



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received in
Ferns for the week was **€377.40**
 The amount received for **Ballyduff**
 for month of September was **€329.82**
 The amount received from **Cloogue** for the
 month of September was **€379.95**
Thank you for your generosity.

*St. Gerard Majella
 Confessor*

Feast Day October 16th

Gerard's only ambition was to be like Jesus in His suffering and humiliation. Apprenticed to a tailor, he earned enough money to support his mother and himself for a time; but at the age of 23, he entered the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer. St. Alphonsus considered him a miracle of obedience. Although weak in body, he preformed the work of three persons, and his great charity earned him the title of Father of the Poor.

Prayer

St. Gerard, powerful intercessor before God, help me to do the Holy Will of God. Pray for mothers that they may raise up children to the glory of God and heirs to the Kingdom of Heaven. Amen.

THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS WEEK

The opening address of any synod or Church Council sets the tone for what is to follow. As the Synod on synodality continues in Rome, we include Pope Francis' homily at the opening Mass. We also post in full 'Laudate Deum' – the pope's follow up teaching document on the environment after 'Laudato Si' and a beautiful video called 'Canticle of Creatures'. We include Fr Timothy Radcliff's meditation at the synod that reflects on authority. Sean O'Leary reflects on the positive reasons to identify as Catholic today while we also include the second of Jim Thompson's articles 'This is the Word of the Lord'. We include reflections on the witness of St Ignatius of Antioch and St Luke whose feast days fall this week. 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. 9

14th & 15th October 2023

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Mission Sunday 22nd October 2023

What is World Mission Sunday? World Mission Sunday is the Holy Father's annual appeal to support overseas mission and missionaries. It takes place in every single parish worldwide where the Church is present. In Ireland, Missio Ireland is tasked with organising the Mission Sunday collection. Missio Ireland is the Pope's official charity for overseas mission.

Why is it so important? All offerings made on behalf of World Mission Sunday become part of the Holy Father's Universal Solidarity Fund. This Fund supports missionary activities in over 1,100 young dioceses, mostly in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. As young dioceses grow, so do their needs. On top of this, they are often found in remote areas devastated by conflict or natural disasters. The Universal Solidarity Fund provides aid so that missionaries can continue to go to these places to share the love of God.

What does it support? The needs of young dioceses vary, anything from a motorbike so a priest can celebrate Mass in a remote village, to a community hall so local people can gather in safety; or more urgently, vaccinations and medicines so that parish dispensaries can protect vulnerable children. In essence: • it provides basic infrastructure by helping communities to build schools, clinics, parish halls and churches. • it prepares the future leaders and carers of the Church by supporting the training of sisters, priests, brothers and catechists. • it supports missionary programmes to care for children's spiritual and physical wellbeing by offering safe shelter, healthcare, education and hope for the future.

What is the theme for World Mission Sunday? For Mission Sunday 2023, Pope Francis has chosen the theme inspired by the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus in the Gospel of St Luke (Lk 24:13-35 "Hearts on Fire, Feet on the Move").

Sunday 22nd October Next weekend we will celebrate World Mission Sunday, the Holy Father's annual appeal to support overseas mission and missionaries. Since the pandemic, there have been less people physically attending Mass, meaning less offerings in the basket. The implications for overseas missionaries and the communities they serve over the coming months will be very challenging. You can help right now. Please donate €4.00 by texting the word 'Mission' to 50300. Alternatively donate at www.missio.ie or call Missio on 01 497 2035. To learn more go to www.missio.ie *

The total Basket Collection on Mission Sunday will be donated to the Missions.

Assembly for priests of the Diocese

This will take place from the 15th-18th October in Mount Wolseley. All priests of the Diocese will be attending to prepare for the future. This will mean there will not be morning Mass from Monday to Wednesday.

As happened last year there will be a service of The Word and Holy Communion conducted by Ministers of The Word and Eucharist.

This will enable people to Gather, Pray, Listen to The Word of God and receive Holy Communion.

Due to the lack of vocations and priests this will become a regular feature at Church in the future. We are blessed in our Parish to have lay ministers and we thank them for their great work. We will need many more in the future so please consider helping.

**Mass Time & Intentions
This Weekend**

14th & 15th October 2023

FERNS CHURCH

6.15pm: Aidan Banville, Coolbawn & deceased family members of The Banville & Kirwan families

Bill Ellis, Tincurry, Ballycarney
Joe Bolger, Coolbawn (Months Mind)

8.30am: Billy Reilly, Ballyandrew

11.00am: Richie & Peg Davitt, Coolbawn
Paula Breen, Newtown & her Uncle Amby Martin

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Pat & Dora Kinsella, Kilbora
Tom, Gretta & Pat Carton, Aidanswood,

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am: People of The Parish

**Mass Time & Intentions
Next Weekend**

21st & 22nd October 2023

FERNS CHURCH

6.15 pm: Thomas Jackman, Coolbawn
Paul Breen, Coolbawn & his parents Miley
& Sarah Breen, Coolbawn

Ita & Ray Walsh, Ferns Upper

8.30am: Marie Dwyer, Carnew Road &
John & Catherine Dwyer and deceased
family members of The Errity Family

