

Parish of Bright Bulletin

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - 14th January 2024

Parish Priest: Fr Peter O’Kane
Address: 16 Rossglass Road, Killough, BT30 7QN
Tel: 028 4484 1221
Email: parishofbright@downandconnor.org
Website: parishofbright.net

Mass Times: Week Beginning Monday 15th January

St Patrick’s, Legamaddy	St Joseph’s, Killough
15th January Monday 10am	16th January Tuesday 10am
19th January Friday 7.30pm	17th January Wed 7.30pm
21st January Sunday 10am	20th January Saturday 10am
	20th January Sat Vigil 6.30pm

Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Rossglass
18th January Thursday 10.00am

Faithful Departed

Recently Deceased: Pat Connor (Ballyedock)
Anniversaries: Jordan Murdock, Paul McGeown, Kathleen Trainor,
Kathleen Flanagan

Weekly Confessions

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available after all weekday Masses and at 6.00pm before the Saturday Vigil Mass in St Joseph’s.

Eucharistic Adoration

St Patrick’s Church, Legamaddy every Tuesday from 2.30-3.30pm.
St Joseph’s Church, Killough every Wednesday from 1.30pm-7.30pm.

Powerful Sacraments For Every Catholic Home

“The use of sacramentals is one of the most misunderstood practices in the Catholic Church. Even if they have been part of the Church’s life from the very beginning, they are commonly (and mistakenly) viewed as some sort of superstition. This is largely due to the fact that many Catholics over the centuries have used sacramentals in a superstitious way as they were not taught how to use them properly. Instead of using them with faith, some Catholics used them as magic charms, rather than instruments of grace. This is unfortunate, as sacramentals are meant to enrich the spiritual lives of believers, not hinder them.

They have been instituted by the Church to draw us into a deeper relationship with Christ and are focused on sanctifying every part of our lives. Sacramentals are extensions of the seven sacraments and bring the grace of God into everything that we do.

One place where sacramentals are especially powerful is in your own home. If used in a spirit of faith, sacramentals can protect us from spiritual harm or inspire us to live a holy life dedicated to God. Here are three such sacramentals that, if used properly, can provide a spiritual boost to the home as well as keep away spiritual enemies lurking in the shadows.

Holy Water: Holy water has a double meaning of reminding us of our baptism as well as a symbol of spiritual cleansing. Holy water is said to have great power over the devil as the devil cannot stand this “clean” water, since he is entirely unclean for all eternity. It is a reminder of the water that flowed out of Christ’s side, which is a symbol of Baptism, and brings to mind the day of the devil’s defeat (that is, Christ’s crucifixion). It is an ancient custom to have what are called “holy water stoups” or “holy water fonts” on the walls of a home. They are elaborate or simple cups that hold holy water, which can then be used to bless oneself throughout the day. It is especially helpful to have them at the doors that lead outside the house as well as in the bedrooms of family members. That way we keep ourselves always fixed on Christ and remind ourselves to remain pure. It also keeps the holy water handy when needed to ward off any influence of the Evil One.

Blessed Salt: If possible, it is also good to have a small container of blessed salt in your home. You would have to specifically ask your parish priest to provide that for you. This is one sacramental that is often neglected and is not typically used in parishes. However, it is a powerful weapon against evil as can be seen by the following portion of the blessing said by the priest found in the *Roman Ritual*. Almighty and everlasting God, we humbly implore you, in your immeasurable kindness and love, to bless (+) this salt which you created and gave to the use of mankind, so that it may become a source of health for the minds and bodies of all who make use of it. May it rid whatever it touches or sprinkles of all uncleanness, and protect it from every assault of evil spirits. Through Christ our Lord.

Crucifix: Another very powerful sacramental that is more typically found in our homes is the crucifix. Not only does a crucifix remind us of the great love that God had for us, but it also is a strong deterrent to spiritual enemies. The crucifix is the bane of Satan’s existence and is the sign of everything that he despises. It is beneficial to have a crucifix in every room in your house (or apartment) so that you can frequently meditate on Jesus’ great sacrifice of love as well as have an image to remind you what you need to focus on during times of temptation.”

(by Philip Kosloski)