

Parish of Bright Bulletin

Feast of the Holy Family 29th December 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 30th December

<i>St Patrick’s, Legamaddy</i>	<i>St Joseph’s, Killough</i>
30th Dec Monday 10am	31st Dec Tuesday 10am
3rd Jan Friday 7.30pm	1st Jan Wednesday 10am
5th Jan Sunday 10.00am	4th Jan Saturday 10am
	4th Jan Saturday Vigil 6.30pm

Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Rossglass
2nd Jan Thursday 10.00

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - 1st January

To celebrate the Feast of Our Lady and to launch the Jubilee Year in our Parish, the Holy Mass will be celebrated in St Joseph’s Church, Killough at 10.00am. Everyone warmly welcome! (Please note that the usual Wednesday evening Mass is canceled on this occasion.)

Faithful Departed

Anniversaries: Jody & Ena Fitzsimons, Vera Gough, Ellie Connolly, Celine O’Connor, Kay Jones, Peggy Hanna, Noel Cope

Weekly Confessions

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available: after all weekday Masses; and in St Joseph’s every Wednesday 8.00pm-8.45pm (beginning again 8th Jan) and at 6.00pm before the Saturday Vigil Mass; and in St Patrick’s every Friday 8.00pm-8.45pm (beginning again 10th Jan).

Eucharistic Adoration

The weekly Adoration in St Joseph’s, Killough and St Patrick’s, Legamaddy is cancelled during the Christmas holidays. Adoration will begin again in St Joseph’s on Wednesday 8th January and in St Patrick’s on Friday 10th January at the usual times.

First Saturday Fatima Devotion: St Joseph’s Church, Killough, Saturday 4th January: 9.15am Holy Rosary; 9.40am Meditation on the Mysteries; 10.00am Holy Sacrifice of the Mass; 10.40am Confessions.

Jubilee Year 2025

What Is a Jubilee?

A Jubilee – or a Jubilee Year - is traditionally proclaimed by the Catholic Church every 25 years. It is a year set aside to encourage the faithful to embark on pilgrimages, to repent of their sins and forgive the sins of others, and to renew a focus on the spiritual life.

The Biblical background

In the Biblical tradition, as recorded in the book of Leviticus, a Jubilee was celebrated every 50 years and was intended to be a time to re-establish a proper relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation. The name, Jubilee, comes from the instrument used to announce the beginning of the year: the *yobel*, an ancient trumpet made from a ram’s horn.

Quoting the prophet Isaiah, the Gospel of Luke places Jesus’ mission in this context: a year acceptable to the Lord: *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.”* (Luke 4:18-19; cf. Isaiah 61:1-2).

The Church’s tradition

In 1300 A.D. Pope Boniface VIII called the first official Jubilee, also known as a “Holy Year,” since it is a time in which God’s holiness transforms us. The frequency of Holy Years has changed over time: at first, they were to be celebrated every 100 years; later, in 1343 Pope Clement VI reduced the gap between Jubilees to every 50 years, and in 1470 Pope Paul II made it every 25 years. A special part of the Jubilee was to invite pilgrims to Rome to visit the tombs of the Apostles Peter and Paul and enter through the Holy Door at St Peter’s Basilica. The last Jubilee Year was celebrated by Saint John Paul II in the year 2000 and that Pope Francis called an ‘Extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy’ in 2015 as he began his pontificate.

Jubilee 2025

The Jubilee 2025 will be centred on the theme **“Pilgrims of Hope.”** Pope Francis put it beautifully: *“We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision.”* The Jubilee 2025 started on December 24th 2024, with the official Opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter’s Basilica Rome. Bishop Alan McGuckian will launch the Jubilee in the Diocese at a Mass in St Peter’s Cathedral on Sunday 29th December at 3pm – all are welcome. Parishes will launch the Jubilee on Wednesday 1st January.