



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received in
Ferns for the week was **€840.50**
 The amount received for **Ballyduff**
 for month of July was **€274.00**
 The amount received from **Cloogue** for the
 month of June was **€411.00**
Thank you for your generosity.

St Clare of Assisi (1193-1253) *Feast Day 11th August*

Happy the soul to whom it is given to attain life with Christ, to cleave with all one's heart to him whose beauty all the heavenly hosts behold forever, whose love inflames our love, the contemplation of whom is our refreshment, whose graciousness is our delight, whose gentleness fills us to overflowing, whose remembrance makes us glow with happiness, whose fragrance revives the dead, the glorious vision of whom will be the happiness of all the citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem. For he is the brightness of eternal glory, the splendour of eternal light, the mirror without spot.'

THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS WEEK

In these days, Bishop Ger and 24 young people from our diocese are in Lisbon with Pope Francis for World Youth Day. We caught up with Bishop Ger for an interview before he left for Portugal. The Bishop has also expressed his concern and solidarity and that of the whole diocese with farmers at this time of wet weather. The newsletter insert offers a selection of the most inspiring quotes from World Youth Day in previous years. We have a homily for the Feast of the Transfiguration which falls on a Sunday this year. It reflects on beauty as a route to faith in God. We have an article by Sean O'Leary and explore the lives of wonderful saints whose feast day falls this this week including St Dominic, St Clare and St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein). 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. 51

5th & 6th August 2023

The Transfiguration of the Lord

The Transfiguration of the Lord

The Cross requires the exodus of Jesus, his death, resurrection and glorification. The disciples have to realise that he must depart, just as they are now prepared for his going up to Jerusalem to die.

Official Prayer for World Youth Day 2023, Lisbon, Portugal

1st-6th August 2023

The official prayer for World Youth Day Lisbon 2023 was presented on Saturday, 21 November,

Memorial of the Presentation of Mary.

Our Lady of the Visitation,
 you who left in haste towards the mountain to meet Elizabeth,
 lead us also to meet all those who await us
 to deliver them the living Gospel:

Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord!

We will go in a hurry, with no distraction or delay,
 but with readiness and joy.

We will go peacefully, because those who take Christ take peace,
 and wellbeing is the best wellbeing.

Our Lady of the Visitation,
 with your inspiration, this World Youth Day
 will be the mutual celebration of the Christ we take, as You once did.

Make it a time of testimony and sharing,
 fraternisation, and giving thanks,

each of us looking for the others who always wait.

With you, we will continue on this path of gathering,
 so that our world will gather as well,
 in fraternity, justice and peace.

Help us, Our Lady of the Visitation,
 to bring Christ to everyone, obeying the Father, in the love of the Spirit!

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**

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
James Bolton-Lee, Ballybeg

CLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am: People of the Parish

**Mass Time & Intentions
Next 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
& Liam Nolan, Tomnalossett

CLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am: People of the Parish

Ballyduff Patron

13th August at 2.00pm

12th & 13th August 2023

Ministers of the Word

6.15pm: Brendan Kenny

8.30am: Dermot O'Brien

11.00am: Frances O'Toole

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.15pm: Maire Bernie & Mary Fortune

8.30am: A Volunteer

11.00am: Eleanor Hawkins & Mary Sinnott

Shopping in The Parish Office

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

**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
Joey John Davitt
who was baptised recently.

World Youth Day

Pope Francis will be attending World
Youth Day in Lisbon from Thursday
to Sunday and will celebrate Mass for
the youth of the world, who will have
representative from all nations. We
are happy to have three young people
from the Parish of Ferns attending
this great event. We have been ap-
pealing for volunteers for weeks and
delighted the Megan and Matthew
Keenan and Henry Fiedeldej are
taking part. We wish them well.

Youth 2000 Summer Festival

Join young people between 16 and 35 this
August at the **Youth 2000 Summer Fes-
tival**. 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 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 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.
We make this prayer through Christ our
Lord, 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 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.

**Thought for the Day
The Transfiguration of the Lord
6th August 2023**

We may never experience anything as
powerful as the Transfiguration. But every
day in countless and seemingly small
ways God does break into our world and
our daily lives. Every time we experience
a moment of peace, joy, reconciliation or
forgiveness, God is with us. Every time
that we reach out to help another person
is a moment of transfiguration both for
ourselves and for those we help. Each
time somebody shows care and concern
for us is a moment when God is reaching
out to us. This week, let us open our
hearts so that we may hear Jesus speaking
to us. May we slow down and look for
moments of small but important times of
transfiguration in our own ordinary daily
lives.

Michael Moore OMI

Clogogue Patron

Grateful thanks to all who attended and
took such great care of the graves. Due
to the rain Mass was celebrated in the
Church and prayers were recited in the
cemetery afterwards. Collection **€580.00**.