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.mcnmedia.tv



Easter Thanks from Fr Colm

Teilhard de Chardin wrote: 'We are spiritual beings on a human journey'. Our Lent - Easter celebrations focus on the spiritual tension of Jesus' earthly pilgrimage and our own pilgrimage. It's about letting go, about finding God and about living with ourselves in a way that honours us as we are. It's about the values, joys and tensions of friendships. It's about faith and living with hope. We hope the different celebrations will have resonated with our search for the spiritual in our everyday concerns.

We are grateful to everyone who helped with and participated in the liturgy of Lent and Holy Week. The early morning Mass on Tuesday, and indeed all the Lenten Masses, were well attended. The Stations of the Cross on Thursday evenings were appreciated, culminating in the Stations on Good Friday night which related the suffering of Christ to our everyday trials and tribulations.

The blessing of the palms on Palm Sunday and the Solemn Reading of the Passion captured the spirit of welcoming Christ in joy and in sorrow. The Service of Reconciliation on Monday evening resonated in different ways with different people and our thanks to Fr Brian Quinn who gave the homily, Monsignor Joe Chambers for his thoughtful examination of conscience and to all the priests who helped. It was good to experience God's gift of forgiveness, peace and reconciliation, a source of abundant blessings to all concerned.

Thanks to the Confirmation candidates who participated in the Holy Thursday Celebration of the Lord's Supper and again in carrying The Garment of Suffering on Good Friday. The countless hours spent sewing together the Garment of Suffering is deeply appreciated. The Procession of Witness on Good Friday 2pm from Our Lady's Grotto to the Chapel is so worthwhile. The Vigil on Holy Saturday Night, as we moved symbolically from darkness to Christ our Light and renewing our baptismal promises, assured us that we share Christ's triumph over death so that we may live with him in God.

Our sincere thanks to all the Readers, Ministers of the Eucharist and Collectors who took part throughout the week. The altar servers excelled themselves, especially at the Vigil. The decoration of the Church was done tastefully and to the Altar Society and all who helped, especially to the Easter Garden team, our sincere thanks. James Gavigan looked after the palms and the Easter fire with his usual gracefulness. Maeve Murray and the choir enhanced the celebrations greatly and our young singers, Roisín O'Donnell and Kelly McGinley (Holy Thursday evening) and Orla McGuinness (The Vigil), all accompanied by Sara O'Donnell, were excellent.

The Children's Celebrations (and practices) on Holy Thursday and Good Friday were simple and moving, while the Junior Choir, under Ann O'Donnell's direction, accompanied by Sara and Miriam, added greatly to them. Sincere thanks to the Parents' First Communion Group and to all who helped.

Ann, the Parish Secretary, coordinated everything with her usual efficiency and kindness and Patricia O'Boyle, our Sacristan, was ever ready and always reliable in attending to so many tasks. The church interior and grounds are maintained to a very high standard by Community Employment members from the Killybegs Community Project and we are very grateful to them.

The message that Christ is Risen is the cornerstone of our faith. We pray then, as St Paul prayed: I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection. May the love of the Risen Christ bless us always. Alleluia!

Golf Classic in Narin Portnoo Golf Links on Saturday 30th April 2016 in aid of St Mary's Restoration Fund. Entry forms from Parish Office: 9731013. <u>Time Sheet</u> enquiries: Pat Connaghan. 0872058568 The cost of entering a team of 4 is €120. Tee Box sponsorship €50. All support greatly appreciated.	Killybegs Employment Project Ltd Positions available: General Worker/Gardener St. Mary's Parish Duties: Maintenance of interior and exterior of parish buildings and cleaning church. General Workers – Killybegs Area Duties: Gardening, light construction and general maintenance. Applications to Project Office at Foresters Hall: kepltd1@eircom.net / 0749731666
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Church Opening & Closing Times, Summertime: Opens at 8am and closes at 8pm (or after Mass)

