

St Mary's & St Columba's Parish Newsletter

9th July 2023 – Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time. (A)

Email: stmarycastletown@rcaol.org.uk Phone: 01624 822272

Website: www.manxcatholic.org

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

Rev. Graeme Easton g.easton@rcaol.org.uk

In today's Gospel, Jesus says "I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children." In a later passage from Matthew, we have, "unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." What is Jesus saying here? It isn't that we should be childish. It is that we need to have that unwavering trust and innocence of young children. We need to forget all the worries of this world; all those things that get between us and God. Once we do that, we will find that God's message is clearly revealed to us.

I was pondering this in the context of our young people who this week begin their Confirmation preparation. Being Confirmed marks a transition. At Baptism, our parents make some promises on our behalf; at Confirmation, we make those promises for ourselves. We are taking responsibility for our own faith. We pray that as our young people make those promises and become adults within the church, they do not lose that childlike sense of trust in God. There are many worries in the world today, but if we trust in God He will look after us.

And as I pondered Confirmation where we receive the Gifts of the Holy Spirit in a special way, I was led to our second reading. If the Spirit is not in us, we can't belong to Christ. But if it is, He will give us life eternal. We have to ignore the unspiritual or we will die spiritually (we will all die physically). But if with the help of the Spirit we can put an end to sin we will live forever with Christ.

Let us pray for our Confirmation candidates as they begin their preparation. May they have an adult Spirit of wisdom and understanding, right judgement and courage, knowledge and reverence, but may they also retain a childlike Spirit of wonder and awe in God's presence.

Deacon 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).

Week commencing 9th July			
Sunday 9 th July: 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time.	C/T P/E	9am 11am	People of the Parish Private Intentions of Helen and Matt.
Monday 10 th July: Weekday in Ordinary Time.			No Mass
Tuesday 11 th July: Weekday in Ordinary Time.	P/E	10am	Theresa Carragher (RIP)
Wednesday 12 th July: St. Benedict, Abbot.	C/T	10am	Pat McLaren (RIP)
Thursday 13 th July: Weekday in Ordinary Time.	P/E	10am	Eucharistic Service
Friday 14 th July: Weekday in Ordinary Time.	C/T	10am	Margaret & John Burns (RIP)
Saturday 15 th July: Weekday in Ordinary Time.	C/T	10am	Private Intention (McDermot)
Sunday 16 th July: 15th Sunday of Ordinary Time.	C/T P/E	9am 11am	Theresa Curran (Sick) People of the Parish

Response to the Psalm:

I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,

For revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Taste and see that the Lord is good:

Blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

Parish Meeting: Thank you to everyone who came to the meeting on Friday. There was a good discussion. The minutes will be published shortly.

Offertory Collection: Last week's collection came to £288.44.

Canon Brendan Alger: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Canon Brendan Alger, who died on 26th June 2023. He was 87 years of age and was in his 63rd year of the priesthood. His body will be received into St Mary of the Isle, Douglas at a Vigil Service at 5pm this evening, Sunday 9th July and his funeral will be at 12 noon tomorrow, Monday 10th July with Archbishop Malcolm as the main celebrant. Burial will follow at Kirk Braddan (St Brendan's) Cemetery.

Parish to Parish Walk: The Parish to Parish Walk will take place next Saturday, 15th July. The walk will commence at 11am from St Mary's, ending at St Columba's via Scarlett. Sausage baps and refreshments 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 for numbers is TODAY.**

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.

Confirmation Preparation: The sessions are from 7-8pm in St. Mary's Church Castletown on the following Wednesdays: 12th July, 26th July, 9th August, 23rd August, 6th September, 13th September. There will be a rehearsal at 4.45pm on Tuesday 19th September in St. Mary's **Douglas**. The Confirmation Celebration will be at 11am on Saturday 30th September in St. Mary's **Douglas**.

Wanted For Albania: If you have any redundant spectacles could you bring them along and place them in the shoebox in the porches of both Churches. Thank you.

Mass Intentions Received: Pat McLaren (RIP), Margaret & John Burns (RIP), Theresa Curran, Theresa Carragher, Lily Bradley

Parish Diary:

Wednesdays as listed, 7pm	Confirmation Preparation at St. Mary's Castletown. 12th and 26th July, 9th and 23rd August, 6th and 13th Sept.
14th July 7pm	Free webinar "Mission unleashed: embracing the social dimension of evangelisation" with Cardinal Tagle, Pro-Prefect for the Dicastery for Evangelisation. and former President of Caritas Internationalis. For further details and to register, see https://www.bigmarker.com/cafod/evangelisation
15th July 11.00am	Parish to Parish Walk £3 a ticket to include refreshments and sausage baps. Starts at St Mary's, ending at St Columba's via Scarlett. Bring family and Friends. ***For refreshment numbers, please say TODAY if you intend coming***
30th July	After 11am Mass at St Columba's there will be a blessing of the new garden.
12th Sept. (Evening)	Mass at Rushen Abbey in honour of Our Lady of Rushen
16th Sept. 6.30 – 9.30pm	Games Night at St Columba's Hall. Adults £3.00 Children £1.00
29th Sept. - 2nd October	Archbishop Malcolm will be visiting our parish during this time and will be celebrating Mass in both our churches.
30th September 11am	Confirmation Service, St. Mary's Douglas.
October 2023	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.
9th Dec. 10am – 12.30pm	Wreath making class. St Columba hall 10am -12.30pm.
17th Dec. 3.00pm	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