



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received in
Ferns for the week was **€649.90**
 The amount received for **Ballyduff** for month
 of **December** was **€945.20**
 The amount received from **Cloogue** for the
 month of **December** **€458.40**
Thank you for your generosity.

Eircode

It is most important that you know your Eircode for your premises. In case of an emergency of any kind it is the fastest way to identify your destination and minutes can be most important in any emergency.

Where should you keep the Code?

Beside your phone. Inside your door.
 Beside your bed. Now is the time to look it up and have it ready, because in an emergency panic sets in and if you have not got it, this could be too late and it will increase anxiety.

Green Fingered Helpers Needed

Traditionally over the years the pupils in Scoil Naomh Maoldhóg have always had the opportunity to get out into the school garden to keep it maintained, plant flowers and grow vegetables. The benefits of this are twofold, the pupils experience the outdoors while getting their hands dirty and the school grounds are enhanced. Unfortunately, over the last while it has become more and more difficult to facilitate this type of activity in school. Currently we have great plans afoot to develop new planted areas, grow more vegetables and plant trees. To enable as many pupils as possible to take part, we are looking for parent or grandparent helpers. No gardening experience or expertise required!! Depending on the number of volunteers, we envisage that it would be for a few hours once every 3 to 4 weeks. If you feel this is something you or a family member would be interested in and could commit to, please contact the school by phone 053-9366205 or email fernsschool@gmail.com for further information

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**

Opening Hours: 9am-1pm & 2pm-4pm Mon-Fri

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, 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

We have 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. 17. No. 24

28th & 29th January 2023

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

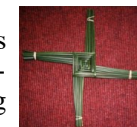


FEAST OF ST. AIDAN

This Monday 30th January will be the feast of St. Aidan the Patron Saint of our Parish and Diocese. Aidan, was born in Breifne (Cavan) and established his chief Church at Ferns in Ui Cinsealaigh in 598AD and founded many Churches in the area. He was the first Bishop of the Diocese of Ferns. Aidan was renowned for his generosity and kindness. He died in the year 626AD.

ST. BRIDGET

On Wednesday 1st February we celebrate St. Bridget's Day. She was renowned for her hospitality, alms giving and care of the sick. She was born in 454 of a wealthy family. She became a religious and was guided by St. Mel. Others followed her example and joined her in founding of a Monastery in Kildare with the assistance of Bishop Conleth. She died in 524. She is the Patron Saint of Kildare and Leighlin and secondary Patron of Ireland. Making a St. Brigid's cross is one of the traditional rituals in Ireland to celebrate the beginning of early spring, 1st February. The crosses are made of rushes that are pulled rather than cut. They are hung by the door and in the rafters to protect the house from fire and evil.



FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord takes place on Thursday 2nd of February, it is also known as Candlemas Day. If you would like to have candles blessed, please leave them in Ferns Church or the Parish Office on/or before Wednesday 1st February.

We will also have the candles for sale in the Parish Office.

FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

On Friday 3rd February we celebrate the feast of St. Blaise. **There will be Mass at 9.30 a.m. and 7.00 p.m. and we will have the Blessing of Throats before and after Mass.** Also after Mass on the following Saturday and Sunday. We ask God's blessing through the intercession of St. Blaise on our throats. Let us be conscious of our throats and how we use them. Let us thank God we can breathe, swallow, sing, talk, etc.; through the use of our throats. Be thankful for the food we eat and be conscious of the words we use, let us give thanks to God for His gifts.



**Mass Time & Intentions
This Weekend**

28th & 29th January 2023

FERNS CHURCH

6.15pm: William Bolger, The Dell,
Ballycarney

Declan Murphy, Ballymorgan

8.30am:

11.00am: Noel Killeen, Pairc Mhuire

Leo Maguire, Clone Road

Mary Breslin, Coolbawn (Months Mind)

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Andy Doyle, Monasootha

Mary Anne Dunne, The Harrow

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am: Sean Redmond, Ballymore

**Mass Time & Intentions
Next Weekend**

4th & 5th February 2023

FERNS CHURCH

6.15pm: Margaret (Rita) Ronan, Coolbawn

8.30am:

11.00am: Myles Jordan, Carnew Road

Willie Fortune, Coolbawn

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Pat Hayden, Ballyduff

Deceased Family Members of Bolgers of

Ballybeg & Clondalkin

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am: Sheila & Paddy Ronan, Clologue
& their daughter Antoinette.

