leaves of the trees to purify our air and animals for food. Remember the hungry & share.

On Saturday October 9th, **The Hail Holy Queen Conference** will be on Radio Maria Ireland at 2pm. Guest speakers include Bishop John Keenan, Dr. Patrick Kenny, Fr. Gerry McCloskey, and Dr. Blythe Kaufman.

On the following day (Sunday Oct 10th), the **Coastal Rosary** will take place at 2.30pm. Join people from around Ireland to pray the Rosary for Life and Faith at our grottos, churches, at the coasts and other suitable places. We encourage you to gather safely being mindful of COVID 19 regulations. Simply sign up a Rosary location at www.coastalrosaryireland.ie or text your location to 087 278 6552.

Diaries

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

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 6.15pm 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 **Eircode: Y21 FD 73**

ST. BRIDGET'S CHURCH, CLOOGUE

Weekend Mass Time: Sunday 9.45am

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. 16. No. 6

2nd & 3rd October 2021

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reflection for weekend 2nd Oct & 3rd Oct 2021

Pope Francis on The Synod (part 11)

The synodal journey will require discussing viewpoints and expectations that are different and seeking out people who have been alienated "to hear not what they say but what they feel, even the insults," he said.

"Allow yourselves to meet (others) and be questioned (by them), let their questions be your questions, allow yourselves to walk together. The Spirit will lead you," the pope told them. "Do not be afraid to enter into dialogue and allow yourselves to be shocked by the dialogue. It is the dialogue of salvation."

"The Holy Spirit in his freedom knows no boundaries, nor does he allow himself to be limited by affiliations," he said; if the parish is not to be "an exclusive club, then I suggest you leave doors and windows open" so everyone can be welcomed.

No one should be afraid, impatient or "rigid" in interpreting whatever difficulties emerge, he added, as long as people remain open and docile to the Spirit.

"God is not in a hurry," and he can see beyond present circumstances and contrasts, he said. People need to "acknowledge the freedom of God's action and (make sure) that there are no obstacles that could keep him from reaching people's hearts."

After Christ's death and resurrection, God did not leave behind a "vacuum" that has to be filled by people insisting on taking his place or demanding the church be modelled on their cultural or historical beliefs -- leading the church to become like a country with "armed borders, guilt-mongering customs houses" with "a spirituality that blasphemes the gratuity of God's engaging action," Pope Francis said.

Instead, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit, who provides the "drive," strength and ability to be witnesses in words and deeds of God's unconditional love and his immense hospitality that knows no bounds or borders, the pope said. This is the church's path and a synodal church moves in the world knowing the Holy Spirit "will be with us," he said.

"There will always be debates, thanks be to God," he said, "but the solutions must be sought by giving the floor to God and to the voices of those among us: praying and opening our eyes to everything around us; living a life faithful to the Gospel; and examining Revelation according to a hermeneutic of pilgrimage" that began in the "Acts of the Apostles" and continues today.

Reading through Acts can "help us, showing us that communion does not suppress differences. It is the surprise of Pentecost when different languages are not an obstacle," he said.

Parish Mass Times Adjustments

Since the beginning of June you have been aware that there is only one priest in the parish and we have three Churches to be catered for. Up to the present we have been blessed with Mass at 9.30a.m. each weekday, two Saturday Vigil Masses and four Sunday Masses. I am blessed to have Fr. Pat Stafford (retired), who is willing to help regularly and I am most grateful to him for his support and generosity.

When it comes to Fr. Pat or I going away for Pilgrimage or Holiday then it will be impossible for one priest to supply all Masses as at present. At least one hour and a quarter will be needed between Masses. Unfortunately, the morning Mass in Ballyduff will be dropped. To help facilitate a comfortable time between Masses the following arrangement will **commence on 09/10th October:**

Saturday Vigil Mass: Ferns 6.15p.m. Ballyduff 7.30p.m.

Sunday Mass: Ferns 8.30a.m. Cloogue 9.45a.m. Ferns: 11.00a.m.