11.00am: Paddy Plummer, Coolbawn
Patrick & Mary Dwyer, Castlelands, their
son Tony & his wife Nancy
Bridget Gethings, Effernogue

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Kevin Murphy, Pairc Mhuire
John Murphy, Corah

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am: David Cantwell,
Tipperary

21st & 22nd October 2023

Ministers of the Word

6.15pm: Ena Gray

8.30am: Theresa Nolan

11.00am: Ailish Davitt

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.15pm: Mary Cullen & Dora Murphy

8.30am: A Volunteer

11.00am: Mary Sinnott & Tommy Davitt

The Non-Violent Resistance Programme (NVR)

Are you Walking on eggshells around your child ? The NVR programme is for parents or carers who are experiencing child to parent violence, intimidation, emotionally abuse or controlling behaviours. The course is one hourly sessions and is for 6/8 weeks in Ferns Parish Parochial House or in your home. Experienced NVR Practitioner offering support in managing conflicts in the home environment and delivering life changing skills to manage abusive behaviours. Please phone Reg on 089 4294602 to book your place.

Confirmation Dates 2024

Ferns	1st March
Ballyduff	8th March
Tombrack	15th March

Communion Dates 2024

Tombrack	4th May
Ballyduff	11th May
Ferns	25th May

Ferns Prayer Group

Next Prayer Group meeting in
The Pastoral Centre on Wednesday 18th
October at 7.30pm
Everyone Welcome.

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the faith
Éabha Rose Eilis Breen
who was baptised recently.

**Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
15th October 2023**

There are two parables here that Matthew has joined together. Looking at the first one:

1. Scripture often speaks of the kingdom of God as a banquet. The image of people being at a meal where everyone is happy and welcome and where all hunger and thirst is satisfied gets across the idea that God loves, accepts, and welcomes us and wants us to make that experience available to one another. Think of times in your life when you have had 'banquet' experiences and when you have felt accepted and loved?

2. The host enlists the help of his servants to invite people to the banquet. We are commissioned by the Lord to invite people to the banquet of the kingdom, to the fullness of life – as parents, teachers, friends, etc. What has it been like for you to play a part in leading others to a fuller life?

3. As in the parable last week there is a message about being alert to invitations that offer a fuller life and the danger of losing out if we neglect to respond to such invitations. Perhaps there have been opportunities offered to you that you missed, and now regret. Think also of the blessings you received because you seized the moment and took an opportunity that presented itself.

4. The second parable puts the focus on how we respond to invitations. Some invitations are ones that challenge us to change, to conversion, to put on a 'wedding garment.' What has been your experience of changing in response to an invitation you received?

Icon Retreat

Retreat Master: Lucho Alvarez

Ferns, Co. Wexford: Monday 30th

October-Saturday 4th November

Course Fees: €250

Full Kit €150 includes all materials needed:

Total €400. No art experience needed.

For further information needed contact: Monica 087 6419960 or email
luchoiconretreats@gmail.com

Ecumenical Quiet Day

In Ballyvaloo Retreat Centre on next
Thursday 19 October, 11.15am - 4.00pm.
The day will be led by Canon Trevor Sargent and Fr. James Murphy.
€25 including lunch and coffee on arrival.
Please text or call Fr. James on 087 8152637 if you wish to attend.

Reach Ability Enniscorthy

Are currently recruiting for Community
Employment Scheme

Participants for 19.5 hours per week

Positions Available

Care Assistant / Multi – Task Attendant

HR Administration Assistant

Kitchen /Catering Assistant

Opportunity for practical work experience,
training and development will be given
Opportunities are available in Enniscorthy,
Bree, Bunclody, Olyegate, Castlebridge &
Monagear. Please check eligibility via your
local Intreo Centre

Or contact: Email:

amy.walsh@reachability.ie Telephone: 053 -
9233069

Mobile: 087 – 3487205



Envelope Distributors

Pious List Envelopes are now
ready for collection either in the
Sacristy or Parish Office.

Thank you all for your help, it is
much appreciated.

**Daily rosary available via webcam from
Camolin Parish**

Camolin Parish is now making a recitation of
the rosary available on a twice daily basis at
9.30am and 8pm. This can be accessed on
this link: [https://churchmedia.ie/church-of-the-
immaculate-conception-camolin/](https://churchmedia.ie/church-of-the-immaculate-conception-camolin/) or by
searching for Camolin Parish on the Church
Media website.

**St. Margaret Mary Alacoque
Virgin, Apostle of Scared Heart
Feast Day October 17th**

St. Margaret Mary is one of the glories of the
Visitation Order, which she entered at the age
of 23. She was granted a series of visions of
Our Lord, extending to her His Heart, plead-
ing for her love and through her, for the love
of all mankind, but especially of Religious
Orders. Through many difficulties, she suc-
ceeded in establishing the devotion to the
Sacred Heart, and the practice of the nine
First Fridays.

Prayer

*St. Margaret Mary, pray for us that the
Sacred Heart, conceived by the Holy Spirit in
the womb of Mary, may have mercy on us,
pardon us, and shelter us. Amen*