

## St. Mary of the Visitation Parish, Killybegs

**Parish Office: Mon to Fri. 9.15am to 2.45pm. Tel: 074 9731013**

**Parish Secretary: Ann O'Donnell**

**Email: info@killybegsparish.com Website: killybegsparish.com**

**Parish Priest: Fr. Colm Ó Gallchóir: Tel: 074 9731030**

**Masses and Services: Live streaming on [www.mcmedia.tv](http://www.mcmedia.tv)**



### A New Year Blessing for 2017

May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
May the Lord let his face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.

May the Lord uncover his face to you  
and bring you peace, hope and light in the New Year.

### Important Dates for 2017

*Ash Wednesday:* 1st March

*Sacrament of Confirmation:* Sun. 26th March

*Easter Sunday:* 16th April

*First Communion:* Saturday, 20th May, 11am

*Graveyard Mass:* Friday, 28th July, 7pm

*Blessing of the Fleet Mass:* Sat 5th Aug 7pm

### Feast of the Epiphany: Friday 6th January

Masses at 7pm (Thursday),  
Friday 9am & 11am.

### First Friday Calls will be on

on Thursday 12th & Friday 13th January.

### Christmas Gratitude

It was heartening to see so many people come together to pray and worship at Christmas-time. The child born in Bethlehem brings us together, the young and not-so-young, to celebrate the love that Jesus Christ embraces us with and to seek the light of that love. We discover inner resources of good-will and grace at this time of year more than at any other time. It is comforting to know that Jesus comes to us in our brokenness and loneliness as well as in the good times.

Sincere thanks to everyone who helped with our Advent and Christmas preparations and celebrations. Being present at the Carol Service brought joy to our hearts. The young people of St Catherine's Vocational School, and Commons, Fintra & Niall Mór National Schools, as well as our Parish Choir, were a wonder to behold. Thanks to all the staff, students and helpers involved and a special word of gratitude to Miss McCrudden from the Vocational School. Our thanks to all the priests who helped with the Reconciliation Service which always seems to leave a lasting impact. We're grateful to everyone involved in the Children's Mass on Christmas Eve, including all the parents who helped. It's always such a special celebration. The children excelled in the Christmas Play and in the Junior Choir, under Ann O'Donnell's inspired direction. The individual singers were excellent: Lauren McHugh, Orla McGuinness and Dearbhla Diver and a beautiful rendering of O Holy Night by Roisín O'Donnell and Kelly McGinley. Musicians Sara O'Donnell, Janet Boyle & Miriam Curran were invaluable. Maeve Murray again got a standing ovation for her rendering of O Holy Night. Our parish is served so well by the Parish Choir throughout the year and when Maeve Murray is unavailable Maeve McGowan is always at hand. Our sincere thanks to all involved in the Christmas Masses: the Choir, Readers, Ministers of the Eucharist, Collectors, Altar Servers, Ushers, Gift Bearers and Sacristan Patricia O'Boyle. Patrick and Betty Boyle looked after the Crib this year again: awe-inspiring and meticulous. Our thanks also to the Christmas Tree Team and the Altar Society.

Our gratitude to all involved in the express delivery of the Church & Restoration Envelopes, the Parish Calendar 2017 and the Christmas Newsletter. The whole operation was coordinated by Ann O'Donnell, Parish Secretary, whose cheerfulness and endeavour in the Parish Office are much appreciated. We are grateful to everyone who supports the parish financially throughout the year. Your ongoing generosity to the Restoration Fund is much appreciated. Our sincere thanks to all parish committees and organisations who do such good work throughout the year, including Maureen Cunningham who looks after the candles. Thank to our 'money counters' who are at hand on a weekly basis, as are all who open and close the church. It is very much appreciated. Our thanks to Colin & Ann Marie and participants of Killybegs Employment Project who look after the church and grounds and graveyard throughout the year. Alison keeps the interior of the chapel in pristine condition and Richard, and before him Hugh, keep the grounds in great trim.

A special word of thanks to Canon John Gallagher who is always at hand throughout the year to help out. On a personal note, my sincere thanks for your gifts, generous Christmas offerings and good wishes.

