

## St. Mary of the Visitation Parish, Killybegs

**Parish Office: Mon to OPEN Fri. 9.15am to 2.45pm. Tel: 074 9731013**

**Parish Secretary: Ann O'Donnell**

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**Parish Priest: Fr. Colm Ó Gallchóir: Tel: 074 9731030**

**Masses and Services: Live streaming on [www.mcmedia.tv](http://www.mcmedia.tv)**



### A Prayer For Our Earth

*All powerful God,  
You are present in the whole universe  
And in the smallest of your creatures.  
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.  
Pour out upon us the power of your love,  
That we may protect life and beauty.*

*Fill us with peace, that we may live  
As brothers and sisters, harming no one.*

*O God of the poor,  
Help us to rescue the abandoned  
And forgotten of this earth,  
So precious in your eyes.*

*Bring healing to our lives,  
That we may protect the world and not prey upon it,  
That we may sow beauty,  
Not pollution and destruction.*

*Touch the hearts  
Of those who look only for gain  
At the expense of the poor and the earth.  
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,  
To be filled with awe and contemplation,  
To recognise that we are profoundly united  
With each creature*

*As we journey towards your infinite light.  
We thank you for being with us each day.  
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle  
For justice, love and peace.*

Pope Francis, 'Laudato Si'

### Christmas Carol Service

The Church was packed to capacity last Wednesday night as young people from the local schools gathered to sing and praise in honour of the Prince of Peace whose birth we celebrate at Christmas. Our sincere thanks to the infants from Niall Mór Community Childcare and to all the pupils from Fintra N.S., Commons N.S., Niall Mór N.S. and St Catherine's Vocational School who made it a memorable night of song and praise. Thanks to all the musicians, teachers and all the helpers. Thanks to the Parish Choir, the Readers, the Collectors, Photographers and to everyone who attended and participated, making it a memorable night as Christmas approaches. The Collection came to €1,230 and will be forwarded to the Capuchin Day Centre in Dublin in support of their work with the homeless and those on the poverty threshold.

### 'Do This in Memory' First Communion Celebration today Sunday at 11.00am

**Advent Service of Reconciliation**  
*tomorrow, Monday 18th December 7.00pm.*  
Please arrive in good time and maintain a spirit of prayer and peace throughout the service.  
We wait in certainty of God's mercy,  
for God is the God of love.  
*Be with us as we wait.  
Be with us as we pray.  
Be with us always in love.*

**Important Christmas Celebrations**  
*Service of Reconciliation:*  
Monday 18th December 7.00pm  
*Christmas Children's Mass:*  
Sunday 24th December 7.00pm  
*Christmas 'Midnight' Mass:*  
Sunday 24th December 11.00pm  
*Christmas Day Masses:*  
Monday 25th December 9am & 11am  
*Practices for Children's Mass:*  
Monday and Tues 18th & 19th Dec. 5pm

**Children's Practices: All are welcome**  
*(for Children's Christmas Eve 7.00pm Mass)*  
Practices for Christmas Play and Junior Choir:  
*Tomorrow Monday 18th December 5.00pm  
and Tuesday 19th December 5.00pm.*  
Please attend both practices.

**Parish Christmas Deliveries**  
Sincere thanks to everyone who helped with the Christmas deliveries. It was a real team effort which is greatly appreciated.

**Last Man Standing: (259 Entries)**  
42 still standing after 'Week' 5: names are on the Noticeboard, Parish Office window and website (click on *Newsletters*), with remaining tie break selections. In aid of the Restoration Fund.

**Sunday Missal 2018**  
**Now available for special price €5.**  
Complimentary copy for all Readers and Ministers of the Eucharist.  
Available from Sacristy or Parish Office.

