



### Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received in  
**Ferns** for the week was **€965.83**  
 The amount received for **Ballyduff**  
 for month of March was **€331.00**  
 The amount received from **Cloogue** for the  
 month of March **€292.00**  
*Thank you for your generosity.*

### St. Mark, Protector Against Disease Feast Day: April 25th Prayer

St. Mark, pray for us, that true devotion to the Divine Words of Christ may make us zealous soldiers in the warfare against evil.

### Ferns Parish Office & Shop

Large selection of Communion  
 Cards, Beads, Prayer Books and gifts  
 now in stock.

### THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS WEEK

The Gospel for this Third Sunday of Easter is the encounter of the risen Lord with the despondent disciples on the road to Emmaus. A homily on the text points to the importance of both accompaniment of each other on the pilgrim path and the centrality of teaching and catechesis that lifts our spirits to new horizons of hope. Fr Tony O' Riordan gives an update on the situation in Turkey/Syria in the region where the terrible earthquake happened a few weeks ago. We continue with the series 'The Creed in Slow Motion' and have articles on Saints Mark and Catherine of Siena whose feast days fall this week. Finally, two inspiring videos – the first on wanting to be a saint and the second on what happens when we adore Jesus truly present in the Eucharist. Check out these and other resources available at [www.thehookoffaith.com](http://www.thehookoffaith.com)

**St Joseph's Young Priests Society**  
 Monthly meeting on Monday night at  
 8.00pm in The Pastoral Centre.

### ST. AIDAN'S PARISH INFORMATION

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

E-mail: [frpaddycushen@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 087 4455393

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

Christ  
 is  
 Risen!

# Ferns Parish Newsletter



Vol. 17. No. 36

22nd & 23rd April 2023

3rd Sunday of Easter

### Bake Sale

Scoil Naomh Maodhóg are having their annual Bake Sale and Raffle on  
 Thursday 27th April from 10am in the school hall.

All are welcome for some Tea/Coffee and delicious cakes.

Any home-baking or donations of cakes can be dropped to the school from  
 9am onwards.

All proceeds raised will be used in part to help supplement the cost of  
 school tours and other PA initiatives.

### Ballyduff National School Clothing Collection 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Please donate all your clean unwanted clothes also bed linen, towels, curtains, shoes,  
 bags, belts and soft toys.

No duvets or pillows.

Please leave all donations in school bike shed before 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023

All support is greatly appreciated.

### First Holy Communion

Children in Second Classes in our primary schools are preparing hard with their teachers and families for the sacrament of First Holy Communion. For all children and their families this is a very special day, as they look forward to their children receiving the Eucharist for the first time. This great sacrament was instituted on the night before Jesus died, he celebrated the old feast of Passover first with a meal of lamb and then celebrated with Bread and Wine. He **Took** them, **Blessed** them, **Broke** them and **Shared** them. Jesus promised "The one who eats my flesh and drinks my blood will have eternal life."

### Third Sunday of Easter - 23 April 2023

Jesus joined the despondent disciples and listened to them. 'We had hoped...' .... When you have been upset or disappointed, who has joined you along the road? To whom have you been able to pour out your heart? Who was a 'Jesus person' to you, listening to you in respectful silence? To whom have you been a Jesus person? Jesus then helps them to see things in another light by opening the scriptures to them. When did you have the experience of finding your heart 'burning within you' with new hope for the future? Who/what helped you to change after a setback? The disciples invite Jesus to join them at table – there follows a recognition of who he is. We meet many people on the road of life. Usually we meet and pass on. Occasionally we meet someone whom we invite into our homes, into our hearts, in a deeper way. In what way in such relationships have you experienced the presence of God or of Jesus? After Jesus had gone the disciples went to bring the good news to others. When have you met others who told you what happened to them along their road? What effect did this sharing have on you? When have you done this with others? When was such a conversation 'good news' for you or others?

**Mass Time & Intentions  
This Weekend**

**22nd & 23rd April 2023**

**FERNS CHURCH**

**6.15 pm:** Bridget Byrne, The Barracks,  
Effernogue

Patrick (Pa) Kinsella, Bolachoir

**8.30am:** People of The Parish

**11.00am:** Nancy Hanlon, Coolbawn  
(Month's Mind)

**BALLYDUFF CHURCH**

**7.30pm:** Martha & Bob Cleary, Kilcloran  
& their daughter Pauline Doyle  
Phyllis McDonald, Camolin Park  
(Month's Mind)

**CLOLOGUE CHURCH**

**9.45am:**

**Mass Time & Intentions  
Next Weekend**

**29th & 30th April 2023**

**FERNS CHURCH**

**6.15pm:** Ferdinand & Louise Ralph &  
their sons Sean & Thomas

Sean Donnelly, Castle Manor

**8.30am:** Stephen O'Leary, Ballymotey,  
Ferns

**11.00am:** Aidan (Moses) Furlong,  
Knockreagh

**BALLYDUFF CHURCH**

**7.30pm:** Eddie Dreelan, Kiltown  
Andy & Nancy Hayden, Monasootha

**CLOLOGUE CHURCH**

**9.45am:** People of the Parish

**Sincere Sympathy**

Is extended to the Lancaster Family on  
the death of Annie (Nano) Lancaster,  
Craan, Craanford and formerly of  
Ballingale Ferns  
Coolbawn, Ferns. R.I.P.

