



### Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received

Ferns for the week was €406.00

The amount received for Ballyduff for month of February was €2142.00

The amount received from Cloogue for the month of February €507.00

*Thank you for your generosity.*

#### A History of Ferns

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

Also available in The Parish Office.

#### Coming events

Lenten **Penitential Service** in Ferns Church Palm Sunday 10th April 7.00p.m.  
**Talk on Prayer** by Sr. Stephanie, Lore-to Convent, Gorey in Ferns Pastoral Centre, beside Parochial House on Monday 11th April. All very welcome.



Trocaire was established by the Irish Bishops Conference to help those in the Third World through evangelisation in the Catholic Faith, Education, Health Clinics, Hospitals, Farming support, Hygiene, irrigation, Horticulture, Poverty Relief, etc. Please try and support the efforts of Trocaire in helping those in deprived and war torn areas in the world. Our Irish nation is noted for the help of the deprived world wide. Our history shows we got help from other nations in our need, Let us care for those in need today. "I was hungry and you gave me food".

We appeal to you if you have not collected a Trocaire Box to please collect one at the Parish Church or Parish 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.

**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, CLOLOGUE

**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](http://www.fernsparish.ie)



# Ferns Parish Newsletter

The Season of Lent



Vol. 16. No. 32

2nd & 3rd April 2022

5th Sunday of Lent

#### Receive Forgiveness; Show Mercy

The logic of the kingdom of heaven is clear: when we receive forgiveness, we show mercy. When we don't know forgiveness; we can't show mercy and our hearts grow hard. We seek forgiveness for we have sinned; we show mercy because we have been forgiven. When did you last experience the grace of the Sacrament of Mercy, the Sacrament of Forgiveness?

In the Sacrament of Reconciliation God's mercy and forgiveness is made real and present-through it we are touched by his forgiving and merciful heart.

John 8:31-42

*'Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free'*

'It is easy to love people who are far away' said St. Mother Teresa. 'It is not always easy to love those close to us. It is easier to give a cup of rice to relieve hunger than to forgive someone in our own home.' Forgiveness is another word for love. Replacing the word 'forgiveness' for 'love' in St Paul's great hymn of love (1 Corinthians 13) gives us an insight into how wonderful forgiveness truly is: 'Forgiveness is patient and kind; forgiveness does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful. It does not rejoice in wrong doing but rejoices with the truth. Forgiveness bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things' (cfl Corinthians 13:4-7).

#### Tombrack Big Clean up

We have registered for both An Taisce National Spring Clean and The North Wexford 2k with Wexford County Council.

Two roads have been registered in total and we require as many residents as possible to come out and help.

If the designated dates and times do not suit, please feel free to choose a day and time that suits you best.

Bags gloves and picking sticks will be available.

The scheduled clean up for the roads are:

**Tombrack to Craan** - Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April Meet at Tombrack Hall at 11.00am

**Tombrack to Strahart** - Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April Meet at Tombrack Hall at 11.00 am

Please wear high vis jackets. For further information contact Nan 0863645631 or Catherine 0539366248

#### THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS WEEK

In its Lenten campaign this year, Trocaire is highlighting the plight of people in East Africa who are struggling with the effects of climate change. We find out more and why these people cannot be forgotten at a time when so many are in need. The homily for the Fifth Sunday of Lent is all about mercy, healing and conversion. We have a meditation by Pope Francis for the newsletter insert. We include a reflection by a participant in the recent synodality meetings who looks forward to a new era of hope for our Church. We feature poems by Philip Quirke and a video on the priesthood of all the baptised and our call to mission. Finally, as the celebration of Easter edges closer, we explore five reasons why we should participate in the Eucharist on Sundays. Check out these and other resources available at [www.thehookoffaith.com](http://www.thehookoffaith.com)

### Mass Time & Intentions

#### This Weekend

2nd & 3rd April 2022

#### FERNS CHURCH

6.15pm: Nicolas & Chrissi Browne,  
Piercestown.

Winifred Levingstone,  
Paic Mhuire.

8.30am: Billy Reilly, Ballyandrew

11.00am: Patrick & Teresa Davitt &  
deceased family members & William & Sarah  
Plummer, Lodgewood.

Louis & Annie Bolger & their son Pat, Station  
Road, & Cathal Mooney, New Ross.

#### BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Noel Kinsella, Ballyduff.

#### CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am:

### Mass Time & Intentions

#### Next Weekend

9th & 10th April 2022

#### FERNS CHURCH

6.15pm:

8.30am: People of the Parish

11.00am:

#### BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm:

#### CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am: John Kennedy, Clologue

### 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

### Easter in two Weeks

Only two weeks left in Lent, next Sunday will be Palm Sunday and the following will be Easter Sunday. We ask people to prepare as best they can for the remainder of the Lenten season, to improve and be more faithful to the gospel message.

9th & 10th April 2022

### Ministers of the Word

6.15pm: Brendan Kenny

8.30am: Denis Kinsella

11.00am: Irene O'Toole

### Ministers of Holy Communion

6.15pm: Margaret Maguire & Michael Bernie

8.30am: Eileen Brickley

11.00am: Ann Swaine & Michael Breen



### Congratulations

To the children of

**Scoil Naomh Maodhóg** who

received the sacrament of

Confirmation on Friday last.

### NOTICE TO ENVELOPE DISTRIBUTORS

The Easter 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.

### BAPTISMS

We welcome into the faith

**Christy Michael Cash**

who was baptised recently.

### Ukraine

*Grateful thanks to all who supported the collection last week and all the other appeals for the people of Ukraine. The amount donated last week end was €1,300.00 which was very generous. Please continue to remember the people who are suffering from this terrible war And keep them in your prayer.*

### Mental Health Talk

We had an excellent talk on mental health on Monday in the Pastoral Centre. The numbers were small but the quality was great. This is a most important issue for society at present and all the help that is available should be valued and appreciated. There are leaflets which would be of help for people in this area.

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

In St. Aidan's Church each weekday Mon.—Sat. from 10.00a.m. to 1.00p.m. in the Mortuary Chapel. We would appreciate more adorers if possible to commit to one hour weekly. Co-

Coordinator will be Ena Gray 087 2991683.

**Rosary, Night Prayer and Reflection in the Pastoral Centre**  
Monday—Friday 9.00-9.30p.m. All are welcome to come and pray.

### Sincere Sympathy

Is extended to Mauren Tonks and family on the death of John Tonks Snr. Milltown and to Nancy Kinch, Ferns Lower, and family on the death of William (Bill). **Rest in Peace.**  
*May God console the bereaved in their grief and loss.*

### Cake Sale

In Ballyduff school on Thurs. 7th April at 10am. Everyone is welcome and all proceeds of cake sale will go to the school.



### Lourdes Pilgrimage

20th-24th June 2022, 4 Nights

**Led by the Bishop of Ferns,**  
**Most Rev. Ger Nash**

Pilgrimage Director: *Fr. Matt Boggan*

Spiritual Director: *Fr. Brian Broaders*

Hotels: Padoue, Agena & La Solitude

Prices from €679 p.p.s, daily Breakfast,  
Lunch & Dinner.

Highlights include: Mass at Grotto,

Anointing of the Sick, Torchlight

Procession, Blessed Sacrament

Procession & International Mass

Enquiries to: *Fr Matt Boggan* 051  
565610. *Joe Walsh Tours*: 01 2410800

Email: [info@joewalshstours.ie](mailto:info@joewalshstours.ie)

**Booking Forms available in  
Parish Office.**

### Meetings in preparation for Synod of the Church

If you missed the meeting last

Tuesday you still can attend

**Monday, April 4th at 7.30pm in Whites  
Hotel, Wexford**

**Tuesday, April 5th at 7.30pm in  
Amber Springs Hotel Gorey**

### 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.*

### Ferns and District

#### Active Retirement Association

Our next meeting will be held on  
**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2022** at 3.00 p.m.  
A 3 night break to the **Radisson Hotel  
Athlone**, from the **17<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> of  
May**, will be discussed.

New members are always welcome to join the Association and non members are welcome to join us on the proposed trip. Any query to Colm at 0863866582.

### Blessing

You bless us, Lord,  
as you show us that to forgive is a  
greater good than to hold onto grudges.

You bless us, Lord,  
as you free us from the imprisonment  
of resentment and regret.

You bless us, Lord,  
as you remind us that we are forgiven  
in the measure in which we are  
prepared to forgive.