



# Parish of Killavullen and Annakisha

**Fourth Sunday of Advent / Christmastide (Dec. 24 -30, 2023) 23.49**



**Fourth Sunday of Advent: Mary, who brought us the new Messiah.**

**First Reading:** The prophet Nathan(lived c. 1000BC) announces that King David is the Messiah - meaning “chosen one” of God – who would lead the people and bring about God’s kingdom.

**Responsorial Psalm 88:** God’s covenant is established in the house of David.

**Second Reading:** God’s wisdom, grace and peace has been revealed to us through Jesus Christ.

**Gospel:** The Annunciation by the Angel Gabriel: Mary is invited to be the mother of Jesus who is of the House of David. Mary accepts God’s will.

## Mass Times this week

<b>Christmas Eve Masses</b>	<b>Killavullen</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>
	<b>Annakisha</b>	<b>8.30pm</b>
<b>Christmas Day Masses</b>	<b>Annakisha</b>	<b>10.00am</b>
	<b>Killavullen</b>	<b>11.30am</b>
Saint Stephen’s Day	Annakisha	10.00am
Wednesday & Thursday	Killavullen	9.00am
<i>No Mass on Friday</i>		
Saturday Vigil Mass	<b>Killavullen</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>
<b>Sunday Feast of the Holy Family</b>	<b>Annakisha</b>	<b>10.00am</b>
	<b>Killavullen</b>	<b>11.30am</b>

- The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated on Saturday evening at 6.30pm in the Reconciliation Room or at any time requested.
- *A Children’s Liturgies of the Word will take place at Sunday Masses this weekend (December 23-24).*

**May they Rest in God’s Embrace: Anniversaries:** Pat Canavan (Kilquane); Nollag Moakley (Clenor); John Power; Margaret and James Power (Commune).

**Died this week:** Mary Norris (Castlekevin)

## **Last Weekend’s Collection - Thank you for your generosity**

	Annakisha	Killavullen
Weekly Offering	€370	€560

**Bon Mot:** Silent caring company is often more helpful than prolonged good advice.

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
 Longing for truth, we turn to you;  
 Make us your own, your holy people, Light  
 for the world to see.  
*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
 Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our  
 light! Shine in your Church gathered today*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
 Longing for hope, many despair.  
 Your word alone has power to save us.  
 Make us your living voice.  
*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
 Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our  
 light! Shine in your Church gathered today*

**St Paul Sunday Missal 2023-2024:** Copies of the Missal for the coming calendar year are available for sale from sacristies and the Parish Office for €8  
**Parish Envelopes for 2024:** are now being distributed. Our thanks to those who are distributing the envelopes. If you do not receive yours by the end of this week, or would like to register your household with the parish, please let Fr Gerard or one of the sacristans know. The packet includes a slip for making nominations to a new Pastoral Council which will be formed early next year: please choose two nominees, parishioners who would make good representatives of our Catholic community and can assist its mission over the next three years.

**CatholicNews.ie** (News Service of the Irish Bishops) has carried a report from December 16, that an Israeli Defence Forces sniper murdered two Christian women inside the Holy Family Parish, where the majority of Christian families in Gaza have taken refuge since October 7. One woman was killed as she tried to carry the other to safety into the Convent of the Sisters of Mother Theresa. It is home to 54 people with disabilities. IDF ordinance has also exploded within the compound. Said Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan (Waterford & Lismore), “The targeting of a religious institution and vulnerable members of society is a grave violation of human rights and goes against the principles of compassion and respect for life. For peace to take hold, the sanctity of human life must be upheld throughout the Holy Land. I am calling for an immediate end to the needless bloodshed in Gaza which is claiming innocent lives and causing immense suffering.”

### **An Advent Prayer, by Henri Nouwen**

Lord Jesus, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.  
 We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day,  
 We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.  
 We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.  
 We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.  
 We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.  
 To you we say, "Come, Lord Jesus!" Amen.