Harvest Thanksgiving at St. Ignatius', Carryduff 3 October 2021

Welcome and Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all  
and also with you.

Hymn 37 - Come ye thankful people come

# 1 Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest-home; all is safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin; God our Maker doth provide\_ for our wants to be supplied; come to God’s own temple, come, raise the song of harvest-home.

# 2 All the world is God’s own field, fruit unto his praise to yield; wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown; first the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear: Lord of harvest, grant that we\_ wholesome grain and pure may be.

# 3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take his harvest home; from his field shall in that day all offences purge away; give his angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast; but the fruitful ears to store\_ in his garner evermore.

# 4 Even so, Lord, quickly come, to thy final harvest-home; gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin; there for ever purified in thy presence to abide: come, with all thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest-home.

Confession - Saying sorry for the misuse of creation

Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:  
forgive us and help us.

Children’s Spot - Why is there food?

## Thank you, Lord.

## Help me, Lord.

Hymn 4 - God who made the earth

# God, who made the earth, The air, the sky, the sea, Who gave the light its birth, Still cares for me.

# God, who made the grass, The flower, the fruit, the tree, The day and night to pass, Still cares for me.

# God, who made the sun, The moon, the stars, is he Who, when life’s clouds come on, Still cares for me.

Bible Reading - Joel 2:21-27

# Do not be afraid, land of Judah; be glad and rejoice. Surely the LORD has done great things! Do not be afraid, you wild animals, for the pastures in the wilderness are becoming green. The trees are bearing their fruit; the fig-tree and the vine yield their riches. Be glad, people of Zion, rejoice in the LORD your God, for he has given you the autumn rains because he is faithful. He sends you abundant showers, both autumn and spring rains, as before. The threshing-floors will be filled with grain; the vats will overflow with new wine and oil. ‘I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten— the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm— my great army that I sent among you. You will have plenty to eat, until you are full, and you will praise the name of the LORD your God, who has worked wonders for you; never again will my people be shamed. Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am the LORD your God, and that there is no other; never again will my people be shamed.

This is the word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God

Psalm 63 - God has blessed us

## The earth has yielded its harvest; God, our God, has blessed us.

You visit the earth and water it;  
you make it very plenteous.

You soften the ground with showers;  
and bless the increase of it.

You crown the year with your goodness;  
and your paths overflow with plenty.

The meadows are clothed with sheep;  
the valleys stand so thick with corn,  
they shout for joy and sing.

## The earth has yielded its harvest; God, our God, has blessed us.

Bible Reading - Matthew 6:25-33

# ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? ‘And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith. So do not worry, saying, “What shall we eat?” or “What shall we drink?” or “What shall we wear?” For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

This is the word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God

Hymn 43 - Holy is the seedtime

# Holy is the seed-time, when the buried grain sinks to sleep in darkness, but to wake again. Holy is the spring-time, when the living corn bursting from its prison rises like the morn.

# Holy is the harvest, when each ripened ear bends before the blade and crowns the golden year. Store them in our garners; winnow them with care; give to God the glory in our praise and prayer.

# Holy seed our Master sows throughout his field; be the harvest holy which our hearts shall yield; quickened by his Spirit, strengthened by his grace, till in risen splendour we behold his face.

# Glory to the Father, who has seen our need; glory to the Saviour, who has sown the seed; glory to the Spirit, giving the increase; glory, as it has been, is, and shall not cease!

The Sermon

Responding - affirming faith

## We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

## We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

## We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

## We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Responding - seeking God’s help in prayer

The Lord’s Prayer - praying with Jesus

## The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.

Hymn 47 - We plough the fields

# We plough the fields, and scatter the good seed on the land, but it is fed and watered by God’s almighty hand; he sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain, the breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

## All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above; then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love.

# He only is the maker of all things near and far; he paints the wayside flower, he lights the evening star; the winds and waves obey him, by him the birds are fed; much more to us, his children, he gives our daily bread.

# We thank you, then, O Father, for all things bright and good, the seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food. Accept the gifts we offer, for all your love imparts, and that which you most welcome, our humble, thankful hearts.

The Blessing and Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ. Thanks be to God.

Tonight

7:00 pm The Harvest in Words and Music

Wednesday

10:00 am Midweek Communion

Next Sunday 10 October

8:30 am Early Communion

10:00 am Parish Communion

3:00 pm Harvest Thanksgiving *at Killaney*

7:00 pm Supporting & Introducing Parishes Visitor Teams