

## NEWSLETTER

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

Tel 01624 675509 Email [saintmaryiom@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:saintmaryiom@rcaol.org.uk) Website [www.manxcatholic.org](http://www.manxcatholic.org)

32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2024 Remembrance Sunday

(Year B for Sundays) (Cycle 2 for weekdays) (Page 154 in Mass book)

Dear Parishioners

*In these challenging times it's reassuring to hear these words from the **Right Rev Michael Curry**, presiding bishop and primate of the Episcopal Church in the United States. He reflects on the description of God's expansive love found in the Bible.*

**Love is a firm commitment to act for the well-being of someone other than yourself.** It can be personal or political, individual or communal, intimate or public. Love will not be segregated to the private, personal precincts of life. Love, as I read it in the Bible, is ubiquitous. It affects all aspects of life....

*An oft-quoted passage in the New Testament says, "God so loved the world that he gave his only son" [John 3:16]. The Greek word used by the New Testament writer for the word love is agape. And the Greek word used for world is kosmos, but what it really means is "everything"—"everything that is." Kosmos is what the spiritual is talking about when it says of God, "He's got the whole world in his hands." God so loved the world that he "gave." **God gave. God did not take.** God gave. That's agape. That's love. And love such as that is the way to the heart of God, the heart of each other. It is the way to a new world that looks something more like God's dream for us and all creation.*

*Love as an action is the only thing that has ever changed the world for the better. Love is Martin Luther King, Mahatma Gandhi.... Love is a little girl in Pakistan named Malala Yousafzai standing up to armed men who said that girls shouldn't be educated....*

*Love is a firefighter running into a burning building, risking his or her life for people he or she doesn't even know. Love is that first responder hurtling toward an emergency, a catastrophe, a disaster. Love is someone protesting anything that hurts or harms the children of God. Jesus said it this way, hours before his crucifixion: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's own life for one's friends" [John 15:13].*

*Love is a commitment to seek the good and to work for the good and welfare of others. It doesn't stop at our front door or our neighbourhood, our religion or race, or our state's or your country's border. This is one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth, as the hymn goes....*

**Where selfishness excludes, love makes room and includes. Where selfishness puts down, love lifts up. Where selfishness hurts and harms, love helps and heals. Where selfishness enslaves, love sets free and liberates.**

*The way of love will show us the right thing to do, every single time. It is moral and spiritual grounding—and a place of rest—amid the chaos that is often part of life. It's how we stay decent in indecent times. Loving is not always easy, but like with muscles, we get stronger both with repetition and as the burden gets heavier. And it works.*

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A big thanks to all who helped make **the first anniversary of St Mary's becoming a cathedral** so special. Thanks to **Archbishop Malcolm**, and also to Canon Aidan Prescott, Monsignor Tony O'Brien, Canon Dave Heywood and Canon John Gorman – all members of the **Chapter of Canons** of Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral, who travelled across to take part in the celebration. A particular thanks to the choir. They have been working overtime recently with the nine days of our Novena. Their singing makes all the difference. It is said that to sing is to pray twice. They have done that for us many times over. And thanks to those who set out our drinks and nibbles and stayed late afterwards to clear up. It was also good to welcome **Martin Miller**, Chief Operating Officer of the Archdiocese, who joined us for the Mass. Martin is here to support members of the Isle of Man Deanery Synodal Council as they take part in this Saturday's **Archdiocesan Synodal Council**. He has brought with him the technical wizardry which will ensure the Isle of Man has fully interactive engagement in the Council's proceedings.

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**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025:** Children attending St Mary's Catholic Primary School are being prepared for First Holy Communion as part of the school's RE curriculum. The school liaises with parents directly on arrangements. Parents and Guardians of **Year 4 children living in our parishes who attend other non-Catholic schools who wish to make their First Holy Communion in 2025 are required to register their names by e-mail with the parish office [saintmaryiom@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:saintmaryiom@rcaol.org.uk).** They will then receive an application form followed by an invitation to attend evening classes at St Anthony's, Onchan. Six sessions of preparation are required, taking place next Spring. Thank you to our parish catechists who lead the preparation course.

