

# Parish of Bright Bulletin

## Fifth Sunday of Lent - 22nd March 2026

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

### Mass Times: Week Beginning Monday 23rd March

<u>St Patrick’s, Legamaddy</u>	<u>St Joseph’s, Killough</u>
23rd March Monday 10am	24th March Tuesday 10am
27th March Friday 7.30pm	25th March Wednesday 7.30pm
29th March Sunday 10am	28th March Saturday 10am
	28th March Saturday Vigil 6.30pm

### Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Rossglass

26th March Thursday 10.00am

### Faithful Departed

Anniversaries: Joanne Walsh, Thomas McClean, Tony Crane, Vera McCartan

### 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.

### Eucharistic Adoration

St Joseph’s, Killough every Wed: 1.30pm-7.30pm & after Mass 8pm-9pm.  
St Patrick’s, Legamaddy every Friday: 6.30pm-7.30pm.

### Sunday Collection, 15th March:

Weekly £643-45, Needy Parishes £456. Thank you for your generous contributions.

**Easter Card** will be distributed this week to all households in the parish with details of Holy Week and Easter Ceremonies.

### How Lent is a time of truth

‘Lent is a time in the Church's calendar when we can step back and recognise the truth about who we are and where we have fallen short of God's plan for our lives. St. John Paul II reflects on this aspect of Lent in his 1981 message: “Lent is a time of profound truth, which brings conversion, restores hope and, by putting everything back in its proper place, brings peace and optimism.”

In particular, St. John Paul II recognises Lent as a time to examine our relationship with God: “Lent is a time that makes us think about our relationship with ‘Our Father’; it re-establishes the order that should reign between brothers and sisters. Lent is a time that makes us jointly responsible for one another; it detaches us from our selfishness, small-mindedness, meanness and pride; it is a time that enlightens us and makes us understand better that we too, like Christ, must serve.”

St. John Paul II continues this reflection by posing questions for all of us to consider during Lent: “Yes, Lent is a time of truth. Let us examine ourselves sincerely, honestly and simply. Our brothers and sisters are there among the poor, the sick, the outcast, the aged. What sort of love do we have? What sort of truth? So open your minds to look around you, open your hearts to understand and sympathise, open your hands to help. The needs are vast, as you know. I therefore urge you to take a generous part in this sharing.”

As we embrace the season of Lent, may we examine our own lives and see how we have lived according to the truth of the Gospel.’ (By Philip Kosloski)

### Annunciation of the Lord - 25th March

In the Catholic Church, March 25 marks the solemnity known as the "Annunciation of the Lord.”

It is about the "announcement" of the Lord's incarnation to the Blessed Virgin Mary, as narrated in the Gospel of Luke:

“And [the angel Gabriel] came to her and said, ‘Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!’ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.’ (Luke 1:28-31)

The solemnity of the Annunciation is a beautiful day in the Church, one that marks the free acceptance of God's plan by the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is the day when "the Word became flesh," making his home within the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Mary is an example for us all to imitate, as she freely said, "Yes," to God and to his wondrous plan for her life. Her "Yes," paved the way for the coming of Jesus and the ultimate salvation of humanity.

It is also a preview of Christmas Day, which occurs exactly nine months after March 25. The great mystery of the incarnation begins on this momentous day of the Annunciation, a day that challenges us to look at our own lives and how God has "announced" his plan to us.’ (By Philip Kosloski)