



Sunday Envelope Collection

The amount received in
Ferns for the week was €1163.77
The amount received for Ballyduff
for the month of October was €572.50
The amount received from Cloogue for the
month of October was €254.00
Thank you for your generosity.

St. Andrew, Apostle, Feast Day November 30th
Patron Saint of Greece and Scotland, he was first to be called to the College of Apostles. He had the privilege of bringing his brother Peter to Jesus. His observation: "There is a boy here with five loaves and two fishes" was the prelude to the miracle of the loaves and fishes. His feast day, prelude to Advent, heralds the dawning of the New Age when men could feed upon the Body and Blood of Christ. His powerful apostolate included Palestine, Scythia and Thrace. At Patras, Greece, he was crucified in spread-eagle form, the cross forming an X instead of a T.

Prayer

St. Andrew, pray for us that the saying: "through Andrew to Peter to Christ" may be the Divine Will today as it was in the first Christian Century. Amen.

THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS WEEK

As we mark the 60th anniversary of the death of President Kennedy, we have the second part of an article that reflects on the role of his Catholic faith on his life and vision. We offer a homily and newsletter insert for the Feast of Christ the King based on the Gospel of the final judgment in Matthew's Gospel where Jesus identifies himself with "the least of these brothers and sisters." The third of the trilogy of zoom recordings on 'Taking the Risk for Christ' is included with a seminarian from St Patrick's College Maynooth and Fr Tomas Sulis, Rector of the seminary. We also report on a successful Vocations 'Come and See' weekend that took place last week. 'Catholics in a Woke World' is a recording of a recent conference in Dublin on how we can navigate a culture increasingly hostile to alternative view points. Finally, more inputs on the debate on Assisted Dying. 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, CLOLOGUE

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. 15

25th & 26th November 2023

Christ The King

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe 26th November 2023

1. This judgement scene contains surprises for us. One surprise is that nobody is condemned for doing wrong, but for their failure to do good. Being a disciple of Jesus is a positive choice about how we live and relate to others. Perhaps sin-avoidance has sometimes dominated your view of what was being asked of you. What difference has it made for you when you viewed your Christian life as a daily opportunity to make a positive difference to others?
2. Another way of saying this is that the aim of Christian living is not me-centred (about my personal sanctification) but other-centred (about responding to the needs of others). What happens to you when you get caught up in yourself? Is your life not better, and often more enjoyable, when you can look beyond yourself to others?
3. Another surprise is to hear Jesus tell us that when we do something for another, he considers it done to himself. When has seeing Christ in others helped you in your dealings with them?
4. The story is about the judgement of the whole of humanity. It presents an ideal of society in which human relationships at all levels are governed by the law of love. In your experience what difference has it made to a group to which you belonged when there was a definite sensitivity to the needs of all members?

CHARTING OUR COURSE TOWARDS 12 PASTORAL AREAS

Part of the work of the priest's assembly in October of this year considered a pastoral area map of our Diocese, where parishes were clustered into 12 pastoral areas. Following the assembly, individual submissions indicated broad agreement for this map of 12 pastoral areas with some adjustments to cater for geographical considerations and future possibilities. The priests of our diocese met once again on Thursday 16th November in Ballyvaloo Retreat & Conference Centre to weigh up the factors that either support or hold back the move to 12 pastoral areas. Overall, the priests deemed the factors that support the transition to 12 pastoral areas as being more significant than the factors that hold back the transition. This approach sheds light on the context of pastoral areas and thoughtfully contributes to the work needed to implement pastoral areas in the year ahead. Bishop Ger intends to widen this consultation to include lay people across the diocese. This synodal approach also offers us ways of working together within and between pastoral areas to sustain the future of our faith communities in the diocese.

A Prayer of Remembrance

God, thank you for the special people in our lives whom we are remembering in a special way during the month of November. We thank you for being a compassionate God who walks with us in the our dark moments of grief and loneliness. We are thankful for all who continue to love and support us through our grief. Lord, continue to be a light for us, giving us hope, direction and courage. May we now live our lives treasuring the memories of those special people we have known and loved and help us to bring light and hope to others. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Candle Light Concert

A Candle Light Concert will be held in St. Aidan's Church Ferns on Monday 18th December.

Doors will open at 6.30 pm, Concert will start 7.30pm

Featured Artists: Sandy Kelly, Dana, Chrissy Mac and guests

Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Tickets available in Parish Office.



