



Parish Update

Donegal, Killymard, Lough Eske and Laghey
Sunday 20th Dec – 4th Sunday of Advent

Bible Reading for Today

Luke 1: 26-38 – The Birth of Jesus Foretold

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

Collect for Today

God our redeemer, who prepared the blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: Grant that, as she looked for his coming as our Saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our Judge; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Rector's Thoughts

The final Sunday in Advent puts the spotlight on Mary, the mother of our Lord. Her wonderful example of faith is an inspiration to all Christians. When she heard God's message, she responded with trust and obedience – exactly what we are all called to do.

I hope that you are keeping well in this most unusual Advent and Christmas season. Please remember you can contact me with any issue, or if you just want a chat!

With love, David.

In-Church Services

- 9.30 Killymard (1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays)
Lough Eske (2nd & 4th Sundays)
10.45 Laghey (every Sunday)
12.00 Donegal (every Sunday) + Live streamed.

Online Services (on Facebook Live)

Sun 12 noon, Wed 8pm, Fri 1pm

Announcements

Public Health Info: We are delighted to be able to hold gathered services in church. Please carefully follow all public health guidelines, especially 2m distancing, hand hygiene and face coverings. Everyone aged 13+ should wear a mask.

Christmas Services: Holy Communion Services are planned as follows:

Christmas Eve 24th Dec: 11.00am Killymard, 6.30pm Donegal,* 9.00pm Laghey, 11.30pm Donegal.*

Christmas Day 25th Dec: 9.00am Lough Eske, 10.15am Killymard, 11.30am Laghey.*

* Will also be livestreamed.

We are limited to 50 people per service but with seven services over the two days there is plenty of room. Please consider coming at one of the earlier times on Christmas Eve. Each service will be the same so please only come once!

Plan 'B' – if the above services cannot take place we will instead have online services on 24th at 11pm and 25th at 11am.

Online Carol Service: We will be having this on Sunday 20th Dec at 6.30pm. With readings from Sunday School members and some favourite carols. On our Facebook page (Donegal Group of Parishes).

The Mustard Seed: Open on Tuesdays and Fridays 10.30am to 2pm. Open on Tuesday 22nd Dec then closed until 5th January. A special word of thanks to those who donated to the Mustard Seed Food/Toy Appeal. It is greatly appreciated.

Giving by Standing Order: Your New Year's resolution for 2021 is to set up a Standing Order to give your weekly or monthly donation to the parish automatically. It's easy to set up; you simply give your bank the parish's account number and tell them how much you want to give and how often. Contact Louise or your parish treasurer for full details.

Help is available: Please remember that if you have any practical or spiritual need you can seek assistance by contacting the Rector or Parish Outreach Worker (see details below).

Contacts: Rector: Archdeacon David Huss 074 9721075 or 087 2882484
Parish Outreach Worker: Sandra Ross 083 3515400
Email: donegalparish4@gmail.com Web: donegal.raphoe.anglican.org
Facebook: [Facebook.com/DonegalGroupofParishes](https://www.facebook.com/DonegalGroupofParishes)
You Tube: [YouTube.com/DonegalGroupofParishes](https://www.youtube.com/DonegalGroupofParishes)