<i>v</i> 1		Second Sunday of Easter: Divine Mercy Sunday (Cycle C) Second Week of Easter	
Saturday	2nd April:	07.00pm - Keith Gallagher (14th Anniversary) Jack Murchan (Anniversary)	
		Owen & Mary Ann Murchan (Anniversaries)	
Sunday	3rd April:	09.00am - Margaret McGuinness (1st Anniversary)	
v	I	11.00am - Martin Barrett (1st Anniversary)	
Monday	The Annunci	The Annunciation of the Lord	
·	4th April:	10.00am - Special Intention	
Tuesday	5th April:	10.00am - Special Intention	
Thursday	7th April	10.00am - Special Intention	
Friday	8th April:	10.00am - Special Intention	
Saturday	9th April:	07.00pm - Anne Neill (10th Anniversary)	
Sunday	10th April:	09.00am - Special Intention	
v		11.00am - Special Intention	

Adoration: Sunday 6pm to Monday MidnightPlease Note: No Mass WednesdayRosary/Divine Mercy: Tuesday 7.30pm in Adoration Room. Please note change of time.

Pray for: Delia Barry, for whom a Requiem Mass was offered here Friday 1st April; burial later in England (mother of Margaret Gallagher, Lower Island); **Norah Mc Inerney** (nee Boyle), London & Kilcar, who died Thursday, funeral arrangements later (sister of Kathleen Tully); **Bridget Dowd**, who died in North Carolina last Tuesday (sister of Lena Gavigan, Ballyara); **Evelyn Mc Nelis**, whose funeral was in Buncrana on Tuesday (mother of Kevin Mc Nelis); **Mary Agnes Gallagher** whose funeral was in Kilcar on Monday. **Pray for:** James Byrne. **Suaimhneas Síoraí**.

South West Donegal Community Radio A public meeting on Wed 6th April in Inver Community Centre at 8pm regarding the future of the radio.	Blessed Sacrament Adoration 3rd April - Mary Cunningham 10th April - Kathleen Gillespie	
Anam Cara monthly Parent Evening on Thursday 14th April 7.30 to 9pm in the Mount Errigal Hotel.	Sunday Collection€ 1,715.00Trócaire€ 3,315.00Restoration Fund:	
Outreach Officer in Foresters Hall Monday 4th April 11am - 1pm. Tel: 074 9161979	Restoration Fund: $\in 2,072.00$ Envelopes 26th & 27th March $\in 2,072.00$ Donations $\in 100.00$ Total Restoration Fund: $\epsilon 2,546,252.78$	
Final Call for Tax Rebates 2013, 2014, 2015. Fill in and sign the Enduring Certificate & return it as soon as possible so we can process tax rebates.	Suas Volunteer Programme Thanks to all for generosity to Church Gate Collection €831.60.	
Killybegs Women's Group For help & advice on dressing to flatter your shape, dropping a dress size, make up tips & advice. Tara Hotel, Thursday 14th April, 7.30pm. €10. To book: 087 0949900	Jobs & Career Fair 2016 Opportunities for All Free Event, all welcome on Thursday 7th April in Abbey Hotel 10.30am - 2.30pm. Tel: DLDC 9723368	
Thank You Sadie & Dan McKeever would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes and Mass Cards during her illness.	Archbishop Eamon Martin Pilgrimage to the Holy Land from September 9th -17th from Dublin. €1,495 pps. Details and itinerary on www.maptravel.ie or call 01 878 3111	
I.C.A. Meeting on Wednesday 6th April in the Niall Mor Centre at 7.30pm	Anne Kinsella A Church Gate Collection on 9th & 10th April for Galway Cancer Bus.	
Pilgrimage to the Fr Patrick Peyton Memorial Centre, Attymass, Co Mayo on Saturday 9th April. Tel 0872629585	Trócaire Boxes: Lent 2016 Please return remaining envelopes this week.	
Congratulations to Seamie Coleman	Parents First Communion Team Mon 8pm	
who captained Ireland to victory recently.	B. O. M. Commons N.S. Tuesday 4.30pm.	