

Parish of Bright Bulletin

Easter Sunday

31st March 2024

Parish Priest: Fr Peter O’Kane
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Mass Times: Week Beginning Monday 1st April

<i>St Patrick’s, Legamaddy</i>	<i>St Joseph’s, Killough</i>
1st April Monday 10am	2nd April Tuesday 10am
5th April Friday 7.30pm	3rd April Wed 7.30pm
7th April Sunday 10am	6th April Saturday 10am
	6th April Sat Vigil 6.30pm

Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Rossglass
4th April Thursday 10.00am

Faithful Departed

Anniversaries: Mickey Doran, Oliver McStay, Fr Finbarr Glavin,
Conor Denvir

Weekly Confession

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.

First Saturday Fatima Devotion

St Joseph’s Church, Killough, Saturday 6th April: 9.15am Holy Rosary;
9.40am Meditation on the Mysteries; 10.00am Holy Sacrifice of the Mass;
10.40am Confessions.

Don’t Forget Your Easter Water!

“At the Easter Vigil the priest solemnly blesses the baptismal font where the catechumens (unbaptised adults who want to be admitted into the Catholic Church) and infants are baptised. It is a rather long blessing that recalls the many saving acts of God that were accomplished through water.

The blessing starts at the very beginning of creation and goes all the way to the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan. Here is the first part of the blessing:
“O God, whose Spirit in the first moments of the world’s creation hovered over the waters, so that the very substance of water would even then take to itself the power to sanctify; O God, who by the outpouring of the flood foreshadowed regeneration, so that from the mystery of one and the same element of water would come an end to vice and a beginning of virtue; O God, who caused the children of Abraham to pass dry-shod through the Red Sea, so that the chosen people, set free from slavery to Pharaoh, would prefigure the people of the baptised.”

The blessing concludes with a reference to the baptisms that will occur in this font: “May the power of the Holy Spirit, O Lord, we pray, come down through your Son into the fullness of this font, so that all who have been buried with Christ by Baptism into death may rise again to life with Him.”

It is a powerful prayer, but the graces are not only reserved for those to be baptised. It is an ancient custom for priests to bless, in addition to the baptismal font, a volume of water for parishioners to take home.

Holy water is a special sacramental in the Church with great importance in the spiritual realm. Saint Teresa of Avila recalls in her autobiography the power she experienced when using holy water to expel demons.

Water is a momentous force in salvation history and is meant to remind us of the need to spiritually cleanse ourselves of sin. This is why holy water is used throughout the Easter season, especially on Sundays when the priest sprinkles the people with that same Easter water. As we often sing while the priest blesses us with water, “Sprinkle me, O Lord, and I shall be cleansed; wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.” So don’t forget the next time you go to church during the Easter season to take home some Easter water!”

(By Philip Kosloski)

Wishing you the Joy and Peace of the Risen Christ this Easter!