



Parish Update

Donegal, Killymard, Lough Eske and Laghey
9th May 2021 – 6th Sunday of Easter

Bible Reading for Today – John 15:9-17

Jesus said, "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last – and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other."

Collect for Today

God our Redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: Grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Rector's Thoughts

'Love' is one of the most frequently used words in Scripture, and no biblical author uses it more often than John. The word 'love' appears 39 times in John's Gospel, another 34 times in his letters and 8 times in his book of Revelation. When you boil it down to the essentials, Christianity is all about love: the love God gives to us and the love he grows in us. While we are called to love everyone, we have a very special bond with other Christians. It is a brotherly/sisterly affection which sees past differences in background, personality and perspective and recognises that we are all Jesus' friends. Let's make it a major goal to love each other as Jesus himself loved us!

David

Phone Service (074 97 10199)

Call from any phone at any time.

Online Services (on Facebook Live)

Sunday 11am (12noon from 16th May), Wed 8pm, Fri 1pm

Announcements

Resumption of gathered worship: Following the recently-announced changes to Covid-19 restrictions, we plan to open for in-person worship in our church buildings on Sunday 16th May as follows: Killymard 9.30am, Laghey 10.45am, Donegal 12.00noon. The 1200 service will also be live-streamed. The same safety measures as in Dec 2020 will be in place:

- Maximum of 50 people
- Face masks for all over the age of 13
- Use hand sanitiser before and after
- No congregational singing
- Follow directions of Churchwardens
- Don't come if you are unwell

Reducing the spread of Covid-19: Please remember to follow the public health guidelines to reduce the transmission of Covid-19, in particular avoiding any indoor gatherings beyond those permitted. Remember that people in the 50-69 age group can register for vaccination now or over the coming days: see hse.ie for more.

Service changes: Please note we plan to have Holy Communion on Sunday 23rd May (LE, L & D) and 30th May (K only) but not on 6th or 13th June. Also a swap: the 9.30am service on 6th June will be in L Eske and on 13th June in Killymard.

Confirmation: Sadly our Confirmation Service has had to be postponed from June to September due to govt. advice.

Online groups mid week: Hope Groups Tue 2-3pm & Wed 1130-1230. Early Birds Sat 10-11am; contact Sandra/Brian 083 3515400. Fellowship Group Wed 10am; contact Bev 074 9721075. These groups meet online using Zoom.

Contacts:

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