

# St Mary's & St Columba's Parish Newsletter

11<sup>th</sup> June 2023 – Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (A)

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**Parish Priest:** Father Joseph Kiganda, CSSp

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## Corpus Christi – The Body and Blood of Christ

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, the great gift by Jesus to us of the Eucharist. This is not the Manna of the Jews in the wilderness, which lasted only one day but the very life of Christ himself: his body and blood. We receive a share of the very essence of Jesus in the Eucharist – truly a gift of God and food for our journey through life.

In preparing this brief reflection I was also struck by the fact that this last week was only the ninth week of what is called Ordinary Time in the Church calendar. Given that the Church year starts with Advent, over seven months ago, we have been in *extra-ordinary* time for most of that period! We have had Advent, celebrated the Christmas season, a brief interlude, then undertaken the Lenten period (forty days) of preparation for Easter, celebrated Easter and the fifty days until Pentecost, then celebrated last Sunday the great solemnity of Trinity Sunday and, today, of Corpus Christi.

When we reflect on our faith, the central themes and periods of preparation and celebration, perhaps it should not really be surprising that so much of our focus is centred on those two great pivotal times of Christmas and Easter, especially that of Easter – we are after all a Church, a people, of Easter.

Last Sunday, Trinity Sunday, and Corpus Christi today, remind us of the very essence of our faith, the amazing, extraordinary gifts of God to us and His saving love, which, provide a fitting conclusion or pinnacle to that extra-ordinary period of our year, after which we return to *ordinary* time – if there is such a thing in faith terms.

As Jesus says in today's Gospel: "I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever."

May you have a blessed day and week.

Dcn Alan

Please find below details of this week's Mass Intentions and other services in our Parish of St Mary's, Castletown (C/T) and St Columba's, Port Erin (P/E).

<b>Week commencing 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023</b>			
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> June: <b><i>Sol. of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.</i></b>	C/T P/E	9am 11am	People of the Parish Fr. Joseph's intentions
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June: <b><i>Weekday in Ordinary Time.</i></b>			No Mass
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> June: <b><i>Mem. St. Anthony of Padua</i></b>	P/E	10am	Elaine Morley (RIP)
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June: <b><i>Weekday in Ordinary Time.</i></b>	C/T	10am	Kerry Doherty (Sick)
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> June: <b><i>Weekday in Ordinary Time.</i></b>	P/E	10am	Fr. John Gildea (RIP)
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> June: <b><i>Sol. of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.</i></b>	C/T	10am	Fr. Michael Pinot (RIP)
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> June: <b><i>Mem. of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.</i></b>	C/T	10am	Margaret Burns (RIP)
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> June: <b><i>Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time.</i></b>	C/T P/E	9am 11am	Elaine Dolan (Sick) People of the Parish

**Response to the Psalm:**

O Praise the Lord, Jerusalem

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread which has come down from Heaven, says the Lord.

Anyone who eats this bread will live forever.

Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon**

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

## Sequence

Behold the bread of angels, sent For Pilgrims in their banishment,  
The bread for God's true children meant,  
That may not unto dogs be given: Oft in the olden types foreshadowed:  
In Isaac on the alter bowed,  
And in the ancient paschal food,  
And in the manna sent from heaven.  
Come then, good shepherd, bread divine,  
Still show to us thy mercy sign; Oh, feed us still, still keep us thine;  
So may we see thy glories shine  
In fields of immortality;  
O thou, the wisest, mightiest, best, Our present food our future rest,  
Come, make us each thy chosen guest, Coheirs of thine, and comrades blest  
With Saints whose dwelling is with thee.

**Parish Meeting:** Fr. Joseph is inviting all parishioners from St. Mary's & St. Columba's to a general parish meeting, which will be held on Friday 7th July at St. Columba's Hall at 7pm.

**Offertory Collection:** Last week's collection came to £224.90.

**Second Collection:** Next week's second collection is for the Day for Life.

**Confirmation:** Young people currently in Year 7 (who will be in Year 8 in September 2023) are eligible to receive the Sacrament. Older children under 18, who have missed out on Confirmation in previous years can also be included. During the weekend of 30 September, the Archbishop has agreed to take the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for young people from across the Island in St Mary's Church, Douglas. If you wish to enrol your child, please get in touch by emailing the parish office before the 18<sup>th</sup> June 2023. [stmarycastletown@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:stmarycastletown@rcaol.org.uk). Details of the preparation courses will be sent in due course to those who have enrolled.

**First Holy Communion:** If your child will be 7, or over, before this September they will be eligible to make their first Holy Communion. Classes will start after this coming October half term ready to receive the Sacrament next May. Please take a form from the sacristy and return to Julie Maddrell.

**Universe Catholic Weekly Newspaper:** If you would be interested in receiving a regular copy of the Universal Catholic Weekly newspaper please contact [Michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk](mailto:Michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk) or phone: 07436 617 650. Samples of the newspaper can be found in the back of both Churches.

**St Columba's Garden Team:** The garden team at St Columba's would be very grateful if anyone has any spare gardening tools or a trug to donate.

**Mass Intentions Received:** Elaine Morley, Fr. John Gildea, Kerry Doherty, Elaine Dolan, Fr. Michael Pinot & Margaret Burns.

**Parish Diary:**

<b>17<sup>th</sup> June 10.00am</b>	ISN, St. John's Mill. Fr. Nick King SJ on St. John's Gospel. Fr King will also be celebrating Mass at 11am (in St. Columba) on Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> .
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> July 11.00am</b>	Parish to Parish Walk £5 a ticket to include refreshments and afternoon tea. Starts at St Mary's, ending at St Columba's via Scarlett. Bring family and Friends.
<b>30<sup>th</sup> July</b>	After 11am Mass at St Columba's there will be a blessing of the new garden.
<b>12<sup>th</sup> Sept. (Evening)</b>	Mass at Rushen Abbey in honour of Our Lady of Rushen
<b>16<sup>th</sup> Sept. 6.30 – 9.30pm</b>	Games Night at St Columba's Hall. Adults £3.00 Children £1.00
<b>29<sup>th</sup> September - 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b>	Archbishop Malcolm will be visiting our parish during this time and will be celebrating Mass in both our churches.
<b>October 2023</b>	Holy Communion Classes. If your child will be 7, or over, before this September they will be eligible to make their first Holy Communion. Classes will start after this coming October half term ready to receive the Sacrament next May. Please take a form from the sacristy and return to Julie Maddrell.
<b>17<sup>th</sup> Dec. 3.00pm</b>	Parish Nativity Service at St. Columba's.

If there are other future events of which you are aware, please let us know so we can add them to the diary.

Contact details for the Social Club are as follows: Susan 460514, Nick 431606, Dee 437487, or Lynn 472867