



Parish Update

Donegal, Killymard, Lough Eske and Laghey

9th January 2022 – Epiphany 1 (The Baptism of Christ)

Bible Reading for Today – Luke 3:15-22

¹⁵The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶John answered them all, 'I baptise you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.' ¹⁸And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them. ¹⁹But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of his marriage to Herodias, his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done, ²⁰Herod added this to them all: he locked John up in prison. ²¹When all the people were being baptised, Jesus was baptised too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'

Collect for Today

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: Grant to us, who are born of water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Rector's Thoughts

Happy New Year! Welcome to the first Parish Update of 2022. Our motto verse for the year was unveiled last Sunday:

***Rejoice always, pray continually,
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you
in Christ Jesus.***

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

This week's reading on the baptism of our Lord also refers to prayer. It was while Jesus was praying that the Holy Spirit came down. In Luke and Acts, exciting things almost always happen when people pray. And they still do!

Love and 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)

Prayer Points

Give thanks for...
God's love; Jesus' prayer; the Holy Spirit's peace & power.

Pray for...
Jesus' followers to live out the meaning of our own baptism.

Phone Service

Ring 074 9710199 at any time

Online Services

Wed 8pm, Fri 1pm Sun 12noon

Announcements

Sunday Services: Morning Prayer 9th, 16th, 30th Jan. Family Service 23rd Jan. Communion 6th Feb (K, L, D) & 13th Feb (LE).

The Mustard Seed: Unfortunately we have decided to delay the re-opening of the Mustard Seed. A new opening date will be announced soon.

Prayer Walk: Sunday 9th Jan. Meet outside the Mustard Seed at 3pm for a 45 min walk in pairs, praying about what we see and listening for what the Holy Spirit might be saying to us. All are welcome. Fully outdoor event.

Inver Group of Parishes: We wish Rev Lindsey, Keith and all the Farrell family every blessing as they move from Inver to Maguiresbridge. Lindsey's last Sunday in the current parish will be 16th Jan. Please pray about all the changes involved.

Prayer Course: "Teach us to pray" was the disciples' request in Luke chapter 11. Following their example, we hope to run *The Prayer Course* in Lent (March-April) this year. See more at prayercourse.org. Details of how/when/where will follow...

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