

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

Fifth 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”

Archdiocesan Synodal Council 2023, Part 2:

At the start of the Council Meeting, we were addressed by Bishop Beverley Mason, Suffragan Bishop of Warrington. This is part of that address:

“It is an immense honour to be standing here today. I would like to thank Archbishop Malcolm for the invitation to offer an opening reflection. This is an exciting time as you look to intensify our Lord's ministry and be a more visible and proactive presence in the name of Christ. These are unquestionably challenging times when people are being led away from the Truth. There is so much fear, isolation, hopelessness, and despair! People don't know where to turn to find love and self-worth – and are scrabbling in the dark.

Today, this is probably the most faith-illiterate generation of all time. People don't know that God has lived among us in Jesus Christ, they have no comprehension of the resurrection or the second coming. We are called to come alongside, to build partnerships and to make Jesus known. The biggest blockage to mission is our self-consciousness and confidence. Remember who it is who calls you. And remember that He is with you!

When St Paul was commissioned to go out as the apostle to the Gentiles, St Peter tasked him to 'Remember the Poor'. And to us all here, I would like to add 'And in God's name, remember the children'. As a reminder that you are under the Divine Mercy, I'd love to present you with a small gift. It's a hand-carving of the Divine Mercy that was commissioned by a beautiful Christian couple who are devout servants at the shrine in Medjugorje. May there be rich fruit drawn for your labours! Amen”.

I have the full text available: she was certainly an inspirational speaker, which led us to discuss the merits of women in leadership in the church during lunch.

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 28th April			
Sunday 28 th April Fifth Sunday of Easter	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	People of the Parish In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Monday 29 th April Feast St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor			No Mass
Tuesday 30 th April Weekday of Easter	P/E	10 am	Special Intention
Wednesday 1 st May Weekday of Easter	C/T	10 am	Special Intention
Thursday 2 nd May Mem. of St Athanasius	P/E	10 am	Ben (Exams)
Friday 3 rd May Feast of SS Philip and James Apostles	C/T	10 am	Nigel McFarlane (Sick)
Saturday 4 th May Feast of The English Martyrs	C/T	10 am	No Mass
Sunday 5 th May Sixth Sunday of Easter	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	Yvette Moreno (Sick) People of the Parish

Response to the Psalm:

You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.

Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.

Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty.

Alleluia.

Communion Antiphon:

I am the true vine, and you are the branches, says the Lord.

Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty Alleluia.

Offertory Collection: Last week's collection was £262.28.

Saturday 4th May. Please note there will be no Mass on this day.

Praying The Keeills Week: will take place this year from 18th to 25th May.

For more details, please see www.prayingthekeeills.org

Assisted Dying: We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who attended the government roadshow at Castle Rushen High School on Monday evening, in an effort to voice their concerns regarding assisted dying. Despite the long queues and limited opportunities to engage with the ministers, many individuals from the parish participated in one-on-one discussions and actively took part in the panel discussion. This exemplifies the true essence of the church in action. Once again, we express our appreciation to those who stepped out of their comfort zone to advocate for the vulnerable.

In the beginning of May, the Members of the House of Keys (MHKs) will meticulously review the assisted dying bill, scrutinizing each clause. This will be followed by a third reading of the bill. Although a number of MHKs expressed concerns, they still voted in favour of the bill during the second reading. In order to defeat the bill, we require at least five of these MHKs to vote against it during the third reading. If you haven't already done so, we urge you to email or attempt to engage in one-on-one discussions with the undecided MHKs. Your voice matters and can make a difference.

The MHKs are:

Ann Corlett	ann.corlett@gov.im
David Ashford	David.ashford@gov.im
Rob Callister	Rob.Callister@gov.im
John Wannenburg	John.wannenburg@gov.im
Tim Crookall	Tim.crookall@gov.im
Sarah Maltby	Sarah.maltby@gov.im
Stu Peters	Stu.Peters@gov.im
Tim Johnston	Tim.Johnston@gov.im

Kindly consider the option of submitting letters to newspapers and reaching out to the Mannin line. It is crucial to ensure that the voices against assisted dying are heard in the public sphere. The Members of the House of Keys are aware of this matter. If no action is taken, the powerful pro-assisted dying lobby will dominate the conversation. If you need any assistance, contact Stella stellaharris13@icloud.com

Mass Intentions:

- Special Intentions
- Clifford Hampson
- Bob Stabler
- Yvette Moreno

Parish Diary:

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
12th July 7 pm	St. Mary's and St. Columba's Family - Parish meeting in St Columba's Hall
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.