



# Parish Update

Donegal, Killymard, Lough Eske and Laghey  
25<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – Christmas Day

## Bible Reading for Today – John 1: 1-14

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. <sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

<sup>9</sup> The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— <sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

<sup>14</sup> 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

*I love the description of Jesus in John 1:14 – "full of grace and truth." What a Saviour He is! Rejoice in Him!*

*As this is the last Parish Update of 2023 I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, from all of us in the Rectory to all of your family.*

*With love from  
David, Bev, Jonathan,  
Benjamin & Samuel.*

## In-Church Services

9.30 Killymard (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday)  
Lough Eske (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday)  
10.45 Laghey (every Sunday)  
12.00 Donegal (every Sunday) *+online*

## Prayer Points

Thanks be to God for his gift beyond words! Pray that Christ will be received.

## Online Services

Fri 1pm, Sun 12noon

## Phone Service

074 9710199

## Announcements

**Christmas Eve:** Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Dec Holy Communion [11.00pm](#) Laghey (no services in morning).

**Christmas Day:** Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Dec Holy Communion [9.00am](#) L Eske, [10.15am](#) Killymard, [11.30am](#) Donegal.

**The Mustard Seed:** Wed, Thu & Fri 10.30am–2pm & Friday 6pm – late. Prayer time for all on Fridays at 12.30pm. Closing Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm. [Open Sat 30<sup>th</sup>](#) 10am–12noon for Continental breakfast and music. Re-opening Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024.

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Dec:** 9.30 Killymard, 10.45 Laghey, 12.00 Donegal. Last services of 2023! Motto for 2024 will be unveiled...

**Community Carol Service:** The collection for Donegal Hospice totalled €1,856. Thank you to everyone who donated!

**Food Bank:** There will be a box in church the next few Sundays for donations of food or cleaning/hygiene items. Thanks!

**Looking ahead to 2024:** Have a word with David if you'd like to do the Bible in One Year in 2024 or join a Bible study group. And why not resolve to join our Prayer Meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month? Next one is Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 8pm.

**Parish Update takes a break:** There will be no Update or Phone Service for Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. Back in the New Year!

**A Big Thank You** to everyone involved in our Christmas services and events and indeed to all who have served our churches in any way in 2023. Special thanks to our Parish Administrator Louise for keeping the wheels turning all year!

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