

Parish of Killavullen and Annakisha

Christmas Week (December 25- -24, 2022) 22.48



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 **(3)**
Christ the Lord.



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.

Christmas Eve and Day *The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1st Reading: Writing in the Seventh Century BC, Isaiah anticipated a Messiah who would be born of a maiden. Jesus is that long-awaited “wonder-counsellor” and “prince of peace” whose kingdom invites our response.

2nd Reading: The glory of God has been revealed in Jesus Christ. His coming among us brings the opportunity to renew our lives according to his light.

Gospel: Two very different accounts of the origins of Jesus. On Christmas Eve, Luke’s reflects on the humanity of Jesus, his vulnerability, born in a stable and laid on a manger of hay. On Christmas morning the Gospel of John opens with a wonderful poem of praise to Jesus as fully divine, begotten not made, the eternal Word of God, who at a point in time took on our human nature. *God became one of us, so that we could become more like God.*

- *Children’s worksheets on today’s Gospel are at church doorways.*

Mass Times this Week

St Stephen’s Day (December 26) Annakisha 10.00am

Tuesday and Wednesday Killavullen 9.00am

No Mass on Thursday

Friday (Feast of the Holy Family) Killavullen 7.30pm

Saturday (New Year’s Eve) Vigil Mass Killavullen 7.00pm

Sunday, Jan. 1 (Mary, Mother of God) Annakisha 10.00am

Killavullen 11.30am

- The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated on Saturday evening at 6.30pm in the Reconciliation Room or at any time requested.

May they Rest in God’s Embrace: Eileen Russell (Main St., Killavullen).

Recent Collections: Thank you for your generosity

Last weekend	Killavullen	Annakisha
Weekly Offering	€570	€185

Christmas Offerings, for the support of your priest can be made at this time. Thank you.

Bon Mot: You can do very little with faith, but you can do nothing without it.

Christmas a year-round celebration: The shops would have us believe that Christmas begins during October, ending over the coming days amid wilting Christmas trees, stale mince pies and a wasteland of wrapping paper. The Church’s year is laid out differently. Advent is a season of preparation and waiting, with Christmas only beginning on December 24. Other highpoints in the coming weeks are the Feast of the Holy Family (December 30); New Year’s Day (Feast of Mary, Mother of God); and the Feast of the Epiphany, on January 6, when Christ was revealed as a light to all the nations,. The season ends with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, on January 8.

These weeks are an opportunity to reflect on the difference that the Christian Way can make in our lives, giving a sense of hope and purpose that the world cannot give. Christmas is not just a feast in honour or the baby Jesus, but an invitation to meet the adult Christ, whose presence in our lives is the best present of all, not just at Christmas but throughout the coming year. Have a safe, happy and holy Christmas, Fr Gerard

Parish Envelopes: Our thanks to those now distributing the boxes of envelopes for 2023, and to all our parishioners for your financial support. If your household would like to register, please use one of the forms available at church doorways. This form can also be used if you would like to volunteer for one of the many roles waiting to be filled: as a Reader of the Word of God; as a Minister of the Eucharist, distributing Holy Communion at Mass and bringing the sacrament to the housebound; as a leader in the Children’s Liturgy of the Word or a member of the Parish Choir. We are also looking for additional floral decorators and cleaners. Christmas invites us to greater engagement with our faith, in our daily lives, by regular Sunday Mass attendance and - if you can - by also offering a service to the Church.

BonMot: Christmas is tenderness for the past,
courage for the present and hope for the future.