



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received in
Ferns for the week was **€531.00**
The amount received for **Ballyduff**
for month of July was **€319.00**
The amount received from **Cloogue** for the
month of June was **€411.00**
Thank you for your generosity.

St. Clare Virgin, Foundress Feast Day August 12th

She was famous as a disciple of St. Francis of Assisi with whom she formed a holy friendship. But later she became famous in her own right, being consulted by Popes, cardinals and bishops, even in the attempted retirement of her monastery. She founded an austere community of nuns afterward called the Poor Clare's.

Prayer

*St. Clare, pray for us, that by your example of simplicity and poverty, we may attain to the peace that surpasses all understanding.
Amen.*

THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS WEEK

In the Second Reading at Mass this week-end, St Paul burns with zeal to bring his own people to faith in Christ. Speaking on the Hill of Slane last Sunday, Archbishop Eamonn Martin encourages us to have the same missionary spirit. The Homily for the Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time urges us to be courageous and keep our eyes fixed on the Lord. In his talk in Lisbon for World Youth Day, Bishop Robert Barron reflects with young people on how they can find their mission in life. He also spells out what makes good leaders. We have Pope Francis' message for 'The Season of Creation', a homily for the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady and a feature on Fr Wille Doyle SJ who was killed in WW I on 16th August 1917, caring for wounded soldiers. Check out these and other resources available at

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 **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. 52

12th & 13th August 2023

19th Sunday Ordinary Time

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 13th August 2023

1. The story illustrates the power of faith. Have you noticed that when you believe in someone, or something, you can do things that would not be possible when you are full of doubts? Recall moments when your faith gave you strength and courage? Name for yourself the different kinds of faith that had this effect: belief in yourself, trust in another, faith in God.
2. When Jesus got into the boat the winds ceased. Who has been a Jesus person for you and helped to calm a storm that frightened you or made you anxious?
3. The experience of Peter gives encouragement to us when we waver in our trust and belief in God. In his doubt and fear Jesus reached out to him. Who has reached out a helping hand to you when you felt you were sinking?
4. The story ends with a profession of faith in Jesus as the Son of God. Have you had experiences of being rescued from some hazard or danger: experiences which deepened your faith in the presence and compassion of God for you?

Feast of the Assumption B.V.M. Tuesday 15th August

A Holy Day of Obligation

Vigil Mass Times Monday: Ferns 6.15p.m. Ballyduff 7.30p.m.

Mass Tuesday: Ferns 9.30 a.m. Cloogue 10.30 a.m.

Our Lady's Island Pilgrimage

Official opening Tuesday Mass 3.00p.m. Bishop Nash with Procession afterwards.

Sunday 20th Aug. Blessing of Sick 3.00 p.m. Fr. Jim Cogley.

Daily Mass 3.00p.m. & 7.30p.m. Full programme in Church Porch.

A Thought for the Day 13th August 2023

In a house made of thoughts the bricks are paper thin, the roof forever in a state of disrepair as one image replaces another. Which reminds me of the three little pigs building their house of straw. Despite ourselves we can live a lifetime in our prison house of thoughts – of grudges, fears, worries, regrets – and miss out on the fresh air of the ever-present moment.

It's summer. Look at the bush full of bees on a nectar trip, hear a bird speaking out and feel the breeze on your face. The world is addressing you as friend. Come out play, it says. Wise up, will you. Breathe. **Hugh O'Donnell** *Time to Call Home (Veritas)*

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

**Mass Time & Intentions
This Weekend**

12th & 13th August 2023

FERNS CHURCH

6.15 pm: Dan & Sarah O'Connor,
The Glen, Effernogue

Eileen Dunbar, Tombrackwood

8.30am: Anne Byrne (nee Nolan),
Layland, Lancashire & formerly of Kiltown
Liam Mullet, Tincurry

11.00am: May & Paddy Finn, Ballyrankin
Johnny Byrne, Askinamoe

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: John & Mary Reddy, Ballyduff,
William & Mary Carton & their son Denis,
Clonee & grandson Liam Nolan,
Tomnalossett

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am: People of the Parish

**Mass Time & Intentions
Next Weekend**

19th & 20th August 2023

FERNS CHURCH

6.15pm: Ned Nolan, Rosemary Heights
Bridie & Pat Turner, formally Milltown

8.30am: John Lancaster & his mother &
father & sister Mary, Ballyboy
Michael & Mary Nolan, Station Road.

11.00am: Mick Redmond, Lodgewood
Eddie & Bridie Gethings, Effernogue &
Thomas & Catherine Gethings &
Deceased family members of the
Gethings family & Patrick & Mary Nolan &
Deceased family members

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Sandy Murphy, Kilbora
Matthew Murphy, Kiltomas

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am: People of the Parish

Eir Code

Please have it posted in your home.

19th & 20th August 2023

Ministers of the Word

6.15pm: Ena Gray

8.30am: Denis Kinsella

11.00am: Eleanor Hawkins

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.15pm: Ann Bernie & Mary Fortune

8.30am: A Volunteer

11.00am: Liz Villar & Patricia Keenan

**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.

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the faith
Linden Phoenix Bowe
&
Junior Corr Greenhorn
who were baptised recently.

Sincere Sympathy

Is extended to Mary and the Family of
Anto Roche, Rosemary Heights, Ferns.
R.I.P.

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

Shopping in The Parish Office

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

Ballyduff Patron

It will take place today Sunday 13th
August at 2.00pm. We congratulate
all who show such care for your
graves and respect for the dead.

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

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 or call 087 631
0411".

*Bishop Ger has asked that we pray
for fine weather for the harvest.*

Prayer for fine weather
*"God our loving Father, we know
that you care deeply for us. We ask
you to bless us with the good weather
we so badly need at this time.
Bless the work and efforts of all your
people so that their endeavours may
produce the results they need. Grant
success to the work of our hands.*

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.

"Faith and prayer are the vitamins of
the soul; man cannot live in health
without them." - Mahalia Jackson.

**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 priestly
life, then please contact Fr Billy Swan, Vocations
Director on 0871225407.

**The Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
15th August 2023**

The threefold terror of love; a fallen flare
Through the hollow of an ear;
Wings beating about the room;
The terror of all terrors that I bore
The Heavens in my womb.
Had I not found content among the shows
Every common woman knows,
Chimney corner, garden walk,
Or rocky cistern where we tread the clothes
And gather all the talk?
What is this flesh I purchased with my pains,
This fallen star my milk sustains,
This love that makes my heart's blood stop
Or strikes a Sudden chill into my bones
And bids my hair stand up?

*W.B. Yeats,
The Mother of God*

**St. Vincent De Paul Society
Saturday 9th September 2023**

Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine
Cost : Bus and Two Meals
Adults: €70.00
Children: €40.00

To book your place contact:
Sean Kinsella (053) 9123819
or Neil Foley (087) 9740120.
All are welcome.