

 **Sunday Envelope Collection**
 The amount received for
Ferns for the week was **€1096.00**
 The amount received for **Ballyduff** for
month of January was **€317.20**
 The amount received from **Cloogue** for
the month of January **€400.45**
Thank you for your generosity

St. Senan
Feast Day 8th March

St. Senan was born near Kilrush, Co. Clare. His family were prosperous farmers. His vocation seems to have resulted from an experience of danger from the sea. His early studies were mainly made at the monastery of Kilnahanagh. His principal monastic foundation was on Scatterry Island, near Kilrush, in the Shannon Estuary. He was anamchara to Ciaran of Clonmacnois and Brendan and died in the year 544.

THE HOOK OF FAITH THIS WEEK
 'For the Martyrs of our Day – Witnesses to Christ' is the theme of the Pope's Prayer intention for March. This need is appropriate and urgent, particularly for our Christian brothers and sisters in places like Nigeria. We offer a homily for the Third Sunday of Lent which reflects on Jesus cleansing the temple. We also have a newsletter insert on the importance of the Ten Commandments which are given in the first reading at Mass this weekend. We include a statement from the Irish Bishops on the Family and Care Referendums on 8th March. We have the first of a series of meditations of Jesus' Seven Last Words and an article on air pollution by Fr Sean McDonagh. Finally, a final chance to be part of a webinar on vocations that takes place on Tuesday 5th March with Irish Times columnist Breda O'Brien. 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. 29

2nd & 3rd March 2024

Third Sunday of Lent



SEASON OF LENT

Stations of the Cross will take place in Ferns Church on Monday evenings during Lent at 7.00p.m.

Mass in Cloogue Church will take place on **Tuesday** mornings at **9.45a.m.**

Mass in Ballyduff Church will take place on **Wednesday** evenings at **7.30p.m.**

Also you could visit the Pastoral Centre where there is daily Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 10.00am to 1.00pm.

Please take home a Trocaire Box for Lent, your support is vital.

Basket Collections For St. Partick's Weekend

The total basket collections for all Masses in all churches for St. Patrick's weekend will be going to Our Future Church. They are Inspiring faith and building hope in our parish communities.

Helping children and families prepare for Baptism, First Communion & Confirmation.

Supporting families and loved ones in times of illness and bereavement.

Leading prayer services in our parishes.

Sustaining Parish life and administration.

Your generosity would be very much appreciated.

INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE ----- A SIX WEEK PROGRAMME

'The Word of God is alive and active'. It relates to us and to our lives today. A six-week programme for beginners and those who want to deepen their understanding of the Bible.

Presented by Fr. Jim Finn

When: Thursdays from 7.30 to 9.30 beginning **on February 29th**

Venue: St. Peter's Pastoral Centre

To Register: Ring 0874475434 or email stephnicobr@gmail.com.

€10 payable on first evening.

Important Changes to Mass Times in The Parish

There will be no Mass on Sunday mornings at 8.30am in Ferns from Sunday, 3rd of March 2024. This is to facilitate when there will be only 1 priest in The Parish in the future.

Mass in Cloogue on Sunday mornings will now be at 9.00am from Sunday, 3rd March 2024 instead of 9.45am.

**Mass Time & Intentions
This Weekend**

2nd & 3rd March 2024

FERNS CHURCH

6.15pm:

8.30am:

11.00am: Agnes & Michael Andrews
Junior, Pairc Mhuire
Jim Moulds, Coolbawn & Baby
Anna Mairéad

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm: Mary Montague, formerly
Ballyduff who died recently in Australia

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.45am:

**Mass Time & Intentions
Next Weekend**

9th & 10th March 2024

Ferns Church

6.15pm: Martin Murphy, Clone Road
Michael Kinsella, Bolachoir

11.00am: Tom Swaine, Coolbawn, Ferns
Jim & Margaret Gethings, Coolbawn,
Ferns

Sean Davitt, 91 years Thanksgiving

BALLYDUFF CHURCH

7.30pm:

CLOLOGUE CHURCH

9.00am:

Day Retreat for Men

Saturday 9th March, Fr Mark Byrne
Legion of Mary Room, Francis Street,
Wexford Booking essential. Phone: Keith 086
8899123. Includes Light Lunch

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the faith
Alanna Grace Jackson
Hollie Mae Jackson
Layla Mae Kavanagh
who were baptised recently.

