



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received for Ferns for the week was €1,141.70

The amount received for Ballyduff for month of November was €226.00

The amount received from Cloogue for the month of November €437.10

Missions Collection €2570.00

Non Registered Parishioners

The support of the Churches is our parish comes from the Sunday Envelope/ Direct Debit contributors. We are most grateful to all who support at present. It would be most beneficial if all could support, if you would like to do so please contact the parish office or Fr. Cushen. Due to Covid 19 our fundraising events have been cancelled, so please register.

St Martin Magazine

Money is now due for St Martin Magazine. The cost will be €13.20 for the year. Anyone interested in ordering a copy please contact Rita on 087 7738966

Ministers of Holy Communion and Readers 2022 ROTA

Are now available for collection from the Parish Office or Sacristy. Thank you all for your contribution to the Church in 2021 it is very much appreciated.

Mary's Meals

Feeds almost 2 million hungry children every school day in a place of education. An Online Quiz, to support their efforts, takes place on the last Friday of EVERY month at 8pm. To join/donate go to www.bit.ly/QuizforMM or contact Martin Colfer on 087 2596159. Thank you.

ST. AIDAN'S PARISH INFORMATION

Very Rev Paddy Cushen. P.P. Tel: 053-9366152 / Mobile: 087 2387559.

E-mail: frpaddyushen@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.fernsadoration.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. 1 9

1st & 2nd January 2022

2nd Sunday of Christmas

New Year

On Saturday we commenced a New Year, 2022. The First Day of the New Year has been set aside by the Church as 'World Day of Peace.' We pray for peace in the world, that all people will respect and value every human life and work to bring about peaceful solutions to war stricken areas of the world and the hearts of people. Peace means more than the absence of war and violence. To have true peace we must have Justice too. We pray that all Governments, Church and world leaders will work together to bring about true peace and justice. Let us pray for our politicians that they will legislate for the dignity and respect of all our people.

We are so saddened each day to hear of murders and lack of respect for the dignity of the human person. Also we think of the lack of respect and value for human life because of the illicit use of drugs. If you purchase or use drugs you are encouraging those who are destroying lives by supporting them to increase their business of selling drugs to destroy more lives. All of us are precious people, we are full of goodness and we must let that goodness shine out from us in how we care for our God given gift of LIFE. Make sure you care for your own life and help enhance the lives of others and in no way be the cause of devaluing or destroying the life of another by any evil or selfish practise.

We pray that each one of us will be instruments of peace, bringing peace, joy, respect and happiness to all we come in contact with. We pray that our words and actions will always bring peace to others. Unfortunately, at times because of disregard for others, especially in how we use our roadways and vehicles, people can cause great grief to many families and maim innocent people, as they go along their way, obeying the legislators who legislate for the safety of all. Please if you drink don't drive.

Let us, as we begin the new year ask—is there an area in my life which could be causing or could cause lack of respect and peace in the life of another? If the answer is 'yes' then reflect on your behaviour and do what you can to make sure that we are upholding the great principle of a true Christian, in being an instrument of peace. In your home, place of work, area of recreation, as you travel on the road, etc. ask God's guidance to be a peacemaker especially at this season of Peace and Good will.

This year with the pandemic of Covid 19 let us be vigilant and prudent in our actions to make sure we bring life to all we come in contact with.

A Happy, Safe and Peaceful New Year to all.

**Mass Time & Intentions
This Weekend**

1st & 2nd January 2022

FERNS CHURCH

6.15pm: Anna May Maher, Pairc Mhuire & her son Michael

8.30am: Catherine Dwyer, Rockville & Brigid Errity, Pairc Mhuire

11.00am: Margaret Nolan, Tombrack

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm:

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am:

CONVENT

Wednesday 5th January 7.00 p.m.

