

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.mcnmedia.tv (link on website)



Easter Thanks from Fr Colm



The celebration of Holy Week is the climax of the whole year's liturgical celebrations as we commemorate the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The special effort made by so many in terms of preparation and participation is greatly appreciated. The events of Jesus' last days before his death as narrated in the Gospels contain high drama and unbearable tension and the Resurrection accounts of the empty tomb and his appearances invite us to faith and to commitment to the gospel of Jesus Christ. As we are one with Jesus in his suffering, so we are one with him in his risen joy. Alleluia!

We are grateful to everyone who helped with and participated in the liturgies of Lent and Holy Week. The early morning Mass on Tuesday, and indeed all the Lenten Masses, were well attended. The Stations of the Cross on Thursday evenings were appreciated, culminating in the Stations on Good Friday night which related the suffering of Christ to our everyday trials and tribulations.

The blessing of the palms on Palm Sunday and the Solemn Reading of the Passion captured the spirit of welcoming Christ in joy and in sorrow. The Service of Reconciliation on Monday evening resonated in different ways with different people and our thanks to all the priests who helped. The countless hours spent sewing together the Garment of Suffering is deeply appreciated. The Procession of Witness on Good Friday afternoon from Our Lady's Grotto to the Chapel was an apt witness.

Thanks to the Confirmation Candidates who participated in the Holy Thursday Celebration of the Lord's Supper and again in carrying The Garment of Suffering on Good Friday. The Vigil on Holy Saturday Night, as we moved symbolically from darkness to Christ our Light and renewing our baptismal promises, assured us that we share Christ's triumph over death so that we may live with him in God forever.

Our sincere thanks to all the Readers, Ministers of the Eucharist and Collectors who took part throughout the week. The Altar Servers excelled themselves, especially at the Vigil.

The decoration of the Church was done tastefully and to the Altar Society, to Maureen Cunningham who looks after the candle shrines throughout the year and to all who helped, especially to the Easter Garden team, our sincere thanks. James Gavigan looked after the palms, the Cross and the Easter fire with his usual gracefulness.

We are grateful to Maeve Murray and the Senior Choir and to our young singers Roisin O'Donnell, Kelly Mc Fadden, Lauren Mc Hugh and Jenna Curran, accompanied by Sara O'Donnell, who were excellent. The Children's Celebrations on Holy Thursday and Good Friday were simple and moving, while the Junior Choir, under Ann O'Donnell's direction, accompanied Sara O'Donnell, with Miriam Curran, greatly enhanced the celebrations. Sincere thanks to the Parents' First Communion Group for their help with the practices and celebrations and to all who helped.

Ann, the Parish Secretary, coordinated everything with her usual efficiency and cheerfulness and Patricia O'Boyle, our Sacristan, was very attentive and always reliable in attending to so many tasks.

The church interior and grounds are maintained to a very high standard by Alison, Richard & Derek of Community Employment from the Killybegs Community Project and we are very grateful to them.

The message that Christ is Risen is the cornerstone of our faith. We pray then, as St Paul prayed: I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection. May the love of the Risen Christ bless us always. Alleluia!

First Friday Calls this week Thursday & Friday as usual.

Trócaire Boxes: Lent 2018: please return remaining envelopes this week.

Church Opening & Closing Times: Summertime opens at 8am and closes at 8pm (or after evening Mass).

Donegal Pro Life Public Meeting
Abbey Hotel, Donegal Town, Monday 9th April 7.30pm. Guest speakers. All welcome

Sacrament of Confirmation: Sunday, 22nd April, 11am
First Communion: Saturday, 12th May, 11am
Mass at Drumanoo Mass Rock Wednesday 6th June 7pm
Graveyard Mass: Friday, 27th July, 7.00pm

First Communion Parents Committee
Monday 9th April at 7pm in Parish Office.

- **Sunday 8th April 2018:** *Second Sunday of Easter* **Cycle B**
- **Weekday Readings:** *Second Week of Easter*

Saturday	7th April:	07.00pm - Charlie McGowan (6th Anniversary)
Sunday	8th April:	09.00am - Doris Conwell R.I.P. (Month's Mind Mass) 11.00am - Martin Barrett (3rd Anniversary)
Monday <i>The Annunciation</i>	9th April:	10.00am - Special Intentions
Wednesday	11th April:	07.00pm - Seamus Doherty (1st Anniversary)
Thursday	12th April:	10.00am - Special Intentions
Friday	13th April:	10.00am - Special Intentions
Saturday	14th April:	12 noon - Denis Kinsella (1st Anniversary) 07.00pm - Liz Prior (Anniversary) Bill Mc Lean (Anniversary)
Sunday	15th April:	09.00am - Kathleen & Jim Mc Brearty (Anniv) 11.00am - Tommy & Evelyn Blaine (Anniversaries)

Adoration: Sunday 6pm - Monday Midnight

Confessions: Saturday 6.30pm. **Rosary/Divine Mercy:** Tuesday 7.30pm in the Adoration Room.

Pray for those who died recently: **Brid O'Donnell** whose Funeral Mass was in Ballyshannon and burial in Kilcar yesterday Saturday (sister-in-law of Aodh O'Donnell, Fintra). **Pray for:** Paddy Barrett, Eileen Barrett, Edward O'Kane, Packie, Mary and Noel Meehan, baby John Kelly. **Suaimeanas Sioraí.**

World Meeting of Families 21-26 August 2018: Online registration is now open for the Congress (Wed 22 - Fri 24 August). We hope to organise transport for Saturday (Croke Park) and Sunday (Phoenix Park) when Pope Francis will be present, as soon as registration for these events opens.

All powerful God,
you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace
that we may live as brothers and sisters
harming no one. Amen.
Pope Francis

Blessed Sacrament Adoration
8th April - Anthony McBrearty
15th April - James Gavigan

Sunday Collection	€1,505.00
Trocaire	€3,037.00
Restoration Fund	
Envelopes 31st Mar & 1st April	€2,300.00
Total Restoration Fund:	€ 2,914,523.43
Thanks for your continued support	

Sacrament of Baptism Congratulations
Welcome to the Catholic Christian Community
Dubheasa Maisie Joyce
Annie Rose McGinley
Lilly Rose McMenamin
Casey Grey Sweeney Byrne
Ellie Grace Coleman
Denver Michael Denis Sherlock
Jeff Lee McClean
Annie Lee McClean

Lough Derg Pilgrimage Season 2018
opens Saturday 5th May.
One Day Retreats in May, August & September.
Three Day Pilgrimage from Friday 1st June
until Monday 13th August.
Full details on poster in church porch.

Outreach Officer in Forester's Hall, Monday
9th April 10am - 12pm. Tel: 074 9161979.

Anam Cara Parent Evening on Thursday
12th April 7.30 - 9pm in Radisson Blu Hotel.

School House Rules by Ultan Pringle
tonight, Sat 7th in the Foresters Hall at 8pm.

Fundraising Concert South West Donegal
Community Radio are organising a Variety
Concert in Kilcar Parish Hall
on Friday 13th April. Doors open 8pm featuring
a host of local artists. See: www.swdcr.ie

Service of Remembrance Interdenominational
for those who have suffered the loss of a baby
through miscarriage, stillbirth or neo-natal death at
Letterkenny Hospital at Conwal Parish Church,
Church of Ireland, today Sunday 8th April 4pm.

BIM Boatyard, Killybegs Reunion Dinner
in the Bay View Hotel on Saturday 9th June at 8pm
for former staff and families of deceased staff.
Tickets from hotel reception €20. Tel 074 9731950