



### Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received in  
Ferns for the week was €1285.40  
The amount received for Ballyduff  
for month of June was €397.00  
The amount received from Cloogue for the  
month of June was €411.00  
*Thank you for your generosity.*

### Thought for the Day — 30th July 2023

Life is not about what will happen or what did happen.  
It is about what is happening.  
Look at the nature around you today. God is in it.  
Creation is God's story. 'There is treasure in the fields, there is treasure in the skies, there is treasure in their meaning from the soul to the eyes.' So find God in nature, it will at least slow you down.  
And who knows it may give you space to reflect on what will happen  
And what did happen.

*Grainne Delaney  
Occasional Prayers for the School Year  
(Messenger 2023)*

### THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS WEEK

The importance of good communication in the Church cannot be overstated. In a very interesting interview from 'Word on Fire', the point is made that what is important is not just information or tools of communication but the overall vision communicated that invites others to be part of it. We share resources for the 'Season of Creation' that takes place from 1<sup>st</sup> Sept.-4<sup>th</sup> Oct. We include Pope Francis' prayer intention for August for 'World Youth Day' in Lisbon and include reflections from Philip Quirke and Sean Byrne. The Homily for the 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time delves into the richness of more of Jesus' parables. Finally, we feature three outstanding saints whose feast days we celebrate this week – St Ignatius of Loyola, St John Vianney and St Alphonsus Liguori. 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, 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)



# Ferns Parish Newsletter



Vol. 17. No. 50

29th & 30th July 2023

17th Sunday Ordinary Time

### Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 30th July 2023

1. Have you ever found yourself saying 'that was worth it' after giving up something (time, pleasure, money, etc.)? What was the treasure that made the sacrifice worthwhile?
2. The 'kingdom of heaven' is when God is really the ruler in our life. What treasures have you obtained when you allow God to be at the centre of your life?
3. In life we gather a lot of things, some good and some bad. The wise person in the kingdom of heaven, knows how to sit down and make decisions on what to keep and what to discard. When have you undertaken that kind of discernment? What have you discarded? What have you retained?

### St Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556) 31st July

We must speak to God as a friend speaks to a friend, now asking some favour, now acknowledging our faults and communicating to Him all that concerns us, our thoughts, our fears, our projects, our desires, and in all things seek His counsel.

### 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**

**29th & 30th July 2023**

**FERNS CHURCH**

**6.15 pm:** Liam & Marcella Turner,  
Tincurry

Kathleen & P.J. Fortune, Clobemon  
Lil (Lillian) Thorpe, Rosemary Heights  
(Months Mind)

**8.30am:** People of The Parish

**11.00am:** Deceased family members of  
the Doyle Family

**BALLYDUFF CHURCH**

**7.30pm:** Ann Nancy Gethings, Baylands

**CLOLOGUE CHURCH**

**9.45am:**

**Mass Time & Intentions  
Next Weekend**

**5th & 6th August 2023**

**FERNS CHURCH**

**6.15pm:** Sadie Donnelly, Castle Manor  
Paddy Kavanagh, Ballingale & his  
son Jamie

Oliver Cahill, Askinamoe, Ferns,  
(Months Mind)

**8.30am:** Aidan & Anna Mai Nolan & their  
son Roy, Clody

**11.00am:** Joe Nolan, Tombrack & John &  
Annie Lancaster, Tombrack

Miley Breslin, Coolbawn

**BALLYDUFF CHURCH**

**7.30pm:** Bill Tomkins, Kilbora &  
Deceased family members

**CLOLOGUE CHURCH**

**9.45am:**

**First Friday**

Invalids in the parish on the sick list will  
be visited on Thursday 3rd August &  
Friday 4th August with Holy  
Communion.

**5th & 6th August 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 & Liz Villar

**Shopping in The Parish Office**

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

**Patron in Clologue**

The annual Patron will take place this  
weekend with prayers in Ballymore Cem-  
etery at 1.15p.m. and Mass in Clologue  
cemetery at 2.00p.m. Patron time is a  
very important occasion in every parish  
when we remember our dead relatives  
and friends and give thanks to God for  
their memories and witness to faith and  
Christian living. It is because of their  
goodness that we gather to remember and  
pray for them.

**Ballyduff Patron**

13th August at 2.00pm

**ONE DAY RETREAT LOUGH DERG  
September 23rd 2023**

Weekend trip to Donegal for the One Day  
Retreat on Lough Derg leaving Wexford  
on Friday September 22nd staying in  
Ballyshannon Co Donegal, returning to  
Wexford on Sunday September 24th.  
Two nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast in  
the Imperial Hotel, Ballyshannon, coach  
travel and the day on Lough Derg €225  
per person sharing.

Further details and booking from Helen  
Kirwan 087/6817648.

*God never said the journey would be  
easy, but He said the arrival would be  
worthwhile.  
Max Lucado*

**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 Sum-  
mer 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".

**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 experi-  
ence first-hand, the story of Ferns'  
extraordinary history.

**HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF  
PRIESTHOOD?**

Despite the many distractions in our busy  
world, certain questions still arise in our  
hearts – what is the meaning of my life?  
Who does God want me to become? Did  
the thought ever occur to you that God  
might be calling you to serve him as a  
priest? Don't be afraid! If God is calling  
you to priesthood then he is calling you to  
a life of joy and fulfilment. If you feel a  
desire to do something heroic and  
beautiful with your life then know that the  
God who created you has put this in your  
heart. We have only one life. Set your heart  
on giving everything and don't settle for  
mediocrity or following the crowd. If you  
would like to know more about the priest-  
ly life, then please contact Fr Billy Swan,  
Vocations Director on 0871225407.

**St. Ignatius**

**Founder**

**Feast Day July 31st**

Being grievously wounded in battle, this  
founder of the Society of Jesuits, de-  
prived of exterior activity, had a long  
time to consider the things of the spirit.  
As a result, he gathered about him com-  
panions, whose sole object was to work  
for the greater glory of God under obedi-  
ence to the Pope.

**Prayer**

*O God, Who for the greater glory of  
Your name gave to the Church Militant  
the help of a new army, grant that we  
may fight the good fight on earth and be  
crowned, through the merits of  
Your saints in Heaven.  
Amen.*



**Friends of Calcutta**

Friends of Calcutta would like to express  
their heartfelt thanks to all who generous-  
ly donated to their recent clothes collec-  
tion. It was very much appreciated.