9th & 10th March 2024

Ministers of the Word

6.15pm: Mary Cash

11.00am: Mark Ryan

Ministers of Holy Communion

6.15pm: Ann Bernie & Mary Fortune

11.00am: Ann Swaine & Eleanor Hawkins

Sincere Sympathy

Is extended to Sarah Dreehan on the death
of her sister Mary Montague, Australia and
formerly Ballyduff & to
The Denby Family on the death of Patricia
Denby, Castlelands, who died recently.
R.I.P.

*May the souls of the faithful
departed rest in peace. May God and Our
Lady console the bereaved.*

Synodal Journey

The continued success of the Synodal journey
already begun in our Diocese requires on-
going engagement in our parish communities.
As part of this journey seven people will be
chosen which will include one Priest and one
Religious who will undertake training as facil-
itators to work with parishes and other groups
in the Diocese to continue to develop Syn-
odality in the life and mission of the Church
in Ferns. This training will begin in April. We
are also currently preparing two documents
one on best practice of synodality in the dio-
cese and the second on How can we imagine
the life of the Church in Ireland where people
are co-responsible for the Church's mission in
different ways. These documents have to be
submitted by March 25th and they will be sent
as part of the Irish National Synodal Team to
Rome for the Synod meeting in October next.
Our Holy Father Pope Francis continually
reminds us that there can be no Synod without
prayer. Please continue to pray for our Synod-
al journey.

Ferns Prayer Group

Ferns Prayer Group will be meeting in
the Pastoral Centre on Wednesday 6th
March at 7.30 p.m.

All are very welcome.



Congratulations

To the children of Scoil
Naomh Maodhóg who re-
ceived the Sacrament of

Confirmation on Friday last. We wish
them all health and happiness in their
future lives. May the Lord bless them
to be always open to the guidance of
the Holy Spirit as they go through
life.

Icon Classes in New Ross This March

What do you know about religious icons?
Well if you wish to find out more and
have a chance to make your own, please
contact Sr. Helen at the Carmelite Mon-
astery, 087 2181687. Sr. Helen is starting
new courses for both beginners and expe-
rienced artists alike, here in New Ross,
on the 13th March 2024. The cost in-
cludes brushes, paints, boards and tuition
etc. Spaces are limited, so book early.

**FORMS OF FRIDAY PENANCE
DURING LENT**

The following are suggested as ways of ful-
filling Friday penance: Abstaining from meat
or some other food; Abstaining from alcoholic
drink or smoking; Making a special effort at
involvement in family prayer; Making a spe-
cial effort to participate in Mass on Fridays;
Visiting the Blessed Sacrament; Making the
Stations of the Cross; Fasting from all food
for a longer period than usual and perhaps
giving what is saved to the needy; Helping the
poor, sick, old or lonely.

*From the statement on Friday Penance
issued by the Bishops' Conference, 2011*

Do You Want To Fast This Lent?

In the words of Pope Francis

Fast from hurting words and say kind
words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with
gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with
patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with
hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints; contemplate
simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts
with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be
compassionate.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words; be silent and listen.

Family Carers Ireland

Are you caring for a loved one at home
with additional needs? A spouse, partner,
child, close relative or neighbour? Then
you are a family carer! Become a mem-
ber of Family Carers Ireland, the national
charity supporting Ireland's 500,000+
family carers nationwide. Contact 057 93
70221 and hear how we can support you
or for more info visit
www.familycarers.ie.

Glasses Found A pair of glasses were
found in the Church. They can be collect-
ed from Sacristy or Parish Office.

LOURDES

Ferns Diocesan Pilgrimage 2024, Led by Bishop Ger Nash

Pilgrimage Director: Fr. Odhrán Furlong, Spiritual Director: Fr. Brian Broaders

€865 pps 16th—21st May 2024

Only €200 deposit required to book, single room supplement €190.

Further details and booking form please contact Marian Pilgrimages: 01 8788159.

MARIAN PILGRIMAGES

Renew our spirit of love, forgiveness and peace.

38-39 Pearse St., Dublin 2—01 8788159, NI (028) 95680005

WWW.MARIAN.IE.