

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

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Racial Justice Day

Not long after our Christmas season of Joy and not long before we enter our Lenten period of preparation for Easter, the very essence of and central focus of our faith, we are in this short period of what is called *Ordinary Time*. It is appropriate therefore for us to draw breath between these pinnacles of our faith and have some time of reflection. How fitting therefore, it is that we mark today as Racial Justice Day. How sad that we need to do so but also how appropriate that we should.

We recently celebrated Jesus' arrival, not just for the Jewish nation but for all the world, for all humankind, for all peoples for the world. God's call to us was and is for *all* the world: it is a call to and for *all* people, not the few. Jesus came for everyone. We will soon celebrate the great feast of Easter – not just Easter Sunday. We will see, hear, and share the Life, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus through the services of Easter – the Triduum. We will hear of the message Jesus gives us, the sharing of his gifts with us, the behaviour of mankind toward him (the good and the bad) and of His victory over death – our Salvation. It is salvation for *all*, if we have ears to hear, eyes to see, hearts to believe.

Racial Justice Day calls us, challenges us all, to understand that Jesus is for everybody. His call is universal. There is no 'us and them'. By understanding that, we can and will see Jesus in the face of everybody we meet – young or old, male, or female, rich or poor, of all faiths and none: in *all* peoples and in *all* races of the world. If we can do that, then we will see racial justice today *and every day*.

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).

Week commencing 28th January			
Sunday 28 th January 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time.	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	People of the Parish Mara Weir
Monday 29 th January Weekday in Ordinary Time.			No Mass
Tuesday 30 th January Weekday in Ordinary Time.	P/E	10 am	Theresa McHenry and family
Wednesday 31 st January Mem. St. John Bosco, Priest, and Doctor.	C/T	10 am	Agnes Miller
Thursday 1 st February Weekday in Ordinary Time.	P/E	10 am	Elaine, Sara, and Hannah Dolan
Friday 2 nd February Feast of the Presentation of the Lord.	C/T	10 am	Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Rushen
Saturday 3 rd February Weekday in Ordinary Time.	C/T	10 am	Cath and Brian Crossan
Sunday 4 th February 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time.	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	Frank Burke People of the Parish

Response to the Psalm:

O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.

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:

Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love.
O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

Offertory Collection: For Sunday 21st January £164.20.

Parish Lunch: Our annual parish lunch will be held this year at the Colby Glen on the 25th of February and all parishioners are welcome to attend. Lunch will be at 1 pm and will cost £25 per adult and £8.50 per child under 12 years old. This cost includes main course and dessert, a donation towards Father Joseph's meal, and a tip for the waiting staff. To help coordinate and pay for the restaurant that day, please put cash and any dietary requirements in an envelope along with the names of your attendees and pass it to a member of the Social Committee on or before 18th February. Numbers are limited to 35 people, so please do let us know if you would like to attend as soon as possible. Thanks everyone and look forward to seeing you there. Please see Social Club Committee contact details.

Women's World Day of Prayer: An Ecumenical service at St Catherine's C of E Church Port Erin on 1st March at 10 am refreshments/11 am - 12 noon service. The theme is "**I beg you, bear with one another in love**" prepared by Christian Women in Palestine (wwdp.org.uk).

Catholic Pic: There are copies of the January Catholic Pic at the back of both churches. These copies are free and not for sale.

Mass Intentions: Mara Weir, Theresa McHenry and family, Agnes Miller, Elaine, Sara, and Hannah Dolan, Cath and Brian Crossan, Frank Burke, and Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Rushen.

Parish Diary:

29th January 8 pm	Charity concert by Rushen Silver Band at St. Columba's.
10th February 10 am to 1 pm	Island Spirituality Network at St John's Mill. The theme is: Poetry + Social Justice. Faith + Homelessness with Michael Manning.
25th February 1 pm	Parish lunch at Colby Glen Hotel.
1st March 10 am	Women's World Day of Prayer. At St Catherine's C. Of E. Church Port Erin.
9th March 10 am to 1 pm	Island Spirituality Network at St John's Mill. The theme is The Common Good and Our Calling Spiritual and Civil Renewal.
20th April	Sacrament of Reconciliation.
19th May	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.