

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

Fifteen Sunday of Ordinary Time

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“The Family that Prays Together Stays Together”

REFLECTION ON THE LORD'S PRAYER – Who art in heaven

We continue our exploration of the Lord's Prayer with the phrase “who art in heaven”.

We often think of heaven as a faraway place, somewhere up in the sky. But this part of the prayer does not speak of God's distance: “Father, can you hear me from all the way up there?” On the contrary, to speak of “Our Father in heaven” is to speak of God's nearness.

Heaven is where God is; and God is here with us. “In heaven” refers to heaven as the centre of the universe and the seat of all authority, power, dominion, and greatness. We are on earth and are therefore limited to this little ball floating around the sun in a little corner of a big galaxy called the Milky Way. And that galaxy is just one of millions of galaxies in a universe so huge that we cannot accurately measure it.

To say that we are “on earth” means that we pray from a position of weakness and comparative insignificance. God is in the seat of all authority and all power. Therefore, when we say, “Our Father in heaven”, we are proclaiming that He has the authority and power to hear us and to help us when we pray. It is precisely because God is in heaven that He has the power to help us. We might think of it like this:

- **“Our”** speaks of community; I do not pray alone. I pray with others.
- **“Father”** speaks of family; I am not left alone; I pray to One who cares for me.
- **“In heaven”** speaks of authority; I do not struggle alone; I pray to One who has the power to help me.

Every single word is important. Every single word is crucial. **“Our”** opens us up to a big view of the universe. **“Father”** encourages us to believe that He cares. **“In heaven”** means that we don't have a problem that He can't handle. We don't have a need in our lives that He can't meet because He's our father in heaven who hears and answers prayer.

Deacon Graeme

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 14th July			
Sunday 14 th July Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	People of the Parish Thanksgiving
Monday 15 th July Mem. of St Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor			No Mass
Tuesday 16 th July Weekday in Ordinary Time	P/E	10 am	Lucy Gresty (Ann)
Wednesday 17 th July Weekday in Ordinary Time	C/T	10 am	Bernard Seed (RIP)
Thursday 18 th July Weekday in Ordinary Time	P/E	10 am 10.45 am	Catherine Guylar (Sick) Confession
Friday 19 th July Weekday in Ordinary Time	C/T	10 am	Ann Dolan (Sick)
Saturday 20 th July Weekday in Ordinary Time	C/T	10 am 10.45 am	Intentions to Our Lady of Rushen Adoration & Confession
Sunday 21 st July Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	Sheila O'Toole (Ann) People of the Parish

Response to the Psalm.

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
And give us your saving help.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.

Your words are spirit, Lord and they are life :
You have the message of eternal life

Alleluia.

Communion Antiphon:

The sparrows finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God
Blessed are they who dwell in your house , for ever singing your praise.

Offertory Collection: Last week's collection was £246.92

Peter Pence: was £143.43

St Brendan's Prayer: We will adopt this prayer for our Synodal Journey: "Lord, help me to journey beyond the familiar and into the unknown. Give me the faith to leave old ways and break fresh ground with You." .

Mission Appeal: During the weekend of the 10th and 11th August there will be an appeal for support of their mission work by the Comboni Sisters who will be visiting the parish over the weekend. .

Red Boxes: There are booklets about Mission Today at the back of each church. In the booklets there are forms for those who wish to have a Mission Red Box.

Foodbank: There will be a collection for the foodbank on Sunday 28th July.

Assisted Dying Bill: Many thanks to all those who stood in the rain on Tuesday taking part in the Anti Assisted Dying Bill. It has been confirmed that the third and final reading of the bill in the House of Keys will be Tuesday 23rd July ,so please keep your bins and placards to hand as we will be protesting outside Tynwald again then . This is our last two weeks to try to influence members of the House of Keys . Please do all you can please contact the MHKs again especially the waiverers . They need to see how strong public opinion is against assisted dying .We need to ensure they hear the voices against so that their concerns become stronger and turn them to no voters.

The main MHKs we think are waiverers and who may be influenced 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

The MHKs against assisted dying to encourage and send messages of support to are Jason Moorhouse, Tim Glover, Chris Thomas , Alf Cannan , Julie edge , Claire Christian , Andrew Smith and Kate Lord–Brennan. Please contact Stella Harris (stellaharris13@icloud.com) for any more info.

Mass Intentions: Lucy Gresty, Bernard Seed, Catherine Guyler , Ann Dolan and Sheila O'Toole.

Parish Diary:

28th July	Fourth World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly.
17th August 11 am	Parish to Parish Walk. Come and join us in a walk starting from St. Mary's, in Castletown, to St. Columba's via Scarlett. £5.00 for adults £3.00 for Children to include refreshments afterwards. Please speak to a member of the social club for tickets.
11th September 8 pm	Concert by Manx Concert Brass in St Columba's Hall.
14th September 10 am to 1 pm	Island Spirituality Network at St John's Mill. The theme is Imagination, Discernment and Spiritual Direction. Speaker Fr. Phil Harrison SJ.
21st September	Adoremus Liverpool. A day of Eucharistic Pilgrimage. We will hold a Pilgrimage on the Isle of Man to mirror that being held in the Cathedral in Liverpool. There will be an Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Co-Cathedral Douglas from 10am to 5pm Please save the date; more information to follow
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.

Second Collections for 2024

21 st July	Priest Retirement Fund
24 th August	Day for Life
8 th September	Catholic Education
15 th September	Evangelii Gadium
20 th October	APF World Missions
24 th November	Animate Youth