

NEWSLETTER

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

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20th Sunday of Ordinary Time, 18th August 2024 and

21st Sunday of Ordinary Time, 25th August 2024

(Page 120 and 123 in Mass book)

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

Dear Parishioners

It was good to welcome Father Sean Riley once again. His visit enabled me to visit my sisters. My sister Michele's health continues to cause concern. I also managed a couple of days in brilliant sunshine in North Wales. A canon lawyer, Fr Sean serves as Chancellor to the Archdiocese and is responsible for issuing dispensations and other official documents on the Archbishop's behalf. He also has a role with the Archdiocesan Marriage Tribunal which deals with marriage annulments. Fr Sean wore a mask last week while distributing Holy Communion. It's a reminder to us all that the situation regarding Covid continues. Many of those who regularly attend Mass are vulnerable. Even if they have no on-going health issues themselves, a fair number are carers for family members at home whose immunity and resistance to infection is diminished, especially if they are undergoing chemotherapy for instance. For those with an existing health condition, a Covid infection can be enough to put their health into a downward spiral. We accept sanitising our hands, restrictions on receiving Holy Communion on the tongue and the availability of Holy Water, not for ourselves, but for the health, safety and wellbeing of those at risk. As a Christian community we forego our own preferences and accept a higher standard of caution for the sake of the vulnerable.

At the height of summer there is normally a shortage of news as the world takes a break. Traditionally it's the 'silly season' when journalists dream up issues to fill the media while politicians take to the beach. This summer has been different. The appalling tragedy in Southport was followed by rioting in England and the North of Ireland. The bloodshed and destruction in Gaza and Ukraine is unabated. These events demonstrate both the worst but also the best in human nature. We all have a tendency to blame others when bad things happen. And there are people who are ready to apportion blame in line with their prejudices. Our faith encourages us not to lose faith in the goodness of God and the potential goodness of others. As Fr Richard Rohr puts it 'Everyone's an infinitely loved broken person in a fleeting, often not-so-fair, gorgeous, lovely, unexplainable world.'

Adoremus Eucharistic Pilgrimages are taking place on Saturday 21st September at both the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King and the Cathedral Church of Saint Mary of the Isle Douglas. **Our day of Eucharistic Adoration starts at 10.00am at St Mary's and finishes with the usual 5.00pm Saturday evening Mass.** The pilgrimage is for parishioners from all our Catholic churches on the Island. St Anthony's Onchan and St Mary of the Isle parishes will take care of the period from 10.00am to 12noon; St Patrick's Peel and Our Lady Star of the Sea & St Maughold Ramsey from 12.00 to 2.00pm; and St Mary's Castletown and St Columba's Port Erin from 2.00pm until 4.00pm. St Mary of the Isle and St Anthony's will also take care of the final hour until Mass at 5.00pm.

This year's **Novena to Mary Untier of Knots will take place from Sunday 13th October to Monday 21st October.** More details later.

Eucharistic Ministers are required to have their ministry periodically renewed. This involves a formal training session and recommissioning ceremony with the presentation to each minister of a *pagella* or certificate signed by the Archbishop authorising their ministry. This is required if they wish to continue in their role. A day of renewal was last held in November 2019. **Elizabeth Parsons**, Director of the Pastoral Development Department **and Mark Robson** are travelling to the Island to conduct a **Training and Recommissioning event on Saturday 5th October.** Further details will be announced after the holiday period. Please record this date in your diaries. All Eucharistic Ministers are requested to attend. *Fr John*

Isle of Man Guided Pilgrimage 2024 – The Triskelion Way is a 36-mile trail – in 7 sections and walked over 4 days, extending from Rushen Abbey in the south to Maughold in the north, via Peel. It offers the pilgrim varied walking conditions, glorious countryside, coastal views and historically significant places of interest. This year's guided pilgrimage **starts on Friday 30th August** at Rushen Abbey Car Park, leaving at 10am and will finish at Peel Castle. The second day, **Saturday 31st August**, walkers will leave from Peel to Kirk Michael. **Sunday 1st September** will see pilgrims walk a long way from Kirk Michael to Ramsey. Maughold will be the final destination on **Monday 2nd September.** More details are available at <https://pilgrimageisleofman.im/triskelion-way/>

