



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received in
Ferns for the week was **€620.00**
 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. DOMINIC SAVIO — Confessor Feast Day May 6th

Assistant to St. John Bosco, Dominic organised a group of youths called the Company of the Immaculate Conception. He was a great peacemaker, and kept his companions enthralled (and quiet) with his stories. His motto "I cannot do big things, I want to do even the smallest things for God's glory". At times he was raised to ecstatic prayer, which he called his "distractions". He died at the age of 15.

Ferns Parish Office & Shop

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

THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS WEEK

'Marrying the right person' is a question that crosses the mind of many young people today. We have a video that helps you look for the signs. The homily for the Fifth Sunday of Easter focuses on Christ as 'the Way, the Truth and the Life' and the newsletter insert reflects on our common vocation as Church today to be a 'chosen race, a royal priesthood, a people set apart'. This links into the Pope's prayer intention for May which is for ecclesial movements and groups. We include a powerful talk by the daughter of a saint who witnesses to the gift of life and tells her remarkable story. We have an interview on the topic of vocations and continue the series of video commentaries on the Creed. Check out these and other resources available at www.thehookoffaith.com

Ferns Prayer Group

Next Prayer Group meeting in
 The Pastoral Centre on Wednesday 10th
 May from 7.30 pm. to 8.30 pm.
Everyone Welcome.

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 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



Ferns Parish Newsletter



Vol. 17. No. 38

6th & 7h May 2023

5th Sunday of Easter

Ballyduff National School Clothing Collection 16th 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 16th May 2023

All support is greatly appreciated.

The Pope's Monthly Intention

For church movements and groups: We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelisation each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

7th May 2023

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God. Believe also in me.' Trust in another person can help us in difficult times. Remember and give thanks for the people you were able to trust in difficult moments. Remember also when your faith in God helped you through anxious moments. Thomas struggled with the desire, which is in all of us, to know exactly the destination before we set out. Jesus invites us to make an act of faith and to take one step at a time. Can you recall times when it helped you to take that trusting attitude to life? Jesus proposed himself to Thomas as the way, the truth and the life. In what ways – either by his teaching or by his example – has Jesus been the way, the truth and the life for you on your faith journey? Philip wanted Jesus to give him a glimpse of God and got the surprising answer 'Whoever has seen me has seen the Father'. Jesus put a human face on the love of God. He gives us a glimpse of the divine. We are Jesus people in the world today, called to follow Jesus and to put a human face on the love of God for those who meet us. Who are the people whose love has helped you to believe in the love of God? To whom have you given an occasional glimpse of the divine?

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There is a song our parish choir sometimes sings, 'You are the centre O Lord, of my life'. The Church is not the centre of our lives; Jesus is the centre of our lives, and the Church exists to create a space for Jesus to be the centre of our lives. He is present to us in and through the community of believers, in and through his word, the Scriptures of the Church, in and through the Sacraments of the Church, especially the Eucharist and Reconciliation. It is the Spirit at work in the Church, and beyond the Church who brings Jesus to us so that he can become the centre of our lives.

Martin Hogan,

You Have One Teacher: Reflections on the Gospel of Matthew (Veritas).

Mass Time & Intentions This Weekend

6th & 7th May 2023

FERNS CHURCH

6.15 pm: James Kearney, Tombrack
Jim Lawlor, Castle Manor

8.30am: Bridget Whelan, Clone Road,
Ferns

11.00am: May Moore, Rosemary
Heights & her father Paddy & mother
Maggie & her brothers Billy, Jimmy, Mark
& Aidan & sisters Susan & Kathleen
Nora & Andrew Morris Pairc Mhuire &
deceased family members
Shelia Fitzpatrick, Coolbawn
(Months Mind)

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Aidan Doyle, The Heath, Clonee
& deceased family members

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am: Susanna O'Dowd, Ballyregan.

Mass Time & Intentions Next Weekend

13th & 14th May 2023

FERNS CHURCH

6.15pm: Andrew O'Neill, Main Street,
Ferns

Mrs. Elizabeth Ralph, Tombrack
8.30am:

11.00am: Jim & Lizzie Byrne, Castlelands
Peg Davitt, Coolbawn & her husband
Richard

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm:

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am:

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the faith

**Hannah May Hendrick
&**

Alice Cash

who were baptised recently.

13th & 14th May 2023

Ministers of the Word

6.15pm: Mary Cash

8.30am: Richard Cotter

11.00am: Irene O'Toole

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.15pm: Margaret Maguire & Michael Bernie

8.30am: A Volunteer

11.00am: Ann Swaine & Michael Breen

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; secretaries, sacristans, cleaning teams, choir leaders, catechists, altar server supervisors, flower arrangers, readers, collectors etc. However, **all who are interested are encouraged 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 safeguarding? Why do we safeguard? Who safeguards?

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

Wednesday 10th May, Talbot Hotel, Wexford 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 Hotel, Gorey at 7.00pm.

Free to attend, no booking required.

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

Congratulations

To the children of Tombrack National School who received their First Communion this weekend. We compliment their teachers and parents for their preparation.

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

CANCELLED.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Grow In Love

The final Mass of the programme for the First Communion children will take place in Ballyduff on Sat. 13th June at 7.30 and Ferns Sun. 14th June at 11.00a.m.

Communion Dates 2023

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.

Patron Dates 2023

Ferns

4th June at 2pm

Clogogue

30th July at 2pm

Ballyduff

13th August at 2pm

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.

Lourdes Mass

The Ferns Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place from 16th to 21st May.

Bishop Nash will celebrate the Pre-Pilgrimage Mass in St. Aidan's Cathedral on Thursday 11th May at 7.30pm. All welcome to attend.

FERNS & DISTRICT ACTIVE RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

The monthly meeting will be held in the Pastoral Centre on Thursday, 11th May, 2023 at 2.30 p.m. Active Retirement Association helps retired people to enjoy a full and active social life. Our club, founded and active since 2004, welcomes new members to join.

Trocaire Collection

We thank you for your generosity so far. The amount raised is **€2,705.70** If you wish to make a contribution it will always be most welcome.

Rosary for May

May and October are the two months dedicated to Our Lady. The Rosary is recited after 9.30a.m. Mass each morning, please consider joining to pray for the month of May.

On Saturday 13th May the Fatima group will hold a procession at 4.00pm in the Church grounds.

All are welcome to attend.

HOMESTAY OPPORTUNITY

This coming June and July the Irish Archaeological Field School will be returning to Ferns to continue their exciting excavations and investigations into St. Aidan's monastery. Joining them will be international students who come to experience and learn all about excavation, as well as Irish culture and heritage.

People are being sought who maybe interested in providing a homestay this coming summer to the international students who will be literally digging into our past to discover more on St. Aidan's monastery. This is a fantastic opportunity for both parties to experience and learn from each other while showcasing our hospitality.

This years programme runs for 4 weeks from the 11th June - 8th July and a weekly remuneration is provided.

Applications are also open to Homes outside the village.

If you think you might be interested in taking part please phone or text Barry at 0872783335

Sincere Sympathy

Is extended to Seán Byrne on the death of his mother Stasia Byrne St. Aidan's, R.I.P.

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