



Parish Update

Donegal, Killymard, Lough Eske and Laghey
25th December 2021 – Christmas Day

Bible Reading for Today – John 1:1-14

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. ⁹ The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. ¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Collect for Today

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Rector's Thoughts


None of us had 'Covid restrictions' on our Christmas wish list for 2021 – we all hoped the virus would be behind us by now, but it didn't turn out that way. I'm writing this having just had my booster vaccine, and I'm grateful for the help that science has given us. I'm also thankful to all of you who have sought to love God and love your neighbour throughout this difficult year. As we face 2022 we need to keep doing the basics well—trust God, pray lots, give thanks, be wise, share the gospel and be kind to everyone.


*From all at the Rectory to all of you:
Have a Very Merry Christmas!*

Phone Service

074 9710199 any time

Prayer Points

 **Give thanks for...**
the Son of God, full of grace and truth. His love towards us.

 **Pray for...**
a joyful Christmas, and for all affected by Covid & its impact.

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)

Online Services

Wed 8pm, Fri 1pm Sun 12noon

Announcements

Services coming up: 24th Christmas Eve Holy Communion Laghey **11.00pm**.
25th Christmas Day Holy Communion L Eske **9.00am**, Killymard **10.15am**, Donegal **11.30am**.
26th St Stephen's Day/Boxing Day Holy Communion Laghey **11.00am** (only service this Sunday).
2nd Jan: First Morning Prayer of 2022: Killymard 9.30am, Laghey 10.45am, Donegal 12.00.

Covid-19: We're grateful that (at the time of writing) church services are still able to go ahead, with safety measures in place. Let's continue to follow those safety measures carefully so we can have safe and joyful Christmas celebrations.

The Mustard Seed: Thankyou to all who have supported the Mustard Seed in 2021. Re-opens Wed 5th Jan 2022.

Christmas Break: The Parish Update, Phone Service and Midweek Services will all be taking a week's break and returning in the week beginning Sunday 2nd January. The Rector will be taking a break too, but will be available in an emergency.

Please: Make the Treasurer's Christmas a happy one by having all monies due for 2021 paid by the last service this month (envelopes, gift day, sustentation, harvest, orphans, leprosy, bishops' appeal etc. etc.). Many thanks!

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