

St. Mary of the Visitation Parish, Killybegs

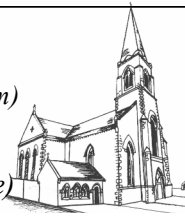
Parish Office, Killybegs, Co. Donegal. Tel: +353 (0)74 9731013

Parish Secretary: Ann O'Donnell (Office Open: Mon to Fri. 9.15am to 2.45pm)

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Colm Ó Gallchóir: Tel: 074 9731013/30

Masses and Services: Live streaming www.mcmedia.tv (link on website)



Christmas Gratitude

Little did we think a year ago that we would still be in the grip of covid-19, this time in its highly transmissible Omicron variant. We had to make last minute arrangements for pre-booking Christmas Masses. We are very grateful to everyone for their patience and cooperation. We welcomed all who joined us online, united in prayer and worship as a world-wide family of faith. The team of stewards did a superb job, as they have done throughout the year, including sanitising, and we are greatly indebted to them. We drew on a number of resources for the music and singing. It was heartening to have St. Mary's Parish Choir, with Maeve Murray, back on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and their 'Bosnia' recordings of 1995 continue to be a valuable resource; Roisín and Sara O'Donnell sang also on Christmas Eve and continue to be the backbone of the singing ministry since lockdown, particularly with their CD 'Then Sings My Soul'; it was a pleasure to introduce Aoife Fleury (violin) and Orla Mc Gonigle (keyboard) on Christmas Eve; Maeve and Carol Anne Mc Gowan have recorded a number of hymns, including some enchanting lullabies as Gaeilge; we availed of Kelly Mc Ginley's recordings for Christmas and Lauren Mc Hugh's version of 'Ave Maria' continues to captivate. We are very grateful to all concerned.

Many people are gradually returning to attend Mass in person while many others continue to rely on the live-streaming. The 'presence' of the virtual congregation is so much part of all our celebrations now here in St Mary's Church. MCN Media indicates that 778 devices were tuned in on Christmas Eve and 429 devices on Christmas Day, the vast majority are local and from different parts of Ireland, others include the UK, the US, Hungary, Australia, United Arab Emirates, Poland, Netherlands, India, Canada and Seychelles. Ann O'Donnell (Parish Office) and Patricia O'Boyle (Sacristan) have made an immense contribution throughout the year and excelled over the Christmas period. Ann looked after the Readings while Patricia led the responses for the live-streaming. Patricia and Ann have certainly been in the liturgical frontline. We are so blessed to have them both. The Christmas Crib team of Patrick, Betty and John Boyle assembled 'the nativity' with such care, devotion and precision that visiting the Crib is so awe-inspiring. The Christmas Trees team never disappoint and were so prompt into action.

Our three national schools have faced a daunting task and they have undertaken this challenge so admirably under the excellent leadership of the three Principals: Eugene Mulligan (Niall Mór N.S.), Joe Cannon (Commons N.S.) and Emma Mc Ginty (Fintra N.S.). We are very grateful to them and to all the staff, pupils, parents and members of the Board of Managements for their diligence and cooperation.

Our gratitude to all involved in the express delivery of Church & Restoration Envelopes, Parish Calendars & Christmas Newsletters. The whole operation was coordinated by Ann O'Donnell, Parish Secretary, whose cheerfulness and efficiency in the Parish Office are much appreciated. Our sincere thanks to Maureen Cunningham who looks after the candles and to all who open and close the church on a weekly basis. Parish ministries, committees and organisations were largely inactive since March 2020 but we look forward to their gradual participation as the year unfolds.

We are grateful to everyone who supported the parish financially throughout a difficult year. Your ongoing generosity to the Restoration Fund is much appreciated. We greatly appreciate Michael Dorrian kindly overseeing parish financial matters. Our thanks to Colin & Ann Marie and participants of Killybegs Employment Project who look after the graveyard & Siobhan and Donna caring for the chapel. Special thanks to Canon John Gallagher who is always very obliging.

