

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

25<sup>th</sup> June 2023 – Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time. (A)

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

Fr. Peter Otuonkpaikhian, CSSp. (Ass. P/P St Mary's Douglas)

**Deacons:** Rev. Alan Molloy                      [a.molloy@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:a.molloy@rcaol.org.uk)

Rev. Graeme Easton                      [g.easton@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:g.easton@rcaol.org.uk)

## Do not be afraid.

As I read today's readings, the phrase that jumped out was "Do not be afraid" and as is my way I started singing the hymn of that title. There is a popular myth that the phrase "Do not be afraid" appears 365 times in the bible, one for every day. Unfortunately, there are actually only about 150 occurrences, but that's still a lot and gives us an indication of how important that message is.

It offers us hope, strength and courage when we are in doubt or struggling in any way. When Mary was called and chosen to be the mother of Jesus, she was deeply disturbed and wondered what the message meant. Immediately she was encouraged with the words, "Mary, do not be afraid". When Joseph heard that Mary was pregnant he was going to divorce her informally. But in a dream he had, he too heard these words, "Joseph, do not be afraid". In each experience God called Mary and Joseph by their names and asked them to take on what seemed like an impossible task. But having been called, they were not to rely on their own strength and determination; God who called them would also strengthen, support and encourage them. They would never be alone.

Like Mary and Joseph each of us is called by name by God. We are called to be examples and witnesses of Jesus in our world today. In today's gospel, Jesus asks us to declare ourselves for him in the presence of others. This can be difficult and challenging. The values of the gospel are not the values of the world. Through the quality of our daily lives, we are to be witnesses to Jesus and his gospel. We won't be left on our own, Jesus will be with us.

Let us not be afraid of what is being asked of us. Let us not be paralysed by our fear. Instead, let the words of Pope Francis encourage us, "go out again and again, without fear and proclaim the good news which is for all people".

Do not be afraid, For I have redeemed you.

I have called you by your name; you are mine.

Dcn Graeme

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 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023</b>			
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> June: <b><i>Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time.</i></b>	C/T P/E	9am 11am	People of the Parish Joan Budd (RIP)
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> June: <b><i>Weekday in Ordinary Time.</i></b>			No Mass
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June: <b><i>Weekday in Ordinary Time.</i></b>	P/E	10am	Maureen Young (Sick)
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June: <b><i>Mem. St. Irenaeus, Bishop &amp; Martyr</i></b>	C/T	10am	Kerry Doherty (Sick)
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> June: <b><i>Holy Day of Obligation, Solemnity of St.'s Peter &amp; Paul</i></b>	P/E C/T	10am 7pm	Theresa Condron (Sick) Mary Tierney (Sick)
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June: <b><i>Weekday in Ordinary Time.</i></b>	C/T	10am	Bernard Parsons (RIP)
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> July: <b><i>Weekday in Ordinary Time.</i></b>	C/T	10am	Agnus McDonald (Sick)
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July: <b><i>Thirteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time.</i></b>	C/T P/E	9am 11am	Moira & John Clarke (RIP) People of the Parish

**Father Joseph:** We wish Father Joseph a blessed 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday on the 27<sup>th</sup> June.

**Response to the Psalm:**

In your great love, answer me, O God.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word was made flesh and lived among us;

to all who did accept him

he gave power to become children of God.

Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon**

The eyes of all look to you, Lord

And you give them their food in due season.

**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 £250.60.

**Second Collection:** Last week's second collection came to £159.30. Thank you for your generosity.

**Confirmation Preparation Classes:** A meeting will be held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm, in the coffee room at St. Mary's Castletown, for the Parents and their Children who have been enrolled for this year's preparation classes.

**Parish to Parish Walk:** The Parish to Parish Walk will take place on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July. The walk will commence at 11am from St Mary's, ending at St Columba's via Scarlett. Afternoon Tea will be served in the Hall. Cost £3pp. Bring family and Friends and let's try to make this an annual event. For tickets, please contact Susan 460514, Nick 431606, Dee 437487, or Lynn 472867. **Closing Date 8<sup>th</sup> July.**

**Flower Festival:** The Parish is participating in a Flower Festival hosted by Kirk Christ Church Rushen, from the 7th, to the 13th July. Kirk Christ Church will be open for visitors from 10am - 5pm each day and refreshments will be served. Please support this venture.

**Mass Intentions Received:** Joan Budd, Maureen Young, Kerry Doherty, Theresa Condron, Mary Tierney , Bernard Parsons, Agnus McDonald, Moira & John Clarke.

**Parish Diary:**

<b>7<sup>th</sup> July 7pm</b>	Fr. Joseph is inviting all parishioners from St. Mary's & St. Columba's to a general parish meeting.
<b>15<sup>th</sup> July 11.00am</b>	Parish to Parish Walk £3 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>***Please note change of Date***</b>
<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> Sept. - 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>9<sup>th</sup> Dec. 10am – 12.30pm</b>	Wreath making class. St Columba hall 10am -12.30pm.
<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