

Parish of Bright Bulletin

Easter Sunday - 5th April 2026

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Mass Times: Week Beginning Monday 6th April

<i>St Patrick’s, Legamaddy</i>	<i>St Joseph’s, Killough</i>
6th April Monday 10am	7th April Tuesday 10am
10th April Friday 7.30pm	8th April Wed 7.30pm
12th April Sunday 10am	11th April Saturday 10am
	11th April Sat Vigil 6.30pm

Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Rossglass
9th April Thursday 10.00am

Faithful Departed

Recently Deceased: Noel McGarry (Downpatrick, formerly Erinagh)
Anniversaries: Jimmy Linden, Mickey Doran, Conor Denvir
Gerard Vaugh, Fr Finbarr Glavin, Paula McCreesh, Francie Tumelty,
Vincent Teague, Joseph Keenan

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 Cancelled

During the Easter holidays Eucharist Adoration is cancelled and will begin again
at the usual times in St Joseph’s, Killough on Wednesday 15th April and in St
Patrick’s, Legamaddy on Friday 17th April.

Sunday Collection, 29th March:

Weekly £690-10. Thank you for your generous contributions.

St Martin de Porres Magazine

The April edition is available in the CTS book stalls in our three churches, priced
£2.00.

How long is the Easter season in the Catholic Church?

‘Easter surpasses the season of Lent in many different ways. It is a joyous
liturgical season that foreshadows that Heavenly banquet that we are all invited to
attend.

First of all, Easter is a full 10 days longer than Lent, giving the Christian people 50
days to bask in the glory of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Lent is 40 days long primarily because it looks to Jesus for inspiration. Before
embarking on his own public ministry, Jesus "was led up by the Spirit into the
wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And he fasted forty days and forty nights"
(Matthew 4:1-2).

In continuity with the past, Jesus sets out to pray and fast for 40 days, combating
temptation and preparing himself for proclaiming the Gospel.

While Lent is a season of fasting and penance, Easter is a season of feasting and
rejoicing. Its important that it is longer than Lent, as it highlights the spiritual
reality that Heaven, a place of ultimate rejoicing, will surpass anything that
happens on earth.

Easter reminds us that, "He will swallow up death for ever, and the Lord God will
wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away
from all the earth; for the Lord has spoken" (Isaiah 25:8).

Secondly, what's interesting is how Christians created the season of Easter based
on the number of days that led up to the Jewish feast of Pentecost.

This is because the apostles received the gift of the Holy Spirit on that Jewish
feast, as narrated in the Acts of the Apostles, "When the day of Pentecost had
come, they were all together in one place" (Acts 2:1).

Pentecost is identified in the Bible as the conclusion of the Jewish harvest festival.
The book of Leviticus explains how the celebration of this feast is to be counted,
"And you shall count from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that you
brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven full weeks shall they be, counting
fifty days to the morrow after the seventh sabbath; then you shall present a cereal
offering of new grain to the Lord" (Leviticus 23:15-16).

As a result, the feast of Pentecost for Christians is held 50 days after Easter
Sunday and marks the conclusion of the Easter season.’

(By Philip Kosloski)

Wishing you a Blessed and Happy Easter!