



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received in
Ferns for the week was **€851.00**
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. Rose of Lima Virgin

Feast Day August 23rd

From childhood, St. Rose's life was the exact replica of that of St. Catherine of Siena. Like her, she lived a life of prayer and penance in her own home, where she was favoured with extraordinary mystical gifts.

Prayer

*St. Rose, Patron saint of both South America and the Philippines, pray for us, that in the ordinary way of life we may imitate your fidelity to grace.
Amen.*

THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS WEEK

George O'Connor was one of the finest hurlers Wexford ever produced. In this week's interview, he talks about success, failure, mental health and the importance of faith. We have a homily for the Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time where Jesus expands his own circle of followers to show how his saving love is meant for all and not just some. We have articles by Sean Byrne, Sean O'Leary and a video talk by Bishop Robert Barron from World Youth Day. We have another video interview on why thinking about our own death is a good thing and a talk by an expert on catechesis in contemporary society. Finally, a series of inspiring thoughts from the pen of Gorey's Michael Dwyer. 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. 18, No. 1

19th & 20th August 2023

20th Sunday Ordinary Time

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time 20th August 2023

1. Having met with rejection from the Pharisees Jesus goes to Gentile territory and encounters unexpected faith in the Canaanite woman. His mission had previously been to his own people. This adds a new dimension to his mission. Have you had occasions when a chance encounter set your life off in a new direction?
2. The initial reaction of Jesus to the woman was one of rejection but her persistence won a response from him. When have you found that persistence was needed to gain what you sought? What did that experience teach you?
3. In our days of widespread migration welcoming the stranger can be a challenge. We are more comfortable with our own. What difference has it made, to you and to others, when you were able to offer a friendly welcoming face to a stranger?
4. Who are the 'Canaanite women' who call out for attention today – people in Church or State whose needs are not being attended to?

A Thought for the Day 20th August 2023

The brain prefers nature sounds to man-made or mechanical sounds. So when you go out into nature for some green therapy, it's best to go to places that are free from traffic, aviation or agricultural noise. The sounds of nature that we most like are water, wind and birdsong so pick the times when birdsong is at its loudest in your environment. When we go into nature and try to listen to its sounds it can be more difficult than appreciating its sights. As a general rule, try to avoid human sounds when renewing yourself in nature. Most of the demands in our lives come from other humans.

Tom Gunning

Nature's Way – A Guide to Green Therapy (Beehive Books)

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**

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, Kilthomas

CLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am: People of the Parish

**Mass Time & Intentions
Next Weekend**

26th & 27th August 2023

FERNS CHURCH

6.15 pm: Paddy & Nan Kearney, Tincurry
& Aidan & Winifred Mullet & deceased
family members

Larry O'Connor, Pairc Mhuire

8.30am:

11.00am:

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Tom Furlong, Kilcloran

CLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am: People of the Parish

Harvest Dues Envelopes

Harvest Dues Envelopes are now ready
for collection from the Parish Office.
Thank you to the distributors for your
cooperation in delivering the Harvest
Dues Envelopes.

26th & 27th August 2023

Ministers of the Word

6.15pm: Mary Cash

8.30am: Carmel Doyle

11.00am: Maura Kelly

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.15pm: Mary Cullen & Dora Murphy

8.30am: A Volunteer

11.00am: Mary Sinnott & Tommy Davitt

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.

Sincere Sympathy

Is extended to Mary and the Family of
Micheál O'Neill, Melrose, Tombrack
Ferns and to Ann and the Family of
Michael Bernie, Killoggy House, Ferns.
R.I.P.

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

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the faith
**Miley Jerry Connors &
Nan Marie Connors**
who were baptised recently.

Shopping in The Parish Office

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

Eir Code

Please have it posted in your home.

**St. Bernard
Abbot, Doctor**

Feast Day August 20th

St. Bernard's sanctity was so attractive
that it inspired thirty young noblewomen
to follow him into the abbey of Citeaux,
which he entered at the age of 22. He is
regarded as the founder of the Cister-
cians; and besides his many duties as
Abbot, he became the advisor of Popes
and Kings. He was the preacher of the
second Crusade.

Prayer

*St. Bernard, known as the "Honeysweet
Doctor", pray for us, that by our good
example of courtesy and courage we
may inspire
others to follow Christ.
Amen.*

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".

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.

**Divine Mercy and Pro-life Pilgrimage
to Our Lady's Island**

On Tuesday 29th August. Commencing
with Rosary around the island at 6pm.
Mass at 7.30pm. Bus from Arklow.
Enquiries to Mary: 086 055 2658

"God changes the world by transforming
our hearts. When God finds an open and
trusting heart, he can work wonders
there."
Pope Francis

**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 beau-
tiful with your life then know that the
God who created you has put this in your
heart. We have only one life. Set you
heart on giving everything and don't set-
tle 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.

**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.

*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 endeav-
ours may produce the results they
need. Grant success to the work of
our hands. We make this prayer
through Christ our Lord, Amen."*