

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

Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Email: stmarycastletown@rcaol.org.uk **Phone:** 01624 822272

Website: www.manxcatholic.org

Parish Priest: Father Joseph Kiganda, CSSp

Father Dennis T. Ortese-Yiye 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”

Gaudium et Spes

Gaudium et Spes, or the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, is one of the key documents from the Second Vatican Council, promulgated in 1965. It addresses the relationship between the Church and contemporary society, emphasising the importance of engaging with the world while remaining rooted in faith. A comment from the time which may still be relevant was “The Church has ignored the world for so long, is it any wonder that the world is ignoring the Church?”

The document is divided into two main parts. The first part focuses on the dignity of the human person, highlighting the importance of human rights, social justice, and the call for individuals to fulfil their potential in communion with others. It asserts that the Church has a role in promoting the well-being of humanity, advocating for peace, justice, and solidarity.

The second part explores the responsibilities of the Church in addressing social, economic, and political issues. It discusses the significance of community life and the necessity for collaboration between various sectors of society, including the Church, government, and other institutions. The document emphasises the need for the laity, in particular, to engage in the world, encouraging active participation in the pursuit of justice and the common good.

Gaudium et Spes underscores the idea that faith and reason are complementary, and it invites believers to seek truth and meaning in a rapidly changing world. It acknowledges the challenges posed by modernity, such as materialism and secularism, while promoting a hopeful vision of human solidarity and cooperation. Ultimately, "Gaudium et Spes" calls for a Church that listens to the signs of the times, actively participates in the world's struggles, and remains committed to its spiritual mission, fostering a culture of dialogue and understanding in the quest for truth and justice.

Taking Gaudium et Spes as a model for being a Christian in the modern world, if you were accused of being a Christian would there be enough evidence to convict you?

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 20th October			
Sunday 20 th October Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	People of the Parish Harry Jackson (RIP)
Monday 21 st October Weekday in Ordinary Time			No Mass
Tuesday 22 nd October Weekday in Ordinary Time	P/E	10 am	Mike Buttell (RIP)
Wednesday 23 rd October Weekday in Ordinary Time	C/T	10 am	Betty Lafferty (Private Intention)
Thursday 24 th October Weekday in Ordinary Time	P/E	10 am 10.45 am	Kay Denne (RIP) Confession
Friday 25 th October Weekday in Ordinary Time	C/T	10 am	
Saturday 26 th October Weekday in Ordinary Time	C/T	10 am 10.45 am	Intentions to Our Lady of Rushen Adoration and Confession
Sunday 27 th October Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	People of the Parish Mary, John, and Frank Hutchinson (Ann)

Responsorial Psalm:

May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia

I am the Way; the Truth and the Life, says the Lord.
No one come to the Father except through me.

Alleluia.

Communion Antiphon:

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Second Collection: The second collection today will be for APF World Missions.

Readers' Training: Readers' Training will be held at 10 am on Saturday, 9th November, in St. Columba's and 2 pm on Sunday, 17th November, in St. Mary's. The duration of the training is expected to be approximately 2½ to 3 hours. With the introduction of a new Lectionary from the start of Advent, all current and potential new readers are requested to attend **one** of these sessions. If you wish to continue reading but are unable to attend either date, please contact Deacon Graeme to arrange an alternative. **Note:** The two trainings will be identical; please do not feel you have to attend the one where you normally read.

Food Bank Collection: Next Sunday there will be a collection for the food bank. There will be collection point at the back of both churches.

Thank you; Barbara and Brendan O' Friel would like to thank everyone for their good wishes, cards, prayers, and very warm support during the recent occasion of their Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary.

Welcome: Fr Dennis T. Ortese-Yiye, CSSp, is currently in residence at St Mary's Castletown and is serving as Assistant PP at St Mary's Douglas.

Christmas Fayre: The SVP Society will be delighted to recycle any unwanted Christmas or birthday gifts parishioners or friends may have. An excellent way to raise funds for others who need help. The Christmas Fayre Team will be pleased to accept any raffle prizes or gifts for the chocolate luck dip.

First Communion Class: If your child will be seven or above by 1st January 2025, please enroll them for our next First Communion class. The classes are scheduled to commence on Sunday, 12th January 2025, and will take place every Sunday at 12:30 pm, following the 11 am Mass at St. Columba's. Each session will have a duration of one hour. The actual First Communion will take place on Sunday, 18th May 2025. Please take an enrollment form from the Sacristy and return to Rachel or Julie. Alternatively, you can phone or email Rachel Parr on 07815925076 or email rachelparr31@hotmail.com.

Catholic Herald: The Catholic Herald magazine for November will be on sale for £4.50, so please consider purchasing one to enjoy good Catholic reading while supporting quality Catholic journalism.

Mass Intentions: Mary, John, and Frank Hutchinson, Harry Jackson, Mike Buttell, Kay Denne, Catherine Casserly, and Betty Lafferty.

Parish Diary:

1st November	All Saints Day, Holyday of Obligation. Mass at 10am (P/E) and 7pm (C/T).
9th November 10 am to 1 pm	Island Spirituality Network at St John's Mill. The theme is "Good News for the Poor." The speaker is Chris Lane.
9th November 10 am	Reader's Training in St Columba's.
10th November 12 pm to 4 pm	Fair Trade sale and homemade soup and bread lunches. Proceeds of lunch going to help the Loreto Sisters work in Albania.
13th November 7 pm C/T 14th November 7 pm P/E	Masses for our deceased relatives and friends.
17th November 2 pm	Reader's training in St Mary's.
30th November 11 am to 1 pm	Christmas Fayre at St Columba's Hall.
7th December 10 am to 12.30 pm	Christmas Wreath making class at St Columba's Hall.
15th December 3 pm	Parish Nativity Service at St. Columba's Church.
11th May 2025 11 am	Crowning of Our Lady during Mass at St Columba's.
18th May 11 am	First Communion Mass.

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:

24 th November	Animate Youth
8 th December	Christmas flowers for both churches

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