

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter.

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

Website: www.manxcatholic.org

Parish Priest: Father Joseph Kiganda, CSSp

Father Peter Otuonkpaikhian, CSSp (Asst. P/P St Mary's Douglas).

Deacons: Rev. Alan Molloy a.molloy@rcaol.org.uk

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

“The Family that Prays Together Stays Together”

The Archdiocesan Synodal Council 2023

The Archdiocesan Synodal Council (“ASC”) met in Liverpool in November 2023, attended by representatives of the 13 Deaneries across the Archdiocese. The Isle of Man Deanery attended by video-link from St Anthony’s Church Hall. A Synod to take place in Autumn 2020 had been called by the Archbishop but was postponed until the Autumn of 2021 when it was held virtually. It resulted in some decisions, and in particular 6 themes were selected for development in the Pastoral Plan.

The ASC discussed becoming a Church:

1. Where synodality is embedded.
2. Which renews its organizational structures and administers its property to serve its mission.
3. That cares for its priests.
4. That accompanies people through life.
5. Where young people and young adults’ flourish.
6. That honours the vocation of all the baptised.

Before discussing progress on these themes, the best definition of “synod” I have found is “a journey of discernment rooted in the Holy Spirit”. In the Synod on Synodality announced by Pope Francis in 2021, the entire church was called to discern how the Spirit was moving through and with the Body of Christ – inside and outside the Church – so that we may fulfil our mission to evangelise in the world. The emphasis was on the marginalised and the excluded. Three aspects were identified by the Pope:

1. Mission of Christ given to the Church, so we all have that mission.
2. Communion with one another, bishops, clergy, and laity. This is done through Deanery Synodal Councils, which have lay representation from parishes. Jackie Gough and I are representatives for this parish.
3. Participation, which is self-explanatory.

The ASC meeting in November 2023 aimed to review progress and obtain feedback from DSCs, which have been meeting for the last 2 years and set priorities for 5 of the 6 themes for review next November.

Angela Main Thompson

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 21st April			
Sunday 21 st April Fourth Sunday of Easter	C/T	9 am	Private Intention
	P/E	11 am	People of the Parish
Monday 22 nd April Weekday of Easter			No Mass
Tuesday 23 rd April Sol. of St George, Martyr	P/E	10 am	Bernard Seed (Sick)
Wednesday 24 th April Weekday of Easter	C/T	10 am	Margaret Nelson (RIP)
Thursday 25 th April Feast of St Mark, Evangelist	P/E	10 am	For those who clean our churches
Friday 26 th April Weekday of Easter	C/T	10 am	Nigel McFarlane (Sick0
Saturday 27th April Sol. of St Maughold, Bishop, and Patron Saint of the Isle of Man	C/T	10 am	Intentions to Our Lady of Rushen
Sunday 28 th April Fifth Sunday of Easter	C/T	9 am	People of the Parish
	P/E	11 am	In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Response to the Psalm:

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the good shepherd says the Lord;

I know my own sheep and my own know me.

Alleluia.

Communion Antiphon:

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, Alleluia.

Offertory Collection: Last week's collection was £234.40.

Special Collection: Today's special collection is for the Priest Training Fund.

Change of Date: The Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place on Saturday 27th April at 3 pm.

Praying The Keeills week: will take place this year from Saturday 18th to Saturday 25th May. For more details, please see www.prayingthekeeills.org

Assisted Dying: Now is the time to act! Please do one or more of the following:

1. Attend the roadshow at 5.30 pm for 6.00 pm on Monday 22nd April at Castle Rushen High School or one of the other roadshows on the 23rd, 24th or 25th. There will be opportunity to talk one-to-one with members of CoMin so you can express your concerns. There is a 45-minute Q&A session where you can ask questions.
2. Attend the Prayer and Information meeting at 7.30 pm on Thursday 25th April at St. Mary's in Douglas.
3. Sign the petition at <https://www.assisteddyinginnumbers.org/petition>. Please ask your friends to do so as well. You may also access the petition via the Assisted Dying Concern IOM Facebook Page. If you don't have computer access, an iPad will be provided at both Masses for signing the petition.
4. Contact the MHKs who voted against the bill at second reading to show them your appreciation and support and encourage them to continue their efforts.
5. Write to encourage the potential waverers to reconsider and look at the facts – the reality of all the jurisdictions that have legalised assisted dying is that any initial safeguards are quickly eroded. There is no way to prevent future administrations doing this. A lot of the yes voting MHKs said that their yes was provisional on sufficient safeguards. The evidence from the jurisdictions that have assisted dying is that it isn't possible.
6. Write to the papers, contact Mannin line etc to keep the voice opposing assisted dying in the public arena. The MHKs take note of this. If we say nothing, the powerful pro assisted dying lobby will be the only voice heard.

For more information, please contact Stella at stellaharris13@icloud.com

Mass Intentions:

- Margaret Nelson
- In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Parish Diary:

25th April 7.30 pm	Assisted Dying Prayer and Information meeting at St Mary's of the Isle Douglas
27th April 3 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation
11th May 10 am to 1 pm	Island Spirituality Network at St John's Mill. The theme is "Happiness in the Psalms"
18th - 25th May	Praying The Keeills week
19th May	First Communion Mass
15th December 3 pm	Parish Nativity Service at St. Columba's

If you are aware of future events, please let us know so we may add them to the diary. **Social Club Committee contact details:** Susan 460514, Nick 431606, Dee 437487, or Lynn 472867.