

NEWSLETTER

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

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28th Sunday of Ordinary Time, 13th October 2024

Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Families

(Page 143 in Mass book)

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

Dear Parishioners

This Sunday is a **Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Families**. Some say that prisoners should be punished more severely for their wrongdoings. During an interview this week a female prisoner responded to that comment: *'I couldn't be punished more than miss precious days and times with my children and family'*.

Recent news headlines reported on the increasing number of people in prison in England and Wales and the crisis in the prison system. There are more children and families who have a loved one in prison who may be struggling with stigma, isolation and hardship as a result.

The Prison Advice & Care Trust (Pact) is the national Catholic charity working to support prisoners, people with convictions, children and families. Pact's work is deeply rooted in Catholic Social Teaching.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster, is President of Pact. Here's a summary of his message.....

Pact supports people throughout England and Wales, whatever their beliefs. Pact's work is varied and includes care for children whose parents have been sent to prison, as well as offering practical assistance to people leaving prison, who are trying to make a fresh start and put their past behind them. Pact workers can be found inside many prisons, working alongside chaplains, to support people who may be experiencing mental illness or losing hope. An important element of Pact's work is to support prisoners and their families to maintain their family bonds, recognising the anxiety, isolation and perhaps hardship they may be experiencing while a loved one is in prison. This work has been hugely influential, and it is now recognised that it is one of the most effective means to reduce the risk of reoffending by former prisoners.

Jesus himself commended those who showed concern for prisoners: 'I was in prison and you visited me'. Pact continues to rely strongly on the support of Catholic parishioners. I encourage you to play your part in its important work, whether through prayer or financial support, putting the values of the Gospel into action and working for the common good of all.

More information at www.prisonadvice.org.uk/prisoners-sunday

Archbishop Malcolm writes this piece in the October edition of the Catholic Pic:

Last week I took a break from work to make a spiritual retreat. It took me a while to convince myself that it was the right thing to do as there were many pressing matters in the archdiocese, and I had only taken a holiday as usual in August. It wasn't as if I was physically tired and needed a rest, but I did need refreshing in a spiritual way. My last retreat of more than 3 or 4 days was about 12 years ago. Right up to the last minute I was trying to find a reason not to go on retreat. I was leaving behind several things I should have done. But if I am honest, I find it difficult to face up to deep questions that linger about my relationship with God and hence about myself and my mission. That's not unusual – most people, including priests and bishops, struggle a bit with these matters at times.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have been able to step aside for 10 days from the daily routine of being your archbishop. There is no doubt that my making a long retreat is a privilege which is not available to everyone who would want or need to do so, but it might be possible to set apart some hours or even a day every now and then to reflect on some of the questions which inhabit your inner self. I hope so. We all live very fast lives being bombarded by questions and demands from all sides, so if you can make some space for reflection then I recommend it. If it is good for your soul, then it will be good for you and the people around you.

Our **Novena to Mary Untier of Knots** begins this **Sunday 13th October at 3pm** and runs until **Monday 21st October**.

We are delighted that **Bishop Tom Williams** will join us this Sunday to begin our novena with a celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick. Please let any sick or elderly family members and friends know. If they are unable to attend on the day, perhaps they could join online or you could attend in person on their behalf. The full programme is available on a separate sheet at the back of church and on our website.

Our **Readers' Training Morning** will be held in **St Anthony's Pastoral Centre** from **10am to 1pm on Saturday 26th October**. As well as an update in training for all existing and new readers in our churches, we will look at the transition to the new lectionary which will begin at Masses on 1st December. All readers are required to attend. In the meantime, we have also been continuing with our **Reflections on the Word** sessions to which everyone is welcome.

Cathedral Inauguration Anniversary. Everyone welcome to a **special Mass at 7.00pm on Thursday 7th November** in **St Mary's** at which **Archbishop Malcolm** will preside to celebrate the first anniversary of the Inauguration.

Archdiocese of Liverpool Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage 2025: For those young people who have been successful in obtaining a place on next year's Lourdes pilgrimage please email directly St Mary's parish office at saintmaryiom@rcaol.org.uk. There are some changes to leaders and safeguarding procedures with the Archdiocesan Youth Pilgrimage for next year. We are liaising with them about this.

- **Quiz Night in aid of Lourdes Youth Fund** on **Saturday 19th October** at 7pm in the Columba Club. Tickets costing £6 are available from Brian Murphy or Richard Coase. Raffle prizes would be greatly appreciated.
- **One World Centre IOM** is hosting a free talk '**In pursuit of truth – Reflections of a United Nations Human Rights Investigator**' by **Ken Corlett** on Thursday 24 October at 7.30pm in Erin Arts Centre, Port Erin. Ken was seconded to the United Nations as a war crimes investigator in Bosnia-Herzegovina. He later investigated political killings in Lebanon and was Chief Investigator for UNRWA, the agency responsible for Palestinian refugees in the Middle East. Please see **One World Centre Isle of Man** Facebook page. Free Tickets are available at www.eventbrite.co.uk.
- **Offertory Collections:** St Mary and St Joseph £1,091, St Anthony's £384. 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

Saturday 12th October 28 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	5.00pm	St Mary's	Mary Gallagher, recently died
Sunday 13th October <i>Day of Prayer for Prisoners</i> 28 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.30am 11.00am 3.00pm	St Anthony's St Mary's St Mary's	Joan Corran, anniversary People of our Parishes Novena to Mary Untier of Knots Day 1: Sacrament of the Sick
Monday 14th October	12.10pm 7.00pm	St Mary's St Mary's	Sick Parishioners Novena to Mary Untier of Knots Day 2
Tuesday 15th October St Teresa of Avila	10.00am 10.30am 12.10pm 7.00pm	St Anthony's St Mary's St Mary's St Mary's	Eucharistic Service Funeral Service: Catherine Cringle Cassidy & M ^c Carrick families intentions Novena to Mary Untier of Knots Day 3
Wednesday 16th October	12.10pm 7.00pm	St Mary's St Mary's	Beryl Nelson, recently died Novena to Mary Untier of Knots Day 4
Thursday 17th October St Ignatius of Antioch	10.00am 12.10pm 7.00pm	St Anthony's St Mary's St Mary's	Charles Redmond, anniversary Jimmy Wall, recently died Novena to Mary Untier of Knots Day 5
Friday 18th October St Luke, Evangelist	12.10pm 7.00pm	St Mary's St Mary's	Francis Martin, recently died Novena to Mary Untier of Knots Day 6
Saturday 19th October 29 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	11.00am to 12noon 5.00pm	St Mary's St Mary's	Exposition and Confessions Mike Joe Hennessy Novena to Mary Untier of Knots Day 7
Sunday 20th October <i>World Mission Day</i> 29 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.30am 11.00am 3.00pm	St Anthony's St Mary's St Mary's	People of our Parishes Michael & Sarah Garrity, anniversary Novena to Mary Untier of Knots Day 8

We remember in our prayers our parishioner **Catherine (Celie) Cringle** who died last week. We think of her grieving husband, family and friends who mourn her loss. May she rest in peace.