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The next session of our **Reflections on the Word** will be this coming **Wednesday 13 November at 7pm** in St Anthony's Pastoral Centre. Everyone is welcome.

**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](mailto: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. Fr John

- **St Anthony's Bingo** will take place on **Thursday 14 November** from **7.30pm**. Everyone welcome.
- The **Columba Catholic Club** will be holding a **Cheese and Wine evening** on **Saturday 16 November**. Tickets priced at £15.00 are available from Richard Coase (487057) or Brian Murphy (350070). The price includes a variety of wines and selection of cheeses and accompaniments. Doors open at 7.00pm. Net proceeds to the Columba Club.
- The **'Warm and Cosy Hub'** resumed on **Monday 28 October** and will run each week on Monday and Friday from 10am until 2pm throughout the winter months in the Columba Club, Circular Road, Douglas. Hot soup with bread and butter will be served - tea, coffee and biscuits with a warm welcome. Thanks to the Knights and volunteers.
- **CAFOD** as a member of the **Disasters Emergency Committee** has joined efforts to launch an emergency appeal to help families in Gaza and Lebanon. They ask for compassion, donations and prayers. Please see posters at back.
- **T and Chat** would like to say a big thank you to Sue Magee who joined them on 5 November for a floral arrangement demonstration enjoyed by all. Sue will be holding a wreath making workshop on Saturday 7 December at 10am at St Columba Church Hall, Port Erin. The cost is £18. For full details and booking please contact [suemagee@me.com](mailto:suemagee@me.com)
- **A Christmas Indoor Boot Fair** will take place on **Saturday 30 November** from **10am to 4pm** at the **Columba Club**. All proceeds will go to the Columba Club. The Manx Youth Band will be playing at 4pm to welcome the erection of the Crib in the garden. For more details, please see the poster at the back of church.
- **St Anthony's SVP Christmas party for adult parishioners** will be held on **Saturday 7 December** from **2 - 4pm** in St Anthony's Pastoral Centre. The **children's Christmas party** will take place on **Sunday 8 December** from **2 - 3.30pm** in the Pastoral Centre. Santa Claus will be making an appearance plus a magician for the children. Forms for registering for both parties will be at the back of church this weekend. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

### Masses and Services for the coming week

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

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November</b>                                |                     |                                 |                                                         |
| 32 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time                               | 5.00pm              | St Mary's                       | People of our Parishes                                  |
| <b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November</b><br><b>Remembrance Sunday</b>    | 9.30am              | St Anthony's                    | Denis Creedon, anniversary                              |
| 32 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time                               | 11.00am             | St Mary's                       | Shaun O'Hare, 3 <sup>rd</sup> anniversary               |
| <b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November</b><br>St Martin of Tours           | 12.10pm             | St Mary's                       | A & M & Terry McMullin<br>deceased                      |
| <b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November</b>                                | 10.00am             | St Anthony's                    | <i>Eucharistic Service</i>                              |
| St Josaphat                                                            | 12.10pm             | St Mary's                       | Holy Souls                                              |
| <b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November</b>                              | 12.10pm             | St Mary's                       | Teresa Lancaster intentions                             |
|                                                                        | 7.00pm              | St Anthony's Pastoral<br>Centre | <i>Reflections on the Word</i>                          |
| <b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November</b>                               | 10.00am             | St Anthony's                    | Holy Souls                                              |
|                                                                        | 12.10pm             | St Mary's                       | Adam, Aileen, Gabrielle & Clare<br>Burrows, anniversary |
| <b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November</b><br>St Albert the Great          | 9.30am<br>12.00noon | St Mary's School<br>St Mary's   | School Mass<br><b>Requiem Mass: Marie Leavey</b>        |
| <b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November</b>                               | 11.00am to 12noon   | St Mary's                       | Exposition and Confessions                              |
| 33 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time                               | 5.00pm              | St Mary's                       | Ann Fox, deceased                                       |
| <b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b><br><i>World Day of the Poor</i> | 9.30am              | St Anthony's                    | People of our Parishes                                  |
| 33 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time                               | 11.00am             | St Mary's                       | Derek Kenna, 1 <sup>st</sup> anniversary                |