



### Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received in  
**Ferns** for the week was **€469.50**  
The amount received for **Ballyduff**  
for month of **May** was **€1358.00**  
The amount received from **Clogogue** for the  
month of **May** was **€487.25**  
*Thank you for your generosity.*

### St. Daniel—Prophet, Judge Feast Day July 21st

Daniel was one of the prophets of the Old Testament. He is famous for vindicating the unjustly accused Susanna, and for taming the lions when a cowardly king had him flung into their den. He prophesied the passion of Christ in the words:

*“And after sixty—two weeks the Christ will be slain.”*

#### Prayer

*Daniel, fearless preacher to kings, courageous fighter against paganism, obtain for us a share in your fiery zeal.  
Amen.*

### THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS WEEK

The Homily for the Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time reflects on the parable of the seed and the Sower. We have the second part of an article on St Benedict's 'Ladder of Humility' and a video talk on how the Church supported the sciences throughout history. We have an article for the feast of St Mary Magdalen on 22<sup>nd</sup> July and a talk given by Prof. Gerard Casey on 'Christians in a Post-Modern World' as we grapple with the advance of Artificial Intelligence. Sean O'Leary reflects on 'Church and Culture – A Synodal Vocation to Unity' and a podcast features a reflection on suffering through the teachings and life of Pope St John Paul II. Finally, notice of a retreat for Primary School Teachers in Ballyvaloo, Blackwater on 20<sup>th</sup> July. Check out these and other resources available at [www.thehookoffaith.com](http://www.thehookoffaith.com).

### 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, CLOGOGUE

**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. Clogogue: 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)



# Ferns Parish Newsletter



Vol. 17. No. 48

15th & 16th July 2023

15th Sunday Ordinary Time

### Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 16th July 2023

1. Jesus uses parables to make people think about their own responses to his message. As you read this parable you may recognize that at different times you have been like each of the different types of soil. As you recall times when you presented fertile soil for the word of God, what helped you create that receptive atmosphere? What lessons for life do you get from that?
2. The parable is also an invitation to us to ask ourselves why it is that there are times when we are unreceptive to a truth presented to us either in the word of God, or in the words of another. Perhaps you can recall occasions when it was only long after a conversation that you were able to acknowledge what has been an unwelcome truth. What did you learn from this?
3. Parents with children, teachers with pupils, speakers with listeners, are all like sowers in a field where the preparation of the soil is up to another – the child, pupil or listener. They can sow the seed but cannot guarantee that it will bear fruit. At times there may be a temptation not to try any more. The challenge is to sow in hope. When have you been surprised by the harvest you have reaped?
4. 'We are wasting our time here' may sometimes be the apparent wisdom in a group. Have there been times when you have gone against this apparent wisdom and seen your efforts bear fruit?

### The Pope's Monthly Intention

*July – For a Eucharistic life:* We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

### WORLD YOUTH DAY Diocese of Ferns

Thurs 3rd – Sun 6th August, 2023. World Youth Day Gathering with Pope Francis  
Subsidised Price : €450. The price includes:

- Return Flights from Dublin to Lisbon, August 3rd-6th
- Transfer in Lisbon Airport to hotel and return transfer for departure.
- 2 nights B&B accommodation in a city centre hotel in Lisbon.
- Meals (lunch and dinner) provided by the WYD Organising Committee • World Youth Day Package with Insurance, Free Public Transport • Pilgrim pack.

Parishes may be in a position to partially fund the cost of the trip - please enquire with your Parish Priest. To enquire please contact:

Ferns WYD Pilgrimage Director: Fr Brian Whelan. [FernsWYD@gmail.com](mailto:FernsWYD@gmail.com) 053-9428163

### Diocese of Ferns Pilgrimage to Fátima, Portugal October 2023

11th October 2023 for 7 nights. (Present for the Feast Day Celebrations of 13th of October). €899 per person sharing. Includes Flights Dublin-Lisbon; 20kg Bag; Airport transfers Lisbon-Fátima; 7 Nights Hotel; Full Board: breakfast, lunch & dinner each day. Full Religious Programme. Guided Tours of: Sanctuary, Basilica, Village of Aljustrel & Valinhos, & visit to town of Santarém (site of Eucharistic Miracle).

**Spiritual Directors:** Fr. Denis Browne & Fr. Paddy Banville.

**More information:** Fr. Denis Browne 086 8926260

**For Bookings Contact:** Joe Walsh Tours 01 2410800 & [info@joewalshstours.ie](mailto:info@joewalshstours.ie)

**Mass Time & Intentions  
This Weekend**

**15th & 16th July 2023**

**FERNS CHURCH**

**6.15 pm:** Kathy Davitt, Crory  
Annie Doyle, Davidstown & formerly  
Tombrack & deceased family members of  
the Doyle Family

**8.30am:**

**11.00am:** Susie Bolger, Carnew Road  
James Cullen, Pairc Mhuire, Ferns

**BALLYDUFF CHURCH**

**7.30pm:** Fr. Aidan O'Leary, Augustinian,  
New Ross whose anniversary occurs  
around this time

**CLOGUE CHURCH**

**9.45am:**

**Mass Time & Intentions  
Next Weekend**

**22nd & 23rd July 2023**

**FERNS CHURCH**

**6.15pm:** Jack & Kathleen Murphy,  
Charlesfort  
John Paul Cashe, Pairc Mhuire, Ferns

**8.30am:**

**11.00am:** Siobhan Dignam, Carnew  
Road, Ferns  
Deceased Family Members of the Doyle,  
Ryan and Jordan Families and all souls in  
purgatory

**BALLYDUFF CHURCH**

**7.30pm:** Ned Nolan, Kilcloran

**CLOGUE CHURCH**

**9.45am:** Pat Murphy, Clogogue

**Sincere Sympathy**

Is extended to the Family of Oliver  
Cahill, Askinamoe, Ferns.  
R.I.P.