**Mass Time & Intentions
Next Weekend**

8th & 9th January 2022

Ferns Church

6.15pm: Mary Byrne, Rosemary Heights Jimmy & Anna Maria Mackey, Station Road Mary & Charlie Christopher, Coolbawn

8.30am: Michael & Bridget Blackburn & their sons George & Pat

11.00am: John Walsh, The Barracks, Effernogue & his parents Mary & Ed Tommy Redmond, Enniscorthy Road

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Greg Murphy, Kilbora

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am: Aidan Murphy, St. Aidan's

Parish Office

Will reopen Tuesday 4th January 2022. Mass cards can be obtained after Mass at 9.30a.m. daily or at Centra.

THE PRIEST ON DUTY

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

If not available please call

**Very Rev. Pat Stafford
086 234 4674**

8th & 9th January 2022

Ministers of the Word

6.15pm: Mary Cash

8.30am: Theresa Nolan

11.00am: Eleanor Hawkins

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.15pm: Mary Cullen & Dora Murphy

8.30am: Eileen Brickley & Sr. Cecelia

11.00am: Eleanor Hawkins & Christopher Power

A Happy New Year!

This is a wish we offer to people as we begin a new year. Did you ever ask yourself or reflect on what you are saying? It should not just be words, but have real meaning. Am I really meaning a very

happy new year.

Ask yourself how have I been treating that person in the last year?

Have I been a true Christian to that person? If yes, increase on the blessing you are, if **not** then pledge to make real change, so that the person will see you are a bringer of true peace. Have love and respect. St Paul tells us how to do it.

Respect/Love is patient and kind, it is never jealous

Never rude or selfish, it is always ready to excuse, to trust and endure whatever comes. Do your best and may God give you a Peaceful New Year.

Sincere Sympathy

Is extended to the family of John Power, Forties, Clologue who died in a tragic accident on Sunday.

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

First Friday

All invalids in the parish on the sick list will be visited on Thursday & Friday 6th & 7th January with Holy Communion.

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

(6th January)

A new born baby usually tends to attract visitors and gifts. The Magi are described as wise men from the East. They may have been astronomers or philosophers but most definitely they were people who had their eyes, ears and minds open to the events going on around them, to the signs of their times. We see in today's Gospel how God is working through people that we least expect. The wise men were not 'religious', they would not have been considered 'the people of God'. Yet, God is working through them in lots of different ways. They may not have been considered 'righteous' in their time, but they are certainly people who have come to bow down and worship God. This story has a clear message: that Jesus has come for all people, not just a select few.

Today, perhaps we can think about times when we found Christ in unexpected places. How did we react? What star, what guidance had brought us there? What gifts did we leave there? What gifts were we given there?

'Whenever the Christ in one of us meets the Christ in another, there will be an exchange of gifts. Let this thought protect us from the patronising attitude that we must "convert" the other to our own way of living the Christ-life'



BAPTISMS

We welcome into the faith
Margaret Laurence
who was baptised recently.

A History of Ferns

This full colour and fully illustrated book is 144 pages long and is a comprehensive history of Ferns and its locality exploring the evolution of the village from the sixth century to the present day.

It is priced at 10 euros. Any queries please contact 0866089198.

Also available in The Parish Office.

Feast of Epiphany

Holy Day Mass Times

Thursday 6th January 2022

Ferns: Wed. 6.15pm Thurs: 9.30am

Ballyduff: Wed. 7.30p.m.

Clologue: Thurs: 10.00a.m.

FEAST OF EPIPHANY

The word Epiphany means a manifestation or making known. On this day the Infant Jesus was made known as the Saviour of the whole world. The Three Wise Men Casper, Melchiar and Balthazar, came from different countries, they were non Jews, the Jewish people had expected the Saviour to come to save just the Jewish race but on this day it was made known that Jesus came to save all people. The Three Wise Men brought gifts—**Gold** - the most precious metal that could be found, most fitting for a King, reminding us of the Jesus the Universal King.

Frankincense - used by a priest, reminding us that Jesus was the High Priest.

Myrrh - used to embalm people for burial, reminding us that Jesus would die to save us.

The Wise Men were led to Jesus by a Star.

We have been led to Jesus by our Parents and Community. Let us be guiding stars of Jesus to others by our encouragement, words and deeds.