*"I do not seek to understand in order
that I may believe, but rather, I be-
lieve in order that I may understand"*
-St. Anselm of Canterbury



BAPTISMS

We welcome into the faith
Lauren Sophia Dunbar

who was baptised recently.
We wish her every blessing.

4th & 5th February 2023

Ministers of the Word

6.15pm: Brendan Kenny

8.30am: Maureen Kavanagh

11.00am: Joe Sinnott

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.15pm: Ann Bernie & Mary Fortune

8.30am: A Volunteer

11.00am: Ann Swaine & Eleanor Hawkins

Junior Infant Admission 2023

Scoil Naomh Maodhóg.

Parents/Guardians who wish to enrol
children into Junior Infants for September
2023 may download an application form
from the school website [http://
fernsschool.scoilnet.ie/blog/](http://fernsschool.scoilnet.ie/blog/),

email fernsschool@gmail.com or contact

the school office to arrange collection of
an Application Form from the **12th Janu-
ary 2023. Closing date for applications**

is 3pm on the 2nd February 2023. Ap-
plication forms have also been sent to the

local playgroups. The Code of Behav-
iour, Anti-Bullying Policy, Admission

Policy, Annual Admissions Notice and
School Ethos Statement may be viewed

on the school website. **Only fully com-
pleted Application Forms will be ac-**

cepted, accompanied by original Birth

Certificate, Utility Bill and Baptismal

Cert (if applicable). Further information
can be obtained from the school office on

053-9366205.
Le meas, John Halford (Principal)

Seasons Homecare

Healthcare information evening 'Live
Well At Home'.

We will have an expert of the healthcare
professionals to discussion.

Health at home

Recovering after illness

Medication Management

Join us for the first in our series of relaxed
information evening at Woodford Dolmen

Hotel Wednesday 1st February from 7pm-
9pm.

Evening hosted by Seasons Homecare
YOUR CARE, YOUR WAY

Ballyduff N.S. Enrolment September 2023

Ballyduff N.S. is currently enrolling for September 2023. Very exciting times lies
ahead for our school, particularly with our new sensory room completed. Please
download an application form from the school website ballyduffnswe.ie or
email ballyduffnswe@hotmail.com or contact the school office on 053 9383436
during the admission period.

Ballyduff School Secretary Position (Part Time Hours)

The successful candidate will be committed and will demonstrate the following qualities:
Essential skills:

- Excellent Administrative skills & general office experience
- Excellent typing skills and proficiency in Microsoft applications (Word, Excel & Outlook)
- Excellent interpersonal skills, including oral and written communication skills
- Excellent organisational skills, ensuring good record-keeping and adherence to school procedures & policies.
- Knowledge of GDPR & Data Protection requirements and confidentiality.
- Familiarity with school systems (eg Aladdin, POD & OLCS systems) and with the management of school finances and on-line payment systems.

Please apply by January 30th with your letter of application, CV and referees to
ballyduffjobs2023@gmail.com

Prayer to Saint Brigid

You were a woman of peace.

You brought harmony where there was con-
flict.

You brought light to the darkness.

You brought hope to the downcast.

May the mantle of your peace cover those
who are troubled and anxious, and may peace
be firmly rooted in our hearts and in our
world.

Inspire us to act justly and to reverence all
God has made.

Brigid you were a voice for the wounded and
the weary.

Strengthen what is weak within us.

Calm us into quietness that heals and listens.

May we grow each day into greater whole-
ness in mind, body and spirit. Amen

First Friday

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

St Martin Magazine

Money is now due for the St Martin
Magazine. If anyone is interested please
contact Rita Plummer on 087 7738966.

Ecumenical Gathering

After a three year gap owing to the Covid-
19 pandemic we will have an Ecumenical
Gathering in the St. John of God Retreat
Centre, Ballyvaloo, on **Wednesday**

1st February 2023 under the guidance of
St. Brigid. We have chosen the theme,

***New opportunities for the Churches to
work together.*** Rev. Trevor Morrow for-
mer Moderator of the Presbyterian Church
in Ireland will lead us.

The day will begin at **11.15a.m.** with regis-
tration and coffee. It will conclude at
4.00p.m. The contribution, *payable on the
day please* is €25 (including lunch, and
coffee on arrival). All are most welcome
to join us. Please contact Fr. James Murphy
on 087 8152637 (phone or text) by Mon-
day 30th January if you wish to attend.

Increase in Price of Mass Cards

We receive a great number of requests
for Mass Cards. The price has been
€10.00 for card and offering. Most of the
intentions are sent to the missions and
they expect €10.00. New price will be
€11.00, card €1.00 and €10.00 offering.