

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

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

Masses and Services: Live streaming on www.mcnmedia.tv



A New Year Blessing for 2018

May God, the source of every blessing,
grant you the fullness of grace
and keep you safe throughout the coming year.
May God safeguard the purity of your faith,
give you an unwavering hope
and a love that patiently endures to the end.
May God order your works and days in peace,
listen to your every prayer,
and lead you safely to eternal life.



Feast of the Epiphany:
Saturday 6th January
Vigil Mass on Friday at 7pm,
and Masses on Saturday
9am & 11am.

Rosary New Year's Eve Croaghlin Mass Rock
Sunday 31st December Midnight. All welcome.

January First Friday Calls
will be on Thursday 11th & Friday 12th January.

Christmas Gratitude

So many people gathered in Church at Christmas-time to pray, worship and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and to savour the joy of his love. Christmas is a time of grace and good-will and it is comforting to know that Jesus Christ comes to us in our loneliness, brokenness and fragility, as well as in times of joy and happiness, bringing light and healing to our lives.

Sincere thanks to everyone who helped with our Advent and Christmas preparations and celebrations. Being present at the Carol Service brought joy to our hearts. We are indebted to the young people of St Catherine's Vocational School, and Commons, Fintra & Niall Mór National Schools, Niall Mór Community Childcare, as well as our Parish Choir. Thanks to the staff, students and all the helpers involved and a special word of gratitude to Miss McCrudden from the Vocational School. Our thanks to all the priests who helped with the Advent Reconciliation Service which always seems to strike a chord.

We're grateful to everyone involved in the Children's Mass on Christmas Eve, including all the parents who helped. It's always such a special celebration. The children excelled in the Christmas Play and in the Junior Choir, under Ann O'Donnell's inspired direction. There were more than 80 involved altogether. The individual singers were excellent: Lauren McHugh, Orla McGuinness, Dearbhla Diver, Jenna Curran and a beautiful rendering of O Holy Night by Roisín O'Donnell and Kelly McGinley. Musicians Sara O'Donnell, Janet Boyle & Miriam Curran were invaluable. Maeve Murray again got a standing ovation for her rendering of O Holy Night. Our parish is served so well by the Parish Choir throughout the year and when Maeve Murray is unavailable Maeve McGowan is always at hand.

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. Patricia carries out her tasks as Sacristan with attentiveness and care throughout the year. Patrick and Betty Boyle looked after the Crib this year again: awe-inspiring and meticulous. Our thanks also to the Christmas Tree Team, Charlie Boyle and the Altar Society.

Our gratitude to all involved in the express delivery of Church & Restoration Envelopes, Parish Calendar, Christmas Newsletter and Holy Family Icon. The whole operation was coordinated by Ann O'Donnell, Parish Secretary, whose cheerfulness and expertise in the Parish Office are much appreciated.

We are grateful to everyone who supports the parish financially throughout the year. Your ongoing generosity to the Restoration Fund is much appreciated. Our sincere thanks to all parish committees and organisations who do such good work throughout the year, including Maureen Cunningham who looks after the candles. Thank to our 'money counters' who are at hand on a weekly basis, as are all who open and close the church. The execution of these weekly tasks is very much appreciated. Our thanks to Colin & Ann Marie and participants of Killybegs Employment Project who look after the church and grounds and graveyard throughout the year. Alison keeps the interior of the chapel in pristine condition and Richard and Derek keep the grounds in great trim.

A special word of thanks to Canon John Gallagher who is very obliging throughout the year. On a personal note, my sincere thanks for your gifts, generous Christmas offerings and good wishes. *Go raibh míle maith agaibh. Wishing you good health, peace and joy throughout 2018.*

Beannachtai na hAithbhliana oraibh uilig, Fr Colm

- **Sunday 31st December 2017: The Holy Family**
- **Weekday Readings: Before Epiphany**

Saturday	30th December:	07.00pm - Fionnuala Gorman (10th Anniversary) Barney Murrin (20th Anniversary) Bridie Rawdon & Jacqueline Kallides (Anniv)
Sunday	31st December:	09.00am - Special Intention 11.00am - Special Intentions
Monday	1st January:	11.00am - Brendan & Rose Fitzgerald & Mary Worley (Anniversaries)
Tuesday	2nd January:	10.00am - Thomas & Bridget Keeney (Anniversaries)
Thursday	4th January:	10.00am - Special Intention
Friday	5th January:	10.00am - Special Intentions 07.00pm - Josie O'Donnell (5th Anniversary)
Saturday	6th January: Epiphany of the Lord	09.00am - Special Intentions 11.00am - Special Intentions 07.00pm - Bridget Cooper (Anniversary) Hughie & Justine McGuinness (Anniversaries)
Sunday	7th January:	09.00am - Paddy Gallagher (Anniversary) 11.00am - Rose & James O'Donnell & Denis Byrne (Anniversaries)

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

Pray for those whose anniversaries occur: Baby John Kelly, Sarah O'Donnell, Freda Gillespie. Suaimhneas Sioraí.

January Sunday Rota	
READERS	
Vigil 7pm:	Pat Connaghan
09.00am:	Tony O'Callaghan
11.00am:	Anne Haughey
COLLECTORS	
Vigil 7pm:	Donal O'Donnell, Fred Smith, Ann Marie Leslie
09.00am:	Seamus Gillespie, Mary Harkin
11.00am:	Kathleen McBrearty, Pat McGinty
MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST	
Vigil 7pm:	Máire McGuinness, Anthony McBrearty, Patricia O'Boyle
09.00am:	Teresa Doherty, Christine Smith
11.00am:	James Gavigan, Rosemary Gallagher, Mary Boyle

Parish & Restoration Envelopes Anyone who would like a set, let Ann know in the Parish Office.

A Pro Life Trust Church Gate Collection
on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th January.

Killybegs Community Council will be looking for new council members for election in March, people who would be interested in representing their area on the council who would have an interest in being more active in their community. They must be free on the second Wednesday of each month for meetings. We would love to see some new faces .
Contact: killybegscommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Blessed Sacrament Adoration

No Adoration this weekend
7th January - Rosemary Gallagher

Parish Collections not recorded yet

Restoration Fund

Donations € 500.00
Total Restoration Fund: €2,876,695.43
Thank you for your continued generosity

Anam Cara Donegal, an organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its next monthly Parent Evening on Thursday 11th January 7.30pm-9pm in the Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny. Anam Cara Donegal offers a safe and comfortable setting where you can 'drop the mask' and be yourself among people who understand. This event is open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether this was recent or not.

The Alzheimer Café, Letterkenny
Thursday 4th January from 11am - 1pm
in Silver Tassie Hotel. Tel: Mary 087 9449903.
Open to all people with Dementia and families.

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