

NEWSLETTER

Parishes of St Anthony of Padua, Onchan; St Mary of the Isle and St Joseph, Douglas

Tel 01624 675509 Email saintmaryiom@rcaol.org.uk Website www.manxcatholic.org

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, 10th September 2023

Education Day

(Page 125 in Mass Book)

(Year A for Sundays) (Cycle 2 for weekdays)

Dear Parishioners

This Saturday evening, 9th September, we welcome the **Reverend Phil Jump**, Regional Minister of the North West Baptist Association – of which the Isle of Man forms a part. Phil is visiting Broadway Baptist Church over the weekend. I worked closely with Phil for many years in my ecumenical role as Churches' Officer for the North West. Phil was chair of my management group. **He has kindly agreed to preach at our 5.00pm Mass at St Mary's this weekend.** I look forward to catching up with him.

Our **Parish Council for St Mary of the Isle & St Joseph and St Anthony of Padua** met again this week. Among items discussed were the **Douglas City Council Civic Service** being held for the first time in St Mary's Church on Sunday 24th September. Civic leaders, both officers and elected members, will be joining us at the 11.00am Mass. There was also an update on **Archbishop Malcolm's visit to the Island on the weekend of 30th September** for an official visitation to Castletown and Port Erin. He will also be celebrating the **Sacrament of Confirmation for young people across the Island at St Mary of the Isle at 11.00am on Saturday 30th**. The meeting addressed the pending retirement of **Bishop Peter Eagles, Bishop of Sodor and Man**. Bishop Peter will be leading the third day of our Novena to Mary Untier of Knots on Thursday 5th October. This will also give us the opportunity to say our own goodbyes to Bishop Peter. Members discussed the **Assisted Dying Bill** beginning its progress through Tynwald. We were reminded of the words of Dame Cecily Saunders, founder of the hospice movement: **'We do not hasten or postpone death'**. It was agreed that parishioners be encouraged to write personally and individually to their MHKs to maximise our opposition to the Bill. Fr John thanked members of the Council for their contributions to our two parishes. 'Members aren't talkers but do-ers'. Each member is an active volunteer in some aspect of parish life.

'Sometimes it may seem to us that there is no purpose in our lives., that going day after day for years to this same office or that school or factory is nothing else but waste and weariness. But it may be that God has sent us there because but for us Christ would not be there. If our being there means that Christ is there, that alone makes it worthwhile'. (Caryll Houselander - The Reed of God, 1955)

'Above all the cross must be proclaimed by witness. Take a Christian or a handful of Christians who, in the midst of their own community, show their capacity for understanding and acceptance, their sharing of life and destiny with other people, their solidarity with the efforts of all for whatever is noble and good. Let us suppose that, in addition, they radiate an altogether simple and unaffected way their faith in values that go beyond current values, and their hope in something that is not seen and that one would not dare imagine. Through this wordless witness these Christians stir up irresistible questions in the hearts of those who see how they live. Why are they like this? Why do they live in this way? What or who is it that inspires them? Why are they in our midst? Such a witness is already a silent proclamation of the Good News and a very powerful and effective one. Here we have an initial act of evangelisation.' (Pope St Paul VI Evangelii Nuntiandi – Evangelization in the Modern World, 1975).

Dates for your Dairy: We will be holding our annual **Novena to Mary Untier of Knots** in St Mary's from **Tuesday 3rd to Wednesday 11th October**. The 6th Day of the Novena, Sunday 8th October will include celebration of the **Sacrament of the Sick** at 3.00pm. More details later. *Fr John*

