**St. Mary’s & St. Columba’s Parish Newsletter**

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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**Website:** [www.manxcatholic.org](http://www.manxcatholic.org/)

**Parish Priest:** Father Joseph Kiganda, CSSp

Fr 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

**Racial Justice**

Today is Racial Justice Sunday. We are privileged on the Island to live in a very racially tolerant society. As a parish we are blessed by having Fr. Joseph as our priest. We have had the support of Fr. Dennis over the last month and previously Fr. Peter and Fr. Charles. We are also blessed by having parishioners from many different backgrounds.

But we need to recognise that we aren’t perfect and therefore we can improve. This year’s theme is Pilgrims of Hope: Our Journey Together Towards Racial Justice. This celebrates both the 30th anniversary of Racial Justice Sunday and aligns with the Jubilee theme, reflecting that we are all called to be pilgrims on a journey of hope. This theme reminds us that, as Catholics, we are called to journey together in faith, building a Church and society that better reflects the kingdom of God in the way it acts in justice and love towards all people of God.

Over the past 30 years, Racial Justice Sunday has offered an opportunity to confront the personal and social realities of racism, discrimination, and inequality. It allows us to acknowledge, reflect on and celebrate our achievements in moving towards racial justice whilst recognising the need for continued reconciliation, healing, and growth as a community.

Some questions you might like to ponder on:

1. Has your understanding of racial justice changed over time and, if so, how?
2. How does the theme “Pilgrims of Hope” resonate with your own experiences or aspirations for racial justice? In what ways can our faith guide us in promoting racial justice?
3. How does our parish ensure that all members feel included and participate in promoting the mission of the Church? Can you give examples?
4. What do you see as the main challenges to racial justice in our parish / community?
5. What role can the Catholic community play in supporting racial justice in the wider community?

 **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).

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| **Week commencing 16th February**  |
| Sunday 16th February **Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  | C/TP/E | 9 am11 am | People of the Parish Brian Gresty (RIP) |
| Monday 17th February**Weekday in Ordinary Time** |  |  | No Mass |
| Tuesday 18th February**Weekday in Ordinary Time** | P/E | 10 am | Frances and Cryan Families |
| Wednesday 19th February**Weekday in Ordinary Time** | C/T | 10 am |  |
| Thursday 20th February**Weekday in Ordinary Time** | P/E | 10 am | David Radcliffe (RIP)  |
| Friday 21st February**Memorial of St Peter Damian Bishop and doctor of the Church** |  P/E | 10 am | Private Intention  |
| Saturday 22nd February**The Chair of St Peter, Apostle**  | C/T | 10 am10.45 am | Intentions to Our Lady of Rushen Adoration and Confession |
| Sunday 23rd February **Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**   | C/TP/E | 9 am11 am | Nigel McFarlane (Sick) People of the Parish |

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Blessed the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, alleluia**

Rejoice and leap for joy, says the Lord,

for behold, your reward is great in heaven.

**Alleluia**

**Communion Antiphon**:

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them.

they were not disappointed in what they craved.

**Offering Collection**: Last week’s offertory collection was £217.31.

**Jubilee Year 2025**: During the year of the Jubilee the parish motto will be, “Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer” (Rom 12:12).

**Annual Mission Appeal**:This Sunday is the Annual Mission Appeal for The Spiritans.

**World Day of Prayer:** World Day of Prayer is on Friday, 7th March. A service will be held at Colby Methodist Church. There will be refreshments before the service at 10 am. The service will be held at 11 am. All are welcome at this service.

**Quiz Night and Hot Pot Supper:**  There will be a Quiz Night and Hot Pot Supper held on Friday, 14th March, at 7 pm at Promenade Methodist Church, Loch Promenade, Douglas. The suggested donation is £12 per person made on the night. The money raised will go to the Leprosy Mission. For more details please see Deacon Graeme.

**Barn Dance:** The social club will be holding a Barn Dance on Saturday, 13th September, from 7 pm to 9.30 pm at St Columba’s Hall. This will be a shared supper event, so we ask that you bring a plate of food to share and your own drinks. Brendan Mc Laughlin is very kindly supplying the music. There will be an optional fancy dress with prizes for the best fancy dress. We are limited to 50 places, so please book early to avoid disappointment, with any of the social club team. The tickets are priced at £2.50 for adults and £1 for children. Proceeds from this event will go towards the purchase of a projector for the parish.

**Jubilee Year:**  On Saturday, 26th April, as part of the parish activities commemorating the Jubilee year, a talk titled “PILGRIMS OF HOPE” will be held. This event is scheduled to take place at St. Columba’s Hall, commencing at 10 am. The agenda for the program is outlined as follows:

- 10.00 Morning Prayer

- 10.30 Talk 1

- 12.30 Lunch

- 1.30 Talk 2

- 3.30 Evening Prayer

- 4.00 Close

**Mass Intentions:** David Radcliffe, Nigel McFarlane,Brian Gresty, and the Frances and Cryan families.

**Parish Diary**

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| **2nd March****2 pm** | Parish luncheon at Falcon Nest Hotel. |
| **7th March****10 am** | World Day of Prayer service at Colby Methodist Church.  |
| **8th March** **10 am to 1 pm** | Island Spirituality Network at St Johns’s Mill. The theme is “The Spirituality of Taize” with Rev Chis Howson. |
| **17th March** **7 pm**  | Quiz and Hot Pot Supper for Leprosy Mission at Promenade Methodist Church Douglas.  |
| **26th April** **10 am**  | “Pilgrims of Hope” talk by Rev. Fr. Eamonn Mulcahy, CSSP, in St Columba’s Hall. |
| **11th May** **11 am** | Crowning of Our Lady during Mass at St Columba’s.  |
| **18th May** **11 am** | First Communion Mass. |
| **26th July** **Time to be announced** | Concert at St. Columba’s with Rushen Silver Band and Castleford Young Musicians.  |
| **13th September****7 pm to 9.30 pm** | Parish Barn Dance at St Columba’s Hall.  |
| **14th December****3 pm**  | Parish Nativity Service at St. Columba’s. |

If you have any thoughts on how we can celebrate the Jubilee Year as a parish, please talk to Deacon Alan or Graeme.

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.

**“Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer”**

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