



Parish Update

Donegal, Killymard, Lough Eske and Laghey

10th December 2023 – The Second Sunday of Advent

Bible Reading for Today – Mark 1: 1-8

¹The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, ²as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: 'I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way' – ³'a voice of one calling in the wilderness, "Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"

⁴And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptised by him in the River Jordan. ⁶John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt round his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And this was his message: 'After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I baptise you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

Collect for Today

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: Give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Rector's Thoughts

John the Baptist makes his entrance in our Bible readings for Advent 2. Don't be fooled by his rustic clothing and strange taste in snacks – his message is right up to date. The only way we can prepare for the coming of the Lord is by repentance and faith: turning from sin and trusting in Christ. This is what opens the door for the Lord to come in.

"Where meek souls will receive him still the dear Christ enters in." DH

Online Services

Fri 1pm, Sun *11am*

Phone Service

074 9710199

Prayer Points

Thank God for sending his Son for us.

Pray for those in need around the world: the lost, injured, troubled, lonely.

Pray for your neighbours and family members.

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*

Announcements

Sunday 10th Dec: Joint Service 11.00am Donegal. This is the only church service this Sunday. A small wrapped present of sweets/toiletries can be brought along, to be given out when we go carol-singing in Donegal Community Hospital.

Sunday 17th Dec: Carols Lough Eske & Laghey, MP Donegal, **Community Carol Service** Sun 17th Dec 7.30pm Donegal.

Youth Group: Christmas party Sunday 10th Dec Laghey Hall 7-8.30pm. Fun, friends, faith, food. Secondary age group.

The Mustard Seed: Wed, Thu & Fri 10.30am–2pm. *NEW* Friday evenings (see below). Prayer time for all Friday at 12.30pm.

Late Night Café: @ Mustard Seed. Coffee, treats & cosy atmosphere! Fridays 6pm – late. Next one is on December 8th.

Sunday Schools: at Laghey on the 2nd & 3rd Sunday of each month and Donegal on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month.

Opening up the Bible: The fourth and final evening, 'How to read the Bible,' is on Wed 15th Dec at 8pm in Donegal Hall.

December services: A list of all the Advent & Christmas services is on a separate sheet **NB** Joint Service see above ↗

Glebe National School: Carol Service Tue 12th Dec 7pm Donegal Church. All are welcome!! **AVS Carol Service** 14th 7pm

Christmas Eve: Sun 24th Dec Holy Communion 11.00pm Laghey.

Christmas Day: Mon 25th Dec Holy Communion 9.00am L Eske, 10.15am Killymard, 11.30am Donegal.

Calendars: Keep an eye out for 2024 Parish Calendar which will be delivered soon! Thanks to all who helped make it.

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