- **Offertory Collections:** St Mary and St Joseph £1,002, St Anthony's £530. 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 next two weeks

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

Saturday 17th August 20 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	5.00pm	St Mary's	Norah Cullinane, anniversary
Sunday 18th August 20 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.30am 11.00am	St Anthony's St Mary's	People of our Parishes Alan Lynch, anniversary
Monday 19th August	10.00am 12.10pm	St Mary's St Mary's	Funeral Service: Jimmy Wall Fr John's intentions
Tuesday 20th August St Bernard	10.00am 12.10pm	St Anthony's St Mary's	<i>Eucharistic Service</i> Nicholas Melia, recently died
Wednesday 21st August St Pius X, Pope	12.10pm	St Mary's	Carmel Seeldrayers, anniversary
Thursday 22nd August The Queenship of Mary	10.00am 12.10pm	St Anthony's St Mary's	Someone who is sick Una Kelly, recently died
Friday 23rd August St Rose of Lima St John Wall OFM of Preston	12.10pm	St Mary's	Maureen Metcalfe, anniversary
Saturday 24th August 21 st Sunday of Ordinary Time	11.00am to 12noon 5.00pm	St Mary's St Mary's	Exposition and Confessions Brian Cocker, 5 th anniversary
Sunday 25th August 21 st Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.30am 11.00am	St Anthony's St Mary's	People of our Parishes Paul Wilson, 5 th anniversary
Monday 26th August Blessed Dominic Barberi	<i>No Mass or Service</i>	<i>St Mary's</i>	<i>No Mass or Service today</i>
Tuesday 27th August St Monica	<i>No Service today</i> 12.10pm	<i>St Anthony's</i> St Mary's	<i>No Eucharistic Service today</i> Antonio Amosin, recently died
Wednesday 28th August St Augustine	12.10pm	St Mary's	Helen & John Wood, anniversary
Thursday 29th August Passion of St John the Baptist	10.00am 12.10pm	St Anthony's St Mary's	Alf & Betty Bowden deceased Roy Nixon, 5 th anniversary
Friday 30th August St Edmund Arrowsmith	12.10pm	St Mary's	Carmina Maglalang intentions
Saturday 31st August 22 nd Sunday of Ordinary Time	11.00am to 12noon 5.00pm	St Mary's St Mary's	Exposition and Confessions People of our Parishes
Sunday 1st September 22 nd Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.30am 11.00am	St Anthony's St Mary's	Eileen & John Jawczak, anniversary Angela Dean, anniversary

We remember in our prayers **Jimmy Wall** who died recently. We think of his grieving family and friends who mourn his loss. May he rest in peace.

During the Angelus on the Feast of the Assumption, Pope Francis entrusted the worry and sorrow of people suffering due to conflict and war to Mary Queen of Peace. He recalled the grave humanitarian crisis in Gaza and remembered all the peoples of the Middle East, Ukraine, Sudan and Myanmar.

Following the recitation of the Angelus prayer, Pope Francis turned his thoughts to the suffering in so many parts of the world due to conflicts and wars. He recalled the peoples of Ukraine, the Middle East, Palestine, Israel, Sudan and Myanmar. And he prayed that "Mary Queen of Peace, whom we contemplate today in the glory of Paradise, may obtain for all, consolation and a future of serenity and harmony."

The Pope prayed in particular for the suffering people of Gaza where the humanitarian crisis has reached catastrophic levels. He appealed for "a ceasefire on all fronts, for the release of hostages and for aid to the exhausted population." He also encouraged every effort to avoid any escalation in the conflict and that "paths of negotiation" be pursued so this tragedy can be stopped. He punctuated his remarks again, reminding all that war always marks a defeat.