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

**22nd & 23rd July 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

**Shopping in The Parish Office**

Ferns Parish Office has now got a card  
reader. We can now take  
contactless payments in the office.

**Ferns Prayer Group**

Ferns Prayer Group is taking a break for the  
Summer months. The next prayer group will  
take place on Wednesday 6th September 2023  
in the Pastoral Centre at 7.30 pm.

**Everyone Welcome.**

**Parable of the Seed—today's  
gospel**

Whether we are farmers or amateur  
gardeners, or just have a few indoor  
potted plants we know that there are  
conditions for healthy growth. Soil  
has to be prepared, seed has to be  
sown and cared for; water and light  
are essential. The sacred writers today  
know this and can apply the lessons  
to the fruitful growth of God's word.  
The power of God's word effects his  
purpose here on earth. It does not  
work automatically; but grows in a  
soil of faith and prayer. We must  
keep working to ensure a receptive  
soil.

**RATHNURE DRIVE IN BINGO**

The Rathnure Drive in Bingo July Special  
returns on Sunday 16th July at 7pm in  
Rathnure Soccer Pitch! Big money to be  
won with over €3,450 in prizes. Snowball  
stands at €950. Great fun for all the family.

**St.Aidan's/ Gorey CC**

**Mini Cricket Fundraiser**

**Six – a – side**

**Mini—Blitz Cricket Competition**

*Live a satisfied life, empowering people with a  
wide range of learning and associated  
disabilities*

Town Park, Gorey

Saturday 29th July 2023 from 10 to 4 pm

Sixty Euro per team or €10 per person

*We all rise by lifting others Camolin, Ferns,*

*Ballyhast, Wells, Ardamine, Coolatin*

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**Contact:** [al.fitzgerald8@yahoo.com/](mailto:al.fitzgerald8@yahoo.com/)

**086 1599074**

*for more information.*

**Youth 2000 Summer Festival**

Join young people between 16 and 35  
this August at the **Youth 2000 Summer  
Festival**. The festival takes place in  
Clongowes Wood College, Clane, Co  
Kildare from **Thursday 10th August to  
Sunday 13th August 2023**. The festival  
includes inspiring talks, music, prayer,  
concert, workshops, dramas, share  
groups, reconciliation and healing service  
and Mass. Donation only and we have  
buses going from all over Ireland. For  
more information and to book your place  
go to [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie)

**Summer Camps**

"Designer Minds have 2 upcoming Summer  
Camps running in Wexford. Choose  
a Science Design & Technology Camp  
OR Art Camp (or try out both and receive  
a discount). For all boys & girls currently  
in Senior Infants up to 6th Class. Check  
Dates and Register online at  
[www.designerminds.ie](http://www.designerminds.ie) or call 087 631  
0411"

**My Mission**

*Lord, help me to bear witness to you.  
May I be kind to my neighbour, just  
in my dealings with others, welcome  
the stranger and the needy, and walk  
humbly with you.  
Amen.*

**Thought for the day 16th July 2023**

Joy and happiness are two different  
things, although they are obviously relat-  
ed. There are things in our lives we feel  
happy doing or experiencing. Watching a  
good movie makes us feel happy for the  
time we're watching it. Happiness is very  
much in the moment, and it can be good.  
But joy is a different thing. Joy is a deep-  
er sense than happiness. We feel happy  
watching a film but feel joy when we see  
a good friend who we haven't seen for a  
while. Joy is different. To live lives of  
joy is not to depend on happiness or tem-  
porary experiences. It is to seek out the  
better path and walk it.

**Brendan McManus SJ & Jim Deeds**

**Finding God in the Mess  
(Messenger 2023)**

**Prayer for Peace—St. John Paul II**

Lord Jesus Christ, who are called the  
Prince of Peace, who are Yourself our  
peace and reconciliation, who so often  
said, "Peace to you" - please grant us  
peace.

Make all men and women witnesses of  
truth, justice and brotherly love. Banish  
from their hearts whatever might  
endanger peace. Enlighten our rulers that  
they may guarantee and defend the great  
gift of peace.

May all peoples on earth become brothers  
and sisters.

May longed-for peace blossom forth and  
reign always over us all. Amen.

**Ferns Castle**

Beautiful Ferns Castle is open for the  
Summer. Free entry and free guided  
tours. Enjoy the breath-taking views of  
the lovely countryside and experience  
first-hand, the story of Ferns'  
extraordinary history.

**St Joseph's Young Priests Society**

Pilgrimage to Our Lady's Island on  
23rd July.

Ceremonies begin at 3pm