

NEWSLETTER

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

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12th Sunday of Ordinary Time, 23rd June 2024

(Page 98 in Mass book)

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

Dear Parishioners

Following approval by the Vatican, a **new Catholic Lectionary for British churches** will be introduced at all our Masses from the First Sunday of Advent, 1st December 2024. 'Lectionary' is the name given to the volumes from which readings from the Bible are proclaimed from the altar at every Mass. The Lectionary also includes bible readings for use in the celebration of the other sacraments and services such as funerals and weddings. Until now the Lectionary readings have been taken from the **Jerusalem Bible**. The Jerusalem Bible, edited by Liverpool priest **Monsignor Alexander Jones**, was published in 1966. A biblical scholar of international repute, he taught several generations of priests at Upholland, the then Archdiocesan seminary, and went on to teach at Christ's College, now part of Liverpool Hope University. In the new Lectionary this translation is replaced by the **English Standard Version, Catholic Edition** of the Bible.

A new translation of the prayers of the Mass in the **Roman Missal** was introduced in 2011. The new Lectionary is part of the continuing process of revising liturgical translations. The changes are intended to make the biblical translations more faithful to the original languages and take account of more recent biblical scholarship.

The 2003 film '**Lost in Translation**' starring Bob Harris tells the story of an American actor facing a midlife crisis. Moving to Japan he attempts to negotiate its different language and culture. It highlights the difficulty with all translations. Among scholars there are two methods of translating: Formal Equivalence and Dynamic Equivalence. "**Formal Equivalence**" stays as close to the original text as possible with a word-for-word rendering. With "**Dynamic Equivalence**" the target audience is taken into account and the text is translated in a way that makes more sense than a *direct literal translation*. In the end, the best approach is often a blend of formal and dynamic equivalence. A formal equivalence translation may be difficult to read and not be the way normal English is written or spoken. This also applies to translating the Word of God, the Bible.

All biblical translations are a compromise. The **King James Bible** was written in the English style of the 17th Century – it's all 'thee', 'thou', 'thine' and 'doth'. (Some might therefore imagine that is the way God also speaks to us). The Jerusalem Bible reads more like 'modern' English. The English Standard Version may be less so. For example, the Jerusalem Bible says: '*What gain, then is it for a man to win the whole world and ruin his life?*' The English Standard Version says: '*For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?*' **The New International Version**, very popular among Evangelical churches, reads '*What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?*' It retains the word 'soul' but uses the gender inclusive 'someone' rather than 'man'. All are different translations of the original Greek text of the Gospels. These Greek translations are themselves translations of the original words of Jesus who would have spoken in Aramaic.

Having said all of this I am left with the thought that a new translation of the Bible would not feature on a list of 100 things I would like to see before I die.....

The new Lectionary gives us an opportunity to refresh our understanding of the readings at Mass, not just for readers, but for all of us who hear the Word of God proclaimed in church. The Lectionary is a compilation of extracts from the books of the Bible. It can be enlightening to see the context in which these are written, the verses immediately before and after a particular reading. In September we will be re-introducing the evening meetings '**Reflections on the Word**' that we held regularly some years ago. In those sessions we looked at the Sunday Mass readings and attempted to connect how they might speak to our everyday lives. This time we will do so using the new English Standard Version and compare it with the Jerusalem Bible in preparation for the new Lectionary.

Fr John

Assisted Dying Bill: Members of the House of Keys will be discussing the Bill on Tuesday 25 June, their final sitting before Tynwald Day. Churches Alive in Mann leaders have asked for prayers in our churches this weekend. A 'Bin the Bill Demo' has been planned for Tuesday 25 June from 8.30 to 10am outside the Tynwald Building. See posters at the back of church.

Mass Requests and Mass Cards: Recently people are handing in the blue Mass Offering envelopes and forgetting to write on them the name of the person for whom they wish the Mass to be celebrated. This causes difficulty when we do not know who the Mass is for. We can then only allocate that Mass to a 'Special Intention'. Often there is a cash donation in the envelope. All Mass requests received are strictly entered in a Mass Book together with the donation received. This Mass Book is always available for inspection by the bishop on official visitation along with the other parish registers.

When people ask for a Mass Card, they are asking for a card notifying the recipient (such as a bereaved family) that a Mass is to be offered for a specified person. A Mass Card requires the signature of the priest. When you ask for a Mass Card, you will also need to complete a blue envelope so that the parish office can arrange for your requested Mass to be celebrated. Sometimes we are asked for a Mass Card and then discover that the person requesting the Mass Card does not want a Mass celebrated. In this case a simple greeting card for a family would suffice.

Fr Brian's 25th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood: We look forward to marking this special occasion for Fr Brian on the evening of **Friday 12th July**. Mass will be concelebrated with Bishop Tom Neylon in St Mary's at 6.30pm followed by drinks and canapés. Hopefully good weather will allow use of St Mary's Garden. All St Anthony's and St Mary of the Isle & St Joseph's parishioners are invited. The caterers will be charging a fixed price per head and we wish to minimise waste and costs. **Therefore, it is essential to please let the parish office know if you would like to attend, preferably by email to saintmaryiom@rcaol.org.uk by next Sunday 30th June.**

- The **Red Mill Hill Missionary Boxes** for **St Anthony's Church** will be emptied over the next 2 weeks. If you have a box, please leave it in St Anthony's church porch in the usual place.
- **T and Chat Group** will meet on **2nd July** at St Anthony's Pastoral Centre from 10.30am to 12 noon. Refreshments will be served and everyone will be warmly welcomed. Please contact Josie for further information on 406063.
- **Offertory Collections:** St Mary and St Joseph £886, St Anthony's £558. This does not include standing orders or the tap and pay machine at the back of St Mary's church. Sincere thanks for your generosity.

Masses and Services for the coming week

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

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| Saturday 22nd June 12 th Sunday of Ordinary Time | 5.00pm | St Mary's | People of our Parishes |
| Sunday 23rd June 12 th Sunday of Ordinary Time | 9.30am 11.00am | St Anthony's St Mary's | Nan Garlick, anniversary Gordon & Shirley Savage, deceased |
| Monday 24th June <i>The Birth of St John the Baptist</i> | 12.10pm | St Mary's | Kathleen Tobin, sick |
| Tuesday 25th June | 10.00am 12.10pm | St Anthony's St Mary's | <i>Eucharistic Service</i> Philomena McGowan, recently died |
| Wednesday 26th June | 12.10pm | St Mary's | Canon Brendan Alger, 1 st anniversary |
| Thursday 27th June St Cyril of Alexandria Our Lady of Perpetual Succour | 10.00am 12.10pm | St Anthony's St Mary's | Sean Kane, recently died Eamonn Slevin, recently died |
| Friday 28th June St Irenaeus | 12.00pm 2.45pm | St Mary's Crematorium | Requiem Mass: Peter Hannay Funeral Service: Veronica Fitzgerald |
| Saturday 29th June <i>Solemnity of Saints Peter & Paul</i> | 11.00am to 12noon 5.00pm | St Mary's St Mary's | Exposition and Confessions Moira Sutherland, recently died |
| Sunday 30th June <i>Solemnity of Saints Peter & Paul</i> | 9.30am 11.00am | St Anthony's St Mary's | Maura MacMahon, anniversary People of our Parishes |

We remember in our prayers our parishioners **Veronica Fitzgerald** and **Peter Hannay** whose funerals will take place this week. We think of their grieving families and friends who mourn their loss. May they rest in peace.