

Parish of Bright Bulletin
First Sunday of Advent
1st December 2024

Parish Priest: Fr Peter O’Kane
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Mass Times: Week Beginning Monday 2nd December

<i>St Patrick’s, Legamaddy</i>	<i>St Joseph’s, Killough</i>
2nd Dec Monday 10am	3rd Dec Tuesday 10am
6th Dec Friday 7.30pm	4th Dec Wednesday 7.30pm
8th Dec Sunday 10.00am	7th Dec Saturday 10.00am
	7th Dec Saturday Vigil 6.30pm

Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Rossglass
5th Dec Thursday 10.00

Faithful Departed

Recently Deceased: Angela Lavery (Downpatrick, formerly Ballynoe)
Anniversaries: Edna Thomas, Renate Mahrenholtz, Anthony George

Weekly Confessions

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available: after all weekday Masses; and in St Joseph’s every Wednesday 8.00pm-8.45pm and at 6.00pm before the Saturday Vigil Mass; and in St Patrick’s every Friday 8.00pm-8.45pm.

Eucharistic Adoration

St Joseph’s, Killough every Wednesday:
1.30pm-7.30pm and after Mass from 8.00pm-9.00pm.
St Patrick’s, Legamaddy every Friday:
6.30pm-7.30pm and after Mass from 8.00pm-9.00pm.

First Saturday Fatima Devotion: St Joseph’s Church, Killough, Saturday 7th December: 9.15am Holy Rosary; 9.40am Meditation on the Mysteries; 10.00am Holy Sacrifice of the Mass; 10.40am Confessions.

Confession in Preparation for Christmas

A Penitential Service with the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place in St Patrick’s Church, Downpatrick on Sunday 8th December at 5.00pm. Local priests will be available for Confession.

Inter-Church Carol Service will take place in St Joseph’s Church, Killough on Tuesday 10th December at 7.30pm. Refreshments afterwards in Killough Youth and Community Hall.

SVP Christmas Appeal

The Society of St Vincent de Paul will hold its annual Christmas Church Door Collection at all Masses next weekend 7/8th December. Please give as generously as you can! Thank you!

Christmas Coffee Morning

Instead of the annual Christmas Dinner, Bright GAC would like to invite the local community to Bright Community Centre on Sunday 8th December from 11.00am to 3.00pm. Everyone is warmly welcome to call in for coffee/tea/hot chocolate, mince pies, etc and Bright festive cheer!

A Prayer to Mary, Mother of Advent from St. John Paul II

“Advent is a special time in the Church’s calendar, one that is especially connected to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Pope John Paul II, who had a deep devotion to Our Lady, said in an Angelus address in 2003, “In this journey of expectation and hope that is Advent, the Church is identified more closely than ever with the Most Holy Virgin. May it be she, the Virgin of expectation, who helps us to open our hearts to the One who, by his coming among us, brings the priceless gift of peace to all humanity.”

Each Advent John Paul II made it a point to pray to the Blessed Mother and offered special prayers to her, that she may adequately prepare our hearts for Christmas Day. Below are two prayers, combined from addresses he gave in 1999 and 2004. Together they make a beautiful prayer for Advent, invoking the Blessed Mother’s intercession in these days before we celebrate the birth of Jesus and the mystery of the Incarnation:

‘May the Virgin Mary help us to open the doors of our hearts to Christ, Redeemer of man and of history; may she teach us to be humble, because God looks upon the lowly; may she enable us to grow in understanding the value of prayer, of inner silence, of listening to God’s Word; may she spur us to seek God’s will deeply and sincerely, even when this upsets our plans; may she encourage us while we wait for the Lord, sharing our time and energies with those in need.

Mother of God, Virgin of expectation, grant that the God-who-comes will find us ready to receive the abundance of his mercy.

May Mary Most Holy, “Woman of the Eucharist” and Virgin of Advent, prepare us all to joyfully welcome Christ’s coming and to celebrate worthily his sacramental presence in the mystery of the Eucharist.’”

(By Philip Kosloski)