*Go raibh míle maith agaibh. Wishing you good health and peace throughout 2017.*

*Beannachtaí na hAithbhliana oraibh uilig,*

*Fr Colm*

**Rosary on New Years Eve at Croaghlin Mass Rock at 12 midnight.**

- **Sunday 1st January 2017: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**
- **Weekday Readings: Before Epiphany**

**Saturday 31st December: New Year's Eve**  
**07.00pm** - Ethel & Charlie Blaine (Anniversaries)  
 Barney Murrin (Anniversary)  
 Fionnuala Gorman (9th Anniversary)

**Sunday 1st January: New Year's Day**  
**09.00am** - Frances Pollard R.I.P.  
**11.00am** - Funeral Mass for Sean Murphy R.I.P.

**Monday 2nd January: 11.00am** - Con & Condy & Celia Gillespie (Anniversaries)

**Tuesday 3rd January: 10.00am** - Special Intention

**Thursday 5th January: 07.00pm** - Special Intention

**Friday 6th January: The Epiphany of the Lord**  
**09.00am** - Special Intention  
**11.00am** - Rose O'Donnell (Anniversary)

**Saturday 7th January : 07.00pm** - Justine & Hughie Mc Guinness (Anniversaries)  
 Bridget Cooper (Anniversary)  
 Michael Boyle (3rd Anniversary)  
 Ronnie & Ann Clarke (Anniversaries)

**Sunday 8th January: 09.00am** - Nora & Edward Leslie (Anniversaries)  
**11.00am** - Brendan & Rose Fitzgerald & Mary Worley (Anniv)

**No Adoration 1st / 2nd January**

**Rosary/Divine Mercy: Tuesday 6.30pm**, in the Adoration Room.

**Pray for those who died recently: Sean Murphy, Riverdale Heights, whose Funeral Mass takes place today, Sunday, at 11am. Burial in Drogheda;**

**Paddy Ward, Roughra, whose funeral took place in Ardara yesterday, Saturday.**

**Frances Pollard whose funeral was in Dublin on Thursday (sister of Eugene Collins, Downings)**

**Pray for: Hugh J Boyle, Patrick Ryan, Patrick & Anne Gallagher (20th Anniv), Island, Michael Hugh Byrne, Sarah O'Donnell. *Suainmheas Sioraí***

**Sunday Missal 2017 (€5) available from Sacristy or Parish Office. Complimentary copy for all Readers and Ministers of the Eucharist**

**Blessed Sacrament Adoration**  
*No Adoration this weekend*  
 8th January - Mary Hegarty

### Parish and Restoration Envelopes

The Church Envelopes and the Restoration Envelopes were delivered recently. Anyone not on the list who would like a set of envelopes, please let Ann know in the Parish Office.

*Collections not recorded yet*

### Restoration Fund

Donations € 5,600.00  
**Total Restoration Fund: €2,644,547.78**

**Anam Cara**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its next monthly Parent Evening on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January from 7.30pm to 9pm in the Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny. This event is open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether the death was recent or not.

**Eamon of the Good and New Charity** would like to thank Bobby Boyle sincerely for his cheque €5,283.87, proceeds from his New York Marathon which goes towards the running of the Bus to Galway for Cancer patients.

### Looking for a career in the care sector?

Family Carers Ireland are providing the QQI Level 5 Healthcare Award in 2017 in or around your area based on demand. One day topic specific workshops also available. For more info contact the training unit on 0579322920.

**I.C.A. Meeting on Wednesday 11th January at 7.30pm in Niall Mór Centre (not the 4th Jan).**

### Urgent Notice: Church Parking

It is imperative that regular and emergency access to the Hill is available at all times. Please do not obstruct the flow of traffic and do not park in front of Church gates or on double yellow lines in Chapel Lane.

**Killybegs GAA** host Operation Reformation, registration on Thursday 5th Jan in the Bayview Hotel from 5-8pm. Walks and Exercise classes commence Jan 10th. Check out Killybegs GAA Operation Reformation on FB for more info.