

Parish of Bright Bulletin

Third Sunday of Lent

23rd March 2025

Parish Priest: Fr Peter O’Kane

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Mass Times: Week Beginning Monday 24th March

St Patrick’s, Legamaddy

24th March Monday 10am

28th March Friday 7.30pm

30th March Sunday 10am

St Joseph’s, Killough

25th March Tuesday 10am

26th March Wednesday 7.30pm

29th March Saturday 10am

29th March Saturday Vigil 6.30pm

Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Rossglass

27th March Thursday 10.00

Faithful Departed

Month’s Mind: Danny Mageean

Anniversaries: Joanne Walsh

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.

Stations of the Cross

Will take place each Thursday of Lent after the 10.00am Mass in Our Lady, Star of the Sea Church, Rossglass.

Day for the Lord

During this Jubilee Year, the church invites us to renewal in our Church and in our personal lives. One of the ways we can do this is by going to Confession.

St Patrick’s Church, Downpatrick has been designated by the Bishop to be a centre for Reconciliation. On Saturday 29th March, we will have several priests available for Confessions from 10.30am - 4.00pm. Penitential Service at 1.00pm. We encourage and welcome all who wish to attend.

What is a Funeral Pall and why is it used?

“ If you have ever attended a Christian funeral, especially those celebrated in the Catholic Church, you might have seen a large cloth that covers the coffin during the liturgy. This cloth is called the *pall* and from it we also get the word *pallbearers*, designating those people who assist in carrying the coffin during the funeral.

It’s unclear when exactly Christians began to place a large cloth over the coffin, but the tradition appears to have begun during the Middle Ages. Originally the pall had multiple uses, as it would be later used for priestly vestments for the celebration of the Mass. These palls were quite elaborate and were various colours according to the situation. Eventually the pall was entirely black in colour to match the priest’s vestments, symbolising the grief experienced by the death of a loved one.

After the Second Vatican Council the pall was ordered to be primarily white in colour. The Order of Christian Funerals explains the symbolism, “A pall ... placed over the body when it is received at the church is a reminder of the baptismal garment of the deceased ... a sign of the Christian dignity of the person. The use of the pall also signifies that all are equal in the eyes of God.”

At a Christian baptism the newly baptised receives a white garment, which symbolises their purity, and the priest prays a special prayer that links this garment to a person’s future death: “You have become a new creation, and have clothed yourself in Christ. See in this white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity. With your family and friends to help you by word and example, bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven.”

The white pall is meant to remind those present at the funeral of this reality, and the prayers said during the funeral reflect the hope that the deceased is bringing that white garment before the judgment seat of God.

The many symbols used at a funeral are designed to help those grieving understand the great mystery surrounding death and encourage them to reform their lives so that they can join their relative or friend in the heavenly embrace of God. No matter how much we try to avoid it, death will come to us all and we will find ourselves before God, presenting to him our own baptismal garment, which may be unstained or in need of some extra washing before being admitted into his presence.” (By Philip Kosloski)

In our Parish of Bright we will be using a Pall at all future funerals. We are grateful to a member of our parish for having beautifully made our Pall.