



# Parish Update

Donegal, Killymard, Lough Eske and Laghey

7<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

## Bible Reading for Today – Mark 1: 4-11

<sup>4</sup> And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> The 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. <sup>6</sup> John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt round his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> And 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. <sup>8</sup> I baptise you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>9</sup> At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup> 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! I'm really hoping that your plans for 2024 include growing your relationship with God through Jesus Christ. This week's Bible reading shows how Jesus was empowered by the Holy Spirit at his baptism. As we thank God for our own baptisms, let's pray that we will know the inward and spiritual grace along with the outward and visible sign.*

*David*

## Online Services

Fri 1pm, Sun 12noon

## Phone Service

074 9710199

## Prayer Points 🙏

Thank God for the sacrament of baptism and for the gift of the Spirit.

Pray for us to live as beloved children of God and to show love to others.

## 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

## Announcements

**Sunday services:** 7<sup>th</sup> Jan HC (K,L,D); 14<sup>th</sup> Jan HC (LE), MP (L,D); 21<sup>st</sup> Jan MP (K,L,D); 28<sup>th</sup> Jan FS (LE,L,D).

**Sunday Schools:** Laghey 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month and Donegal 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month in school term time.

**Contemporary Worship Service:** Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm in Donegal Methodist Church. Music, teaching, prayer.

**Youth Group:** Our Secondary age group will return on 21<sup>st</sup> January for yet more fun! Sunday evenings 7-8.30pm.

**Food Bank:** There is a box in each church for donations of food or cleaning/hygiene items up to end of January. Thanks!

**The Mustard Seed:** **Closed** for New Year break, re-opening Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024. Open on Wed, Thu & Fri 10.30am-2pm & Friday 6pm – late (check for details). Prayer time for all on Fridays at 12.30pm.

**Child Safeguarding Training:** For all volunteers helping with Sunday Schools & Youth Group. Thu 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 7.30-9.30pm in Donegal Church Hall.

**Bible Study Groups:** Have a word with David if you would like to join a small group for Bible study. We have several groups meeting at different times through the week.

**Inver Union GFS Table Quiz:** Sat 6<sup>th</sup> January in Doorin Hall at 8pm. Teams of 4 (either of adults, children or mixed).

**Contact:** Archdeacon David Huss: 074 9721075 or 087 2882484 ~ Parish Office & The Mustard Seed: 074 9702329

Email: [donegalparish4@gmail.com](mailto:donegalparish4@gmail.com) ~ [Facebook](#) / [Instagram](#) / [YouTube](#) / [Twitter](#) @DonegalGroupofParishes

Web: [donegal.raphoe.anglican.org](http://donegal.raphoe.anglican.org) ~ Safeguarding info: [donegal.raphoe.anglican.org/safeguarding](http://donegal.raphoe.anglican.org/safeguarding)