

Parish of Killavullen and Annakisha 21.52 *First Week of Christmas (December 26 - January 1)*



Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

1st *Reading:* It is good to honour our parents. This reading from one of the wisdom books of the Old Testament sets out the meaning of the Fourth Commandment.

Psalm 127: Showing respect for God brings blessings on our family life.

 2^{nd} Reading: When the message of Christ finds a place in our homes, then his peace will reign in our hearts. "The family that prays together, stays together." *Gospel:* "The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple". Mary and Joseph get insight into the divine nature of their child, but they keep this information to themselves.

Children's worksheets on today's Gospel are available at church doorways

Mass and Confession Times this week

Monday, December 27 St John, apostle & evangeli	st Killavullen 9.00am
Tuesday, December 28 The Holy Innocents	Killavullen 9.00am
No Mass on Wednesday & Thursday	
Friday, December 31 Vigil Mass for the Feast of	

	Mary, Mother of God (New Year's E	ve)Annakish	a 7.30pm
Saturday	Vigil Mass	Killavullen	7.30pm
Sunday, Jar	uary 2 Second Sunday of Christmas	Annakisha	10.00am
		Killavullen	11.30am

Confessions: Killavullen Reconciliation Room at 6.30pm on Saturdays. **May they Rest in God's Peace:** *Anniversaries:* Harry Deeney (Dromdeer); Patrick Canavan; Eileen Russell (Killavullen)*Recently deceased:* David O'Flynn (Cooldurragha).

Last Weekend's Collections: Thank you for your generosity.

	Killavullen	Annakisha
Weekly Offerings (19.12.21)	€575	€390

The boxes of donation envelopes for 2022 are being distributed to registered households over the coming weeks. Our thanks to all those helping with this task on behalf of the parish. There are envelopes for Christmas Offerings, which contribute towards the priest's income, at Church doorways.

www.killavullenparish.ie Fr. Gerard Condon PP. Tel.: 022-46578; Email: parishofkillavullen@gmail.com

Entrance:

O Come All Ye Faithful Joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem. Come and behold Him, Born the King of Angels; O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Recessional:

Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply Echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Covid 19 Pandemic: Please wear a face mask at church and at all other parish functions and refrain from shaking hands. Our liturgy has been adapted to ensure that the virus is not spread. Do not attend Mass if you have fever, cough, shortness of breath or a loss or change to the sense of taste or smell. Otherwise, please do come to Mass, especially Sunday Mass! Churches are among the safest environments for gathering with others: an essential feature of our faith.

The Christmas season reminds us of the reasons for keeping a positive outlook on life. Yes, the days are dark and the weather dreary; Yes, the *omicron* variant hangs over us like another dark cloud; and yes, we live in threatening times for the economy and the climate. But the Word of God has been revealed to us in the Child Jesus. If we allow the Gospel to take root in our hearts, and nurture that delicate plant by making time for God each day, then we will possess a peace that the world cannot give, and become a blessing for others. May this Christmas season renew our faith, confirm our hope and strengthen our love for one another. **Our thanks** to all who have prepared our churches for Christmas: the sacristans, the parish choir, the altar-servers, readers and ministers of the Eucharist. The Cribs and floral decorations immerse us in the spirit of this season and are appreciated by all who visit Killavullen and Annakisha churches. A holy, happy and peaceful Christmas to one and all. (Fr. Gerard)

Feast of the Holy Family: "How important it is that every child coming into the world be welcomed by the warmth of a family! External comforts do not matter: Jesus was born in a stable and had a manger as his first cradle, but the love of Mary and of Joseph made him feel the tenderness and beauty of being loved. Children need this: the love of their father and mother. It is this that gives them security and, as they grow, enables them to discover the meaning of life."

(Pope Benedict XVI)