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

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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**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

**Ordinary time but extra-ordinary encounters**

On Friday, we gathered in St. Columba’s Church to say farewell to David Radcliffe. I say ‘we’ but I don’t just mean members of our parish community. Rather the ‘we’ to which I refer was a widespread, all-encompassing, gathering of Christians (and I expect some people of other faiths or none) from the wider community in the South of the Island. The ‘we’ is those who knew David, whether as a farmer, our ‘postie’ or community member.

It was an occasion which contained sadness of course for the loss of a husband, father and well-known local, family man. However, it was also a joyous occasion, and one filled with moments of smiles and laughter.

It was also a moment of ‘communion,’ of standing in solidarity with David’s family and of sharing our Christian faith. Of being still in the presence of the Lord – and of singing! The fact that the funeral service in St. Columba’s was led by Rev Sean Turner our local Methodist minister and in which we participated fully as Catholics is testament to our shared beliefs. We are many parts but one faith. We may have differences, but we are all children of the one God.

Friday provided a perfect example of Christianity at work, of ecumenism and of our shared journeys through this life toward the next. Of celebration of faith, of life and of light – the light that shines in each and every one of our hearts. We carry that light as Christians, through Baptism. We see in the symbol of the Pascal Candle outshining the darkness as a reflection of the light of Life – that light given to us by God, through Jesus, in the Spirit.

Let the light of faith shine from each and every one of your hearts and in your lives!

 **Deacon Alan**

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 9th February**  |
| Sunday 9th February **Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  | C/TP/E | 9 am11 am | Isobel Llewellyn (3rd Ann)Vera Holden (25th Ann) |
| Monday 10th February**Weekday in Ordinary Time** |  |  | No Mass |
| Tuesday 11th February**Weekday in Ordinary Time** | P/E | 10 am | Elaine Morley (RIP) |
| Wednesday 12th February**Weekday in Ordinary Time** | C/T | 10 am |  |
| Thursday 13th February**Weekday in Ordinary Time** | P/E | 10 am | Joan Hook (RIP) |
| Friday 14th February**Memorial of St Cyril, Monk and Bishop.** |  P/E | 10 am |  |
| Saturday 15th February**Weekday in Ordinary Time**  | C/T | 10 am10.45 am | Intentions to Our Lady of Rushen Adoration and Confession |
| Sunday 16th February **Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**   | C/TP/E | 9 am11 am |  People of the Parish  Brian Gresty (RIP) |

**Responsorial Psalm:**

In the presence of the angels, I praise you, O Lord

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, alleluia**

Follow me, says the Lord,

and I will make you fishers of men.

**Alleluia**

**Communion Antiphon**:

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men

for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

**Offering Collection**: Last week’s offertory collection was £240.62.

**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.** Next Sunday is the Annual Mission Appeal for The Spiritans.

**Jubilee Year:** On Saturday, 26th April, as part of the parish activities commemorating the Jubilee year, a talk titled “PILGRIMS OF HOPE” will be given by Rev. Fr. Eamonn Mulcahy, CSSP, an esteemed theologian and lecturer. This event will 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

**Parish Luncheon:** A parish luncheon will be held on Sunday, 2nd March, at 2 pm at the Falcons Nest Hotel, Port Erin. The cost is £23 for two courses and includes a donation towards Fr. Joseph’s and Fr. Dennis’s meals and tip. Tables must be handed back at 3.50 pm ready for the next sitting at 4 pm, but we are more than welcome to move to the bar area. To secure your place please speak to a Social Club Member. To ensure we can confirm the exact numbers with the Falcon, it is necessary for the tickets to be paid for by 16 February. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Mass Intentions**: Elaine Morley, Vera Holden, Joan Hook, Brian Gresty, and Isobel Llewellyn.

**Parish Diary**

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| **16th February** | Annual Mission Appeal for The Spiritans. |
| **2nd March****2 pm** | Parish luncheon at Falcon Nest Hotel. |
| **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. |
| **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.  |
| **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.