**Christmas Shop Now Open!!** Christmas gifts available. Call to Parish Office & have a look..

- **Sunday 17th December 2017: Third Sunday of Advent Cycle B**
- **Weekday Readings: Third Week of Advent**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>16th December:</b>	<b>07.00pm</b> - Tom Rowan (1st Anniversary) Gerard Byrne (Anniversary) Mickey Cannon (Anniversary) Jerry O'Neill (Anniversary)
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>17th December:</b>	<b>09.00am</b> - Special Intention <b>11.00am</b> - Micheal Mooney (Anniversary)
<b>Monday</b>	<b>18th December:</b>	<b>10.00am</b> - Special Intention (Thanksgiving) <b>07.00pm</b> - <b>Advent Reconciliation Service</b> <b>10.00am</b> - Tom & Cassie McBrearty (Anniversaries) <b>10.00am</b> - Bernard & Ellen Doogan (Anniversaries)
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>19th December:</b>	<b>10.00am</b> - Bernard & Ellen Doogan (Anniversaries)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>21st December:</b>	<b>07.00pm</b> - Josephine Haughey (2nd Anniversary)
<b>Friday</b>	<b>22nd December:</b>	<b>07.00pm</b> - Sarah McCloskey (Anniversary)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>23rd December:</b>	<b>07.00pm</b> - Sarah McCloskey (Anniversary) Packie Melly (Anniversary)
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>24th December:</b>	<b>09.00am</b> - Special Intention <b>11.00am</b> - Frank Gallagher (Anniversary)
<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>		
<b>07.00pm</b> - <b>Children's Mass</b> Charlie & Mary Mc Guinness (Anniversaries)		
<b>11.00pm</b> - <b>Christmas 'Midnight' Mass</b> Intentions of all parishioners & friends		
<b>Monday</b>	<b>25th December:</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> <b>09.00am</b> - Special Intention <b>11.00am</b> - John Mc Gilloway (Anniversary)

**Adoration: Sunday 6pm to Monday Midnight**

**Confessions: Saturday 6.30pm.**

**Rosary/Divine Mercy: Tuesday 6.30pm in Adoration Room.**

**Pray for: Mary Paul Hegarty, Conlin Rd, whose funeral took place on Friday;**  
**Albert Kyles, Meentullynagarn; to be waked at his own home Tuesday. Cremation in Cavan Wednes.**  
**Pray for those whose anniversaries occur: Charles McLaughlin, Eamonn Gallagher, Mountcharles (1st Anniv), Noel Meehan. *Suaimhneas Siorai.***

**Annual Charity Christmas Quiz**  
in aid of Cancer Bus in Tara Hotel on Wednesday  
27th December at 9.30pm sharp. Please support.

**Blessed Sacrament Adoration**  
17th December - Patricia Boyle  
*No Adoration next weekend*

**St. Catherine's Vocational School 1990-1995 School Reunion** All students that began in the Tech in Sept 1990 are invited to a school reunion on Friday 29th December. For further details contact Caroline 087 2325659 / Stephen 087 2759958

**Sunday Collection** € 1,290.00  
**Restoration Fund**  
Envelopes 9th & 10th December € 1,505.00  
Donations € 2,000.00  
**Total Restoration Fund: €2,867,820.43**  
Thank you for your continued generosity

**Radio Maria Ireland** is an Irish run Catholic-Talk-Radio station is on air 24/7. Available to download free by App Radio Maria World Family to your phone or tablet.

**The Priests Live** at The Church Of The Irish Martyrs, Letterkenny. Friday 29th December 2017. Tickets, €25, available from The Parish Office, The Sacristy, Veritas & Clarkes Newsagents, Lower Main Street, Letterkenny. Tel 074-9127600 for more info.

**Killybegs GAA Christmas Bingo**  
on Monday 18th December at 9pm in the Foresters Hall. Hampers and prizes galore to be won.

**Niall Mór Centre 97 41863 Ring to book a place..**  
*Kids Drama Class:* New term starts Friday 19th Jan, run by Catie B, Balor Theatre, Ballybofey. 5-8 yrs 3.30pm-5pm; 9-13 yrs 5.30pm- 7pm. 10 week: €100.

**Na Cealla Beaga GAA Club:**  
A night on the Red Carpet, New Year's Eve, Bay View Hotel. Tickets €35.

*He must increase, but I must decrease* John 3:30