

*St. Mary of the Visitation Parish, Killybegs*

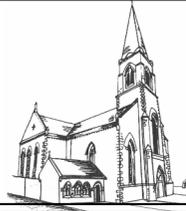
**Parish Office: Mon to Fri. 9.15am to 2.45pm. Tel: 074 9731013**

**Parish Secretary:** Ann O'Donnell

**Email:** info@killybegsparish.com **Website:** killybegsparish.com

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

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



**The Celebration of Christmas : Thank You**

Christmas is about family, the Holy Family and our families. It can be celebrated with happy hearts or with heavy hearts because, while it's a time of togetherness, it's also a time when we are more conscious of the pain of separation or division. Whatever your situation, each of us has the stirrings of wonder and gratitude in our hearts because God reached down to us that first Christmas and has never left our side since. It is in that spirit that we celebrated the Advent Service of Reconciliation, the Christmas Carol Service and all our Christmas Masses.

Sincere thanks to everyone who helped with the preparations and the celebrations. Our thanks to all the priests who helped out at the Reconciliation Service. The Carol Service was uplifting and captivating as the young people of St Catherine's Vocational School, and Commons, Fintra and Niall Mór National Schools celebrated in song and word the Christmas story, along with the Choral Group and Choir, under the direction of Paul Coughlan. Our thanks to everyone involved in the Children's Mass on Christmas Eve including all the parents who helped. The children excelled, as did the Junior Choir including Dearbhla & Orla, under Ann O'Donnell's direction, accompanied by musicians Sara O'Donnell, Janet Boyle and Miriam Curran. There was a beautiful rendering of O Holy Night by Roisin O'Donnell and Kelly McGinley, as there was at the Midnight Mass by Maeve Murray.

Our sincere thanks to all involved in the Christmas Masses: the Choir, Readers, Ministers of the Eucharist, Collectors, Altar Servers, Ushers, Gift Bearers and Sacristan Patricia O'Boyle. Charlie Boyle was looking after the Crib for the 50th year, assisted by Patrick and Betty Boyle: awe-inspiring and meticulous. Our thanks also to the Christmas Tree Team and the Altar Society.

Our gratitude to all involved in the express delivery of the Church & Restoration Envelopes, the Parish Calendar 2015 and the Christmas Newsletter. The whole operation was coordinated by Ann O'Donnell, Parish Secretary, whose enthusiasm and endeavour in the Parish Office are much appreciated. We are grateful to everyone who supports the parish financially throughout the year. I am conscious that, in these demanding times, the restoration project has made extra financial demands on your resources. Your ongoing generosity is much appreciated. Our sincere thanks to all parish committees and organisations who do such good work throughout the year, including the Counters who are on weekly duty all year. Our thanks to Colin & Ann Marie and the participants of Killybegs Employment Project who look after the church and grounds and graveyard throughout the year. Congratulations on celebrating 20 years of Community Employment. Our thanks also to Killybegs Men's Shed for their support. It is great to see them thriving! On a personal note, my sincere thanks for your gifts, generous Christmas offerings and good wishes. *Go raibh mile maith agaibh.*

*Wishing you good health and peace throughout 2015.*

*Beannachtaí na hAithbhliana oraibh uilig, Fr Colm*

**First Friday Calls**

will be on Thursday 8th and Friday 9th January.

**First Communion Parents Group**

meets **Thursday 8th January at 8pm** in Parish Office.  
Next celebration Sunday 18th January 11am.

**Sunday Missal 2015** €5 Sacristy / Parish Office.  
Complimentary copy for all Ministers.

**Induction Loop** is available in the Church for hearing-aid users, switch to T position.

**Parish & Restoration Envelopes**

Anyone who would like a set of envelopes please let Ann know in the Parish Office.