*May God grant her eternal rest and  
console the bereaved in their grief.*

**29th & 30th April 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:** Liz Villar & Patricia Keenan

**The Diocese of Ferns will be holding  
Safeguarding Information Sessions  
throughout May 2023**

(Clergy and Parish Safeguarding Reps are  
required to attend full day and refresher  
courses)

These sessions are **particularly aimed at  
staff and parishioners** involved in any  
capacity in the life of the church; secretar-  
ies, sacristans, cleaning teams, choir lead-  
ers, catechists, altar server supervisors,  
flower arrangers, readers, collectors etc.  
However, **all who are interested are en-  
couraged to attend.**

This short session (approx. 90 minutes) will  
give you an insight into safeguarding in the  
context of the Catholic Church, and through  
the lens of our faith and community.

**Topics will include: What is safeguard-  
ing? Why do we safeguard? Who safe-  
guards?**

**Recognising, Responding, Reporting &  
Recording knowledge, suspicions and  
concerns of abuse**

**Wednesday 10th May**, Talbot Hotel, Wex-  
ford at 7.00pm

**Wednesday 17th May**, Riverside Hotel,  
Enniscorthy at 7.00pm

**Wednesday 24th May**, Brandon House  
Hotel, New Ross at 7.00pm

**Wednesday 31st May**, Ashdown Park Ho-  
tel, Gorey at 7.00pm.

**Free to attend, no booking required.**

For more information please contact:  
Emma Fitzgerald on 053 9174972 or safe-  
guarding@ferns.ie

**Ferns Prayer Group**

Next Prayer Group meeting in  
The Pastoral Centre on Wednesday 26th  
April from 7.30 pm. to 8.30 pm.  
**Everyone Welcome.**

**Conversations with Women in the  
Bible on May 12th/13th 2023 –  
CANCELLED.**

It is with great disappointment that we  
must cancel our Spring Conference which  
was scheduled for the Ballyvaloo Centre,  
Blackwater, Co. Wexford on Friday May  
12th and the Pembroke Hotel, Kilkenny  
on Saturday May 13th this year due to  
unforeseen circumstances. We apologise  
for any inconvenience caused.

**Ancient Connections Céili**

Saturday 22nd April-7.30pm at The  
Courtyard, Ferns. Join our Irish and  
Welsh Tourism Ambassadors for Music,  
Storytelling, Dancing and more!

**Communion Dates 2023**

**Ballyduff**

29th April at 11am

**Tombrack**

6th May at 11am

**Ferns**

20th May at 11am

**Irish Catholic Price Increase**

As and from the 1st of May, The Irish  
Catholic will go up from €2.50 to €3.00.  
That will mean anyone who has paid for  
the year will need to pay an additional  
€18 to cover from May 5th to Dec.29th.

**BAPTISMS**

We welcome into the faith  
**Ríán Liam James Doyle**

**& Michael Berry**

who were baptised recently.

**Mary's Meals**

The monthly online quiz for Mary's Meals,  
which has provided 350,000 meals to date for  
hungry children, takes place next Friday night  
(28th) at 8pm.

To enter for FREE: 1) go to MyQuiz.org and  
2) enter code for this month which is 851239.  
For further details or to donate go  
to [www.bit.ly/QuizforMM](http://www.bit.ly/QuizforMM) or contact Martin  
Colfer 087 2596159. Meals cost just 11c each.  
Thank you for your support.

**Trocaire Boxes Collection**

We ask you to please now return your  
Trócaire Boxes. We ask you to be  
mindful of those in the Third World  
who are in need of our help, support  
and generosity. A little will go a long  
way to help those in need. Your mon-  
ey will be most welcome in whatever  
form you decide to give. If possible  
we ask you to please convert the small-  
er coins you contribute to notes or  
large coins, this would be a tremen-  
dous help and would be deeply appre-  
ciated, when counting the money.

**The amount collected so far is  
€1,330.00 Grateful thanks.**

**Third Sunday of Easter  
23rd April 2023**

The four speeds of prayer are slow, slow-  
er, pause and reverse.

God promises believers a safe landing but  
not a smooth passage.

Jesus does not just call believers. He calls  
disciples who will follow him through  
suffering love to the cross.

Prayer is more about trust and hope than  
about arranging the world to suit me.

I cannot work miracles, but by active  
loving I can work healing all the time.

It is always a mistake to do nothing be-  
cause I can do just a little.

Before you sleep, name one thing for  
which you are grateful that day.

*Random Reflections – Mental  
Multi-Vitamins  
Des O'Donnell OMI  
(Messenger Publications)*

**Legion of Mary Conference**

'Who is She?', a day long conference  
for Our Lady. Takes place May 13th  
in All Hallows campus, Dublin, from  
9.30-16:30.

**Cost €30, to rsvp or for more  
information, contact**

[mariaassumptadublin@gmail.com](mailto:mariaassumptadublin@gmail.com).