**Mass Time & Intentions
This Weekend
25th & 26th November 2023**

FERNS CHURCH

6.15pm: Pious List
Mona Martin, Woodview House,
Ballingale
Elizabeth & Andrew Kehoe,
Tombrack Wood

8.30am:

11.00am: John Kirwan & his wife Annie &
their son John, Baltinglass
May Sweetman, Dublin

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Cecilia Browne & her parents
John & Ellen Sinnott, Clonee
Andrew Browne, Ballybeg

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am: Pious List

**Mass Time & Intentions
Next Weekend**

2nd & 3rd December 2023

FERNS CHURCH

6.15 pm: Paddy Doyle, The Square,
Ferns & his grandson Barry O'Malley
John Bolger, Carnew Road
Pat Dunbar, Ballylough

8.30am:

11.00am: Angela Swaine, 45 Coolbawn,
Ferns

Dominic Murphy, Milltown, Ferns

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm:

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am: Peter O'Leary, Ballyfoley &
deceased family members

Mission Appeal.

The total collected and sent this year to the
Missions was **€2,250.00**

Also you could contribute €4.00 by
texting the word **Missio** to **30500**.
Many thanks to all for your generosity.

2nd & 3rd December 2023

Ministers of the Word

6.15pm: Ena Gray

8.30am: Theresa Nolan

11.00am: Ailish Davitt

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.15pm: Maire Bernie & Mary Fortune

8.30am: A Volunteer

11.00am: Eleanor Hawkins & Mary Sinnott

**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.

**Pious List Mass Times for
the month of November**

Ferns

Saturday 25th November at 6.15 pm

Wednesday 29th November at 9.30 am

Clogogue

Sunday 26th November at 9.45 am

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the faith
Mary Ellen Connors
Leia Claire Carroll-Murphy
Cara Grace Franklin-Cowman
who were baptised recently.

Sincere Sympathy

Is extended to the family of
Nan Connors, Crory who died recently
R.I.P.

***May the souls of the faithful
departed rest in peace.***

Ferns Parish Shop

Stockist of Mass Cards, Mass Bouquets and a selection of cards for any occasion. We also stock a range of gifts including Statues, Rosary Beads, Holy Pictures, Holy Medals & Baptism gifts.

***Christmas Gifts, Christmas Mass Bouquets,
Boxed Christmas Cards and
Candles now in stock.***

Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Pioneer Calendar 2024

The 2024 Pioneer calendar is available from Pioneer centres and from Central Office (01 805 4226). The calendar is designed to offer spiritual support to families which are being impacted by alcohol and addiction. The calendar is priced at €5. Further information from www.pioneerassociation.org/calendar.



**Carnew Musical Society
Presents it's 55th Production
"The Addams Family"
A New Musical Comedy**

St. Brigid's Hall, Carnew, Co. Wicklow
Monday 27th Nov. to Saturday 2nd Dec.
at 8.00p.m. sharp. Matinee Saturday 2nd
December at 2.00p.m.

Tickets from €12 to €20 (+ Booking Fee)
from www.gr8events.ie



Youth 2000 Ireland

Are having their annual Christmas retreat in Dominican College, Newbridge, Co Kildare on the 8th -10th of December for ages 16-35. This promises to be a special retreat!! Excellent Speakers, Inspiring Talks & Workshops, Fantastic music, Group activities, Youth Masses, Adoration, Reconciliation, prayer, Drama, Games & plenty of time to chill out, meet new people and find out what it means to be young & Catholic today!! There are free buses leaving from all over the country to the retreat. Donation only. Find out more and register now on www.youth2000.ie

Best of Luck!

On behalf of Ferns Bowls Club we would like to wish the best of luck to Ferns Bandits and Ferns Warriors in the All-Ireland on 27th November in Killarney as part of Active Retirement Ireland.

**Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe
26th November 2023**

A Prayer for the Feast of Christ the King

*As the great wheel of the liturgy spins,
It lands here, once a year,
To remind us that Christ is King –
In winter's chill or late autumn drear,
We need reminding that new life will come,
Springing from frozen roots
and brittle branches.*

*As we prepare to approach
the manger once more,*

*We need this renewal in understanding
That the glory of God turns up in the most
unexpected places.*

O Christ the King, turn our hearts this day

Not only to the world around us

But to the world within us –

Where your Kingdom comes anew

*With each act of love we offer,
Each prayer we whisper, each breath we
draw. Amen.*

Prayer for Persecuted Christians

*O God of all the nations,
the One God who is and was and
always will be,
in your providence you willed
that your Church
be united to the suffering of your Son.
Look with mercy on your servants
who are persecuted for their faith in you.
Grant them perseverance and courage
to be worthy imitators of Christ.
Bring your wisdom upon leaders of nations
to work for peace among all peoples.
May your Spirit open conversion
for those who contradict your will,
that we may live in harmony.
Give us the grace to be united in
truth and freedom,
and to always seek your will in our lives.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The Pope's Intention for November

*For the Pope: We pray for the Holy Father; as
he fulfils his mission, may he continue to
accompany the flock entrusted to him, with
the help of the Holy Spirit.*

Cemetery Prayers for the dead

A Plenary Indulgence can be obtained for the souls in purgatory by visiting a cemetery and saying Three Our Father's, Three Hail Mary's and The Creed.