**A Prolife Trust Church Gate Collection** on 3rd & 4th January.

- **Sunday 28th December 2014: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
- **Weekday Readings: Before Epiphany**

**Saturday 27th December: 07.00pm** - Gerard Byrne & Mickey Cannon (Anniversaries)  
**Sunday 28th December: 09.00am** - Michael Boyle (1st Anniversary)  
**11.00am** - Mary Ann McGill (Anniversary)  
**Monday 29th December: 10.00am** - Freda Gillespie (Anniversary)  
**Wednesday 31st December: 07.00pm** - Barney Murrin (Anniversary)  
**Thursday** *Mary, Mother of God*  
**1st January: 11.00am** - Frank Gallagher (Anniversary)  
**Friday 2nd January: 10.00am** - Charles McLaughlin (Anniversary)  
**Saturday 3rd January: 07.00pm** - Josie O'Donnell (2nd Anniversary)  
**Sunday 4th January: 09.00am** - Fionnuala Gorman (7th Anniversary)  
**11.00am** - Michael & Mary Carr (Anniversary)

**Adoration:** No Adoration this weekend

**Confessions:** Saturdays 6.30pm

**Please note:** Mass on Thursday at 11am

**Pray for those who died recently: Brendan Fitzgerald, Main St, Killybegs, who died in Harbour Lights Nursing Home on Tuesday and whose funeral took place on St Stephen's Day.**

**Pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Patrick & Rita Ryan, Bridie Rawdon. Suaimhneas Sioraí.**

**Requiem Mass** for Kath Hegarty in St Cartha's Church, Kilcar 30th Dec 12 noon.  
Followed by interring of ashes in family plot.

**Blessed Sacrament Adoration**  
*No Adoration this weekend*  
4th January - James Gavigan

**Junior Strictly Come Dancing 2015**

It's back and it's audition time!  
Calling all 3<sup>rd</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> class pupils for Strictly Come Dancing on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March. Parents are invited to bring their children to open **auditions on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January** in Tara Hotel. Funds raised will go to St. Mary's Restoration Fund.  
Audition times: Fintra N.S.: 10am;  
Commons N.S.: 11.30am & Niall Mór N.S.: 1.30pm

**Sunday Collection** € 1,345.00  
**Restoration & Development Fund:**  
 Envelopes 20th & 21st December € 1,690.00  
 'Murillo' Fund € 1,000.00  
**Total Fund: €2,301,792.38**  
*Thanks for your continued generosity.*

**Killybegs Community Care**

Thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas draw. Thanks to all the businesses in the town who helped to make it a success.  
Prize winners: Margaret McBrearty, Kilcar; Andrea McHugh, Donegal; Rose McFadden, Kilcar.

**Killybegs Baby and Toddler Group** will recommence in Foresters Hall on January 6th 10.30am -12.00. All welcome.

**Last Man Standing**

A football competition in aid of the Restoration Fund. Entry forms available from Parish Office. Covers 6 weeks of Premiership matches: Pick one winning team for each week, using a team only once.  
**Begins 10th January.** Entry fee €10. Don't forget to drop your entries into the Parish Office letterbox. Winner gets €500, two €50 consolation prizes.

*Try to be like the turtle - at ease in your own shell.*

**January Sunday Rota**

**READERS**

**Vigil:** Paula O'Callaghan  
**9.00am:** Philomena Carrabin  
**11.00am:** Rosemary Kelly

**COLLECTORS**

**Vigil:** Donal O'Donnell, Rosaleen Carry, Fred Smith  
**9.00am:** Mary Harkin, Seamus Gillespie  
**11.00am:** Susan McGilloway, Lena Gavigan

**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST**

**Vigil:** Elis McMorrow, Brid Callaghan, Mary Hegarty  
**9.00am:** Lisa McGing, Anne Rodgers  
**11.00am:** Marian Breslin, Caroline O'Gorman, Kathleen Gillespie

**Live Streaming**

All church celebrations are streamed live on the internet by logging onto [churchservices.tv](http://churchservices.tv) and then **St Mary's Killybegs.**  
This can be helpful for those who can't get out to Mass or for those who are away from home.