



Parish Update

Donegal, Killymard, Lough Eske and Laghey
16th May 2021 – Sunday after Ascension Day

Bible Reading for Today – Acts 1:1-9

Jesus Taken Up Into Heaven

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

Collect for Today

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to comfort us and exalt us to the place our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Rector's Thoughts

Although it doesn't get the same attention as the Nativity or the Resurrection, the Ascension of Jesus is one of the great events of the Gospel, the transition between his relatively short earthly ministry and his ongoing heavenly reign. This week also marks a return to gathered worship after 4½ months without meeting in person. We hope you'll join us as we worship Christ: risen, ascended & glorified. Please pray that our services will be filled with the presence and power of the Lord.

With love & blessings, David

In-Church Services

9.30 Killymard (1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday) / Lough Eske (2nd & 4th Sunday)
10.45 Laghey (every Sunday)
12.00 Donegal (every Sunday) – also livestreamed

Online Services (on Facebook Live)

Sunday 12noon, Wed 8pm, Fri 1pm

Phone Service (074 97 10199)

Call from any phone at any time.

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.

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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