- **St Anthony's Bingo** will take place on Thursday 14 September at 7.30pm. Everyone welcome including visitors.
- Novena to **Our Lady of Rushen** continues in St Mary's Castletown concluding on Tuesday 12 September with a **Memorial Mass to Our Lady of Rushen at 7pm at the Shrine in St Mary's Castletown**. Fr John will be the principal celebrant.
- **September is St Vincent de Paul Awareness month**. St Anthonys SVP members are holding a fundraising Afternoon Tea on **Saturday 16th September** from 2pm to 4pm in St Anthony's Pastoral Centre. **Adults £8; Children £3.50**. There will be a raffle at £1 for a strip of tickets. All funds raised will help St Anthony's SVP provide for the needy this winter. Please add your names to the list at the back of St Anthony's if you wish to attend or bring a friend along to the afternoon tea. Children must be accompanied by an adult. St Mary's

parishioners are welcome to attend as well - please contact Win Kewley on 499174 with your details. Thank you for your continuing support of the SVP.

- **Island Spirituality Network:** Next meeting will take place on **Saturday 16 September** at St John's Mill from 10am to 1pm. Revd Catherine Askew, an Overseer of the Northumbria Community, will speak about the spirituality of the Northumbria Community and learning from the Celtic Saints of the North of England.
- A **Macmillan Coffee Morning** will be held in St Anthony's Pastoral Centre on **Saturday 30th September** from 10am -12 noon, in memory of Canon Brendan. Offers of cakes would be gratefully accepted. All proceeds will go to Macmillan Cancer Research. Please contact Sheila on 475990.
- **Assisted Dying Prayer Evening** 'Standing in the Gap' at Broadway Baptist Church on Thursday 12 October at 7.00pm. See posters at the back of church.
- **Offertory Collections:** St Anthony's £460; St Mary & St Joseph £901. This does not include standing orders and credit card donations. Thank you for your generosity.

Masses and Services for the coming week

All Masses and Services from St Mary's are live-streamed

Saturday 9th September			
23 rd Sunday of Ordinary Time	5.00pm	St Mary's	Neil Winfield, recently died
Sunday 10th September	9.30am	St Anthony's	Eileen & John Jawczak, anniversary
<i>Education Day</i>			
23 rd Sunday of Ordinary Time	11.00am	St Mary's	People of our Parishes
Monday 11th September	12.10 noon	St Mary's	Intentions of the Elendu family
Tuesday 12th September	<i>10.00am</i>	<i>St Anthony's</i>	<i>Eucharistic Service</i>
Our Lady of Rushen, Isle of Man	12.10 noon	St Mary's	Harry Bullick, deceased
	<i>7.00pm</i>	<i>St M Castletown</i>	<i>Memorial Mass to Our Lady of Rushen</i>
Wednesday 13th September	12.10 noon	St Mary's	Catherine Tayag intentions
St John Chrysostom			
Thursday 14th September	10.00am	St Anthony's	Tracey Lyons, recently died
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross	12.10 noon	St Mary's	Derek & Phil Kenna, 60 th anniversary
Friday 15th September	12.10 noon	St Mary's	Rita Ennis, recently died
Our Lady of Sorrows			
Saturday 16th September	11.00 to 12.00 noon	St Mary's	Confessions and Exposition
24 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	5.00pm	St Mary's	People of our Parishes
Sunday 17th September	9.30am	St Anthony's	Monica Caley, recently died
<i>Home Mission Day</i>			
24 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	11.00am	St Mary's	Walter Gilbey, recently died

The Deer's Cry

I arise today, through the strength of heaven,
 The light of the sun, radiance of the moon, splendour of fire,
 The speed of lightning, the swiftness of wind,
 The depth of the sea, the stability of the earth, the firmness of rock.
 I arise today, through God's strength to pilot me,
 God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me,
 God's eye to look before me, God's ear to hear me,
 God's word to speak for me, God's hand to guard me,
 God's shield to protect me, God's host to save me
 From everyone who shall wish me ill, afar and near.
 Against every cruel and merciless power, that may oppose my body and soul,
 Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me,
 Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
 Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise,
 Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me,
 Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
 Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.
 I arise today Through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity,
 Through belief in the Threeness, through confession of the Oneness of the Creator of creation.



**Let Justice
and Peace Flow**
 Season of Creation 2023