

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

20<sup>th</sup> August 2023 – Twentieth 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)

We are more than halfway through the summer school holiday, more than halfway through the calendar year. Where has the time gone? Where has summer gone?! Well, there are advantages to living in a 'temperate' climate. We don't have to endure the impact of the recent disaster on the Pacific Island of Maui and the impact on peoples' lives there: not just during the fire itself but the lasting impact on individuals, families and businesses for years to come. We also live in a 'temperate' political part of the world, where we don't have to deal with the impact of war: such as in Ukraine – on thousands, indeed millions of people in Europe itself. How fortunate we are!

The worst thing that happened to me last week was to be dive-bombed and attacked by a seagull from behind – unknown to myself until it hit my head with its beak – leaving me with a nice little 'tonsure' (like a medieval monk) on the crown of my head! I presume that while I was innocently walking our small dog in mid-morning, on the pavement near my home, we must have been close to the seagull's offspring, causing it to attack me as a means of defending its family.

This brief encounter led me to think of how innocent words or actions by someone can be misconstrued or misunderstood by another. I think we can all remember such occasions. Words and actions have consequences. So too does inaction. We should be mindful of both.

In the face of global disasters, we often come together in our humanity and support the relief actions of organisations – charities or governments to assist those worst impacted by such problems. We have seen the support offered locally and nationally to our Ukrainian neighbours in their time of need. These actions are a wonderful reminder of our humanity and of our Christianity.

We should thank God for the blessings we have received and continue to receive, and, not forget to pray for those less fortunate than ourselves and offer what assistance we can, in solidarity with them. Christianity in action. ***Separately, with the IoM Festival of Motorcycling starting today, we continue to welcome visitors to our Island whether for the racing or for holiday. Please stay safe and enjoy your time with us.***

Deacon 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 20th August</b>			
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> August: <b><i>20th Sunday of Ordinary Time.</i></b>	C/T P/E	9am 11am	People of the Parish. Brian Molloy (RIP)
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> August: <b><i>Mem. St. Pius X, Pope.</i></b>			No Mass.
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August: <b><i>Mem. Queenship of Mary.</i></b>	P/E	10am	Mary Tierney (RIP)
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> August: <b><i>Weekday in Ordinary Time.</i></b>	C/T	10am	Ann Clarke (Funeral)
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> August: <b><i>Feast St. Bartholomew</i></b>	P/E	10am	Mary Tierney (RIP)
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> August: <b><i>Weekday in Ordinary Time.</i></b>	C/T	10am	Kerry Doherty (Sick)
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> August: <b><i>Mem. Blessed Dominic Barberi of the Mother of God.</i></b>	C/T	10am	Intentions for Our Lady.
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> August: <b><i>21st Sunday of Ordinary Time.</i></b>	C/T P/E	9am 11am	John Williams (RIP) People of the Parish.

**Response to the Psalm:**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
Let all the peoples praise you.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice,  
says the Lord,  
I know them and they follow me.  
Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon**

With the Lord there is mercy;  
In him is plentiful redemption.

**Offertory Collection:** Last week's collection came to £238.91

Last week's second collection came to £135.85. Thank you for your continued generosity.

**First Holy Communion Classes:** If your child will be 7 years or over before September please take a form from Sacristy for First Communion classes to start in November. Otherwise speak with Julie Maddrell on 438462.

**Confirmation Preparation: In preparation for the children being confirmed we require copies of their Baptism Certificates.** Please drop these in at the Sacristy or email them to us at your earliest convenience. The sessions are from 7-8pm in St. Mary's Church Castletown on the following Wednesdays: 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 6<sup>th</sup> September, 13<sup>th</sup> September. There will be a rehearsal at 4.45pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September in St. Mary's **Douglas**. The Confirmation Celebration will be at 11am on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September in St. Mary's **Douglas**.

**Parish to Parish Walk:** The Parish to Parish walk will take place on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August. The walk will commence from St. Mary's at 11am, walking to St. Columba's, via Scarlett. Tickets £3.00 to include sausage baps and refreshments. If the weather is against us we will meet at St. Columba's at 11am for brunch. **Please speak to a Social Club Committee member for tickets.**

**Funeral:** The funeral of Ann Clarke will take place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August, at 10am, at St. Mary's, Castletown.

**Mass Intentions Received:** Kerry Doherty, Mary Tierney, Iris Tracey, John Williams, Brian Molloy, Sr. Imelda Poole & Nuala & Brian Dwyer.

## Parish Diary:

<b>Wednesdays as listed, 7pm</b>	Confirmation Preparation at St. Mary's Castletown. 23rd August, 6th and 13th Sept.
<b>26<sup>th</sup> August 11am</b>	Parish to Parish Walk. Starting at 11am St. Mary's walking to St. Columba's via Scarlett. Tickets £3.00 to include a sausage baps and refreshments. If the weather is against us, we will meet at St. Columba's Church Hall at 11am for Brunch.
<b>12th Sept. (Evening)</b>	Mass at Rushen Abbey in honour of Our Lady of Rushen
<b>16th Sept. St. John's Mill 10am – 1pm</b>	Island Spirituality Network – A Morning with the Northumbria Community. A covenanted, dispersed network of Christians, exploring new ways for living in our changing world.
<b>16th 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>30<sup>th</sup> September 11am</b>	Confirmation Service, St. Mary's Douglas.
<b>4<sup>th</sup> October 2pm-4pm</b>	The Parish Craft club - This is a lovely social gathering where we bring along a craft we are working on or use this opportunity to learn a new skill.
<b>4<sup>th</sup> November 3pm</b>	First Communion Classes commence.
<b>9th Dec. 10am – 12.30pm</b>	Wreath making class. St Columba hall 10am -12.30pm.
<b>17th Dec. 3.00pm</b>	Parish Nativity Service at St. Columba's.
<b>20<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>	Sacrament of Reconciliation.
<b>18<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>	First Communion Mass.

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

**Social Club Committee contact details:** Susan 460514, Nick 431606, Dee 437487, or Lynn 472867.