All areas will change a little but this seems best for the present, please understand..

**Mass Time & Intentions
This Weekend**

2nd & 3rd October 2021

FERNS CHURCH

6.15pm: Martin Murphy, Ballylough
Joe Harney, Castlelands

8.30am: Margaret Clinch McGinley

11.00am: Catherine Nolan, Tombrack
Paula Breen, Newtown and her uncle Amby,
Boolavogue

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: John Murphy

9.30a.m. Pat & Dora Kinsella, Kilbora
Thomas & Gretta Carton & Pat Carton,
Aidanswood

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

10.15 a.m.

CONVENT

Wednesday October 6th 2021

7.00pm:

**Mass Time & Intentions
Next Weekend**

9th & 10th October 2021

FERNS CHURCH

6.15pm: Anne-Marie O'Gorman (Bolger)
Margaret Morris, Pairc Mhuire.

8.30am: Dermot Cullen, Pairc Mhuire.
Anto O' Brien Coolbawn.

11.00am: Catherine Morris, St Anne's, Ferns
Declan Jordan, Tombrack.

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: William Kehoe, Raheen.
Fr Aidan Jones.

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am:

THE PRIEST ON DUTY

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

*There is nothing you could ever
do that would change the way
God feels about you*

9th & 10th October 2021

Ministers of the Word

6.30pm: Mary O'Brien

8.30am: Denis Kinsella

11.00am: Irene O'Toole

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.30pm: Ann Bernie & Brid Breen

8.30am: Eileen Brickley & Sr. Cecelia

11.00am: Ann Swaine & Eleanor Hawkins

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

1. Marriages do break down, but in this story Jesus appears as the wise person urging people to seek first the original harmony where possible, rather than seek escape routes when difficulties arise. When have you found that, in marriage or in other relationships, the bonds have been strengthened when you have been prepared to work through difficulties?
2. There are other things that we needlessly and wrongly put in opposition: young and old, male and female, people from different cultures, body and soul. Perhaps at times you have discovered the advantages of exploring the richness in combining such apparently exclusive opposites.
3. The children in the second story can be taken as representing any group of 'little ones' whose opinion we may be inclined to dismiss. When have you found that you have been taught an important lesson about life, about love, or about faith by people whose views you had been inclined to dismiss?

Ferns Diocesan Youth Services,

FDYS is recruiting youth workers for a new Youth Work Project in the Bunclody area. The Application Form and job specification are available from Kieran Donohue, 053 91 23262 or email: fdyswexford@gmail.com

Day for Life

This weekend we celebrate Day for Life. We give thanks to God for the gift of human life and pray that it will be respected.

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')

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the faith

Jim Berry

Jack Patrick Christy Redmond
who were baptised recently.

**The Fr. Jim Fitzpatrick
Tractor Run**



Will be held on Sunday
24th October in Ferns.
Registration from 11am
in Ferns GAA grounds.

All proceeds on the day
will benefit The Jack & Jill
Foundation and First Light.
All support greatly appreciated.
For more information ring Deirdre on
087 6388977

Baptisms

As and from 1st November Baptisms in the parish will be multiple celebrations on Saturdays at 3pm and Sundays at 12 noon. All existing bookings will take place as planned.

**THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS
WEEK**

This Sunday, the Church celebrates the 'Day for Life' which puts before us the sacredness of human life and the dignity of every human being. To mark the 'Day for Life' a new documentary has been released that tracks Ireland's vote to legalise abortion in 2018. 'Ireland's Fall' is a powerful YouTube video that exposes darker influences on the vote and its consequences. We also celebrate the 10th anniversary of Gianna Care who offer support and help to expectant mothers and families. The Homily for the Twenty-Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time is offered by Sr Louise O'Rourke. Ibar Quirke reflects on the Feast of St Francis which marks the end of the 'Season of Creation'. Finally, the newsletter insert is a beautiful invitation to trust with a prayer by St Francis de Sales. Check out these and other resources available at www.thehookoffaith.com