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, happiness & peace in 2022,

Beannachtaí na hAithbhliana oraibh uilig, **Fr Colm**



◆ **Sunday 2nd January 2022: Second Sunday of Christmas Year C**

◆ **Weekday Readings: Before / After Epiphany**

Masses will be relayed on the webcam: go to killybegsparish.com for a link to Online Services

Saturday	1st January:	07.00pm - Frances O'Donnell (2nd Anniversary) Timothy & Emily Bray (Anniversaries) Michael Hugh Byrne & Patrick Byrne (Anniversaries) Freda Gillespie (Anniv) & deceased family members Patrick O'Donnell (Anniversary)
Sunday	2nd January:	09.00am - William, Aine & Glenis Murray (Anniversaries) 11.00am - Mary Lafferty (Anniversary)
Monday	3rd January:	10.00am - Charlie Harkin (3rd Anniversary)
Tuesday	4th January:	7.00pm - Brendan O'Keeney (1st Anniv), Fionnuala Gorman (14th Anniv), Rónán O'Keeney (1st Anniversary)
Wednesday	5th January:	7.00pm - Patsy Mc Gettigan - Boorman (1st Anniversary) <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>
Thursday	6th January:	10.00am - Rita Durkan R.I.P. (birthday)
Friday	7th January:	07.00pm - Dinny Kinsella R.I.P.
Saturday	8th January:	07.00pm - Angela Mc Brearty (2nd Anniversary) Michael Boyle (8th Anniversary)
Sunday	9th January:	09.00am - Rose & Brendan Fitzgerald & Mary Worley (Anniversaries) 11.00am - Jack & Biddy O'Hara R.I.P.

Please note: Mass on Tuesday 7.00pm; Mass on Wednesday 7.00pm (Vigil).

Pray for: *Margaret Gallagher, Aughavogue/The Glen, whose funeral was on Wednesday 22nd Dec.; Grace Molloy, whose funeral was in Kilclooney (mother of Mary Breslin, Carricknagore); Frank Mc Kiernan, whose funeral was in Cavan (father of Eimear Mc Guinness, Croaghlin); Margaret Hughes, who died in Luton, England (sister of Tommy Hegarty, Roshine); Kevin Hegarty, Kansas City, died Christmas Day (son of Pat Hegarty, Philadelphia & Croaghbeg); Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who died St Stephen's Day, funeral on New Year's Day. Jody Gysling, former owner of Harvey's Point, who died in Portugal on Thursday.*
Pray for: *Baby John Kelly, Patrick Ryan, Hugh J Boyle, Kathleen O'Boyle and The Crew of 'Evelyn Marie': Paddy Bonner, Hughie Gallagher, Johnnie Óg O'Donnell, Tom Ham, Joe O'Donnell, Roland Faulkner. **Suaimhneas Siorai***



World Day of Peace: Saturday 1st January

We pray for all who suffered violence today,
May an unexpected serenity surprise them.

For those who risk their lives each day for peace,
May their hearts glimpse providence at the heart of history.
That those that make riches from violence and war
Might hear in their dreams the cries of the lost.
That we might see through our fear of each other
A new vision to heal our fatal attraction to aggression.
That those who enjoy the privilege of peace
Might not forget their tormented brothers and sisters.
That the wolf might lie down with the lamb,
That our swords be beaten into ploughshares
And no hurt or harm be done
Anywhere along the holy mountain.

John O'Donohue 'Benedictus'



Wishing you love, joy and hope in the New Year and well-being of mind, body & spirit in 2022



Congratulations & Best Wishes to

Connie Mc Groarty & Bryan Breslin
Sinead Mc Devitt & Jack Connolly
who were married recently.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Everyone is welcome to Adoration.
Every Monday 11am to 7pm.

St Vincent De Paul

All requests treated in confidence. Ring:
0873507727/ 9731186/ 9731426/ 9731391
Anyone who wishes to support our work may donate by using the above details.