

# NEWSLETTER

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

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

**22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time** (Year A for Sundays) (Cycle II for weekdays)

**30<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

Dear Parishioners

This week Joe Biden quoted Irish poet Seamus Heaney in his acceptance speech at the virtual Democratic Convention in the United States. He referred to the time when **'hope and history rhyme'**. These words are taken from *'The Cure at Troy'*, a translation and contemporary adaptation of the play *'Philoctetes'* written in 409 BC by the ancient Greek playwright Sophocles. It is one of three plays telling the story of the Trojan Wars. Seamus Heaney brings alive this moving story of how, in spite of innocent suffering, the miracle of new life can emerge 'on the far side of revenge':

*Human beings suffer, they torture one another, they get hurt and get hard.  
No poem or play or song can fully right a wrong inflicted or endured.*

*The innocent in gaols beat on their bars together.  
A hunger-striker's father stands in the graveyard dumb.  
The police widow in veils faints at the funeral home.*

**History says, Don't hope on this side of the grave.  
But then, once in a lifetime the longed for tidal wave  
of justice can rise up, and hope and history rhyme.**

*So hope for a great sea-change on the far side of revenge.  
Believe that a further shore is reachable from here.  
Believe in miracles and cures and healing wells.*

*Call the miracle self-healing: The utter self-revealing double-take of feeling.  
If there's fire on the mountain or lightning and storm and a god speaks from the sky*

*That means someone is hearing the outcry and the birth-cry of new life at its term.*

(From *'The Cure at Troy'* by Seamus Heaney)

## **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August was the feast of St Augustine.**

Enrolled as a catechumen in his youth, he was only baptised after some years of searching. Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August was the feast day of his mother, St Monica.

He attributed his re-discovery of the faith to her prayers. The following is taken from his book *'Confessions'*:

*Late have I loved you, Beauty so ancient and so new, late have I loved you!  
Lo, you were within, but I outside, seeking there for you,  
and upon the shapely things you have made I rushed headlong – I, misshapen.  
You were with me, but I was not with you.  
They held me back far from you, those things which would have no being, were they not in you.  
You called, shouted, broke through my deafness;  
you flared, blazed, banished my blindness;  
you lavished your fragrance, I gasped; and now I pant for you;  
I tasted you, and now I hunger and thirst;  
you touched me, and I burned for your peace.*

- **A WARNING!!!**

A **Reverend James Yates** from the Willaston area has been masquerading as an ordained Catholic priest. He has been asking people for money. This man has never been ordained and has no official status within the Roman Catholic Church.

We remember **Frank Smythe** who died this week and we pray for his grieving family and friends.

### Live Streamed Masses and Services for the coming week

<b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August</b> 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time	5.00pm St Mary's <i>Public Mass</i>	Roy Nixon, 1 <sup>st</sup> anniversary
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August</b> 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.30am St Anthony's <i>Public Mass (not online)</i> 11.00am St Mary's <i>Public Mass</i>	People of our Parishes  George & Mary Murphy, anniversary
<b>Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August</b> St Aidan & the Saints of Lindisfarne		<b>No live stream or public Mass today</b>
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September</b> Ss Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward <i>Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation</i>	10.00am St Anthony's <i>Public Mass (not online)</i> 12.10 noon St Mary's <i>Public Mass</i>	Fr Brian Dougherty  Angela Dean & Wendy Reed, deceased
<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	12.10 noon <i>Public Mass</i>	Eileen & John Jawczak, anniversary
<b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September</b> St Gregory the Great	12.10 noon <i>Public Mass</i>	Annemarie McAlister, recently died
<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September</b> <i>First Friday</i> St Cuthbert	12.10 noon <i>Public Mass</i>	Kenneth Saez, sick
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time	5.00pm St Mary's <i>Public Mass</i>	People of our Parishes
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.30am St Anthony's <i>Public Mass (not online)</i> 11.00am St Mary's <i>Public Mass</i>	Rita Williams, deceased  Mary Jennings

The cap on numbers at Masses continues – 100 at both St Mary's and St Anthony's. Retaining the 5.00pm Mass at St Mary's for the moment, rather than re-locating back to St Anthony's, allows us to maintain the advantage of our live streaming facility – a service greatly appreciated by so many parishioners from all our Island parishes. If live streaming were to be lost on a Saturday evening it would leave many without this option.

When attending public Mass at both St Mary's and St Anthony's please be aware of the following:

- The Sunday obligation is still suspended.
- Please adhere to social distancing guidelines. Any children accompanying you must do the same.
- There will be no hymn books, Mass books or newsletters.
- Please sanitise your hands when you enter and leave the church. Holy water fonts are not in use.
- You will be guided to a bench by a volunteer steward. It may not be where you usually sit.
- Toilets will remain closed at all times except for a genuine emergency.
- Only the priest will be on the sanctuary – without deacons, servers, readers etc.
- There will be no children's liturgy or choir and no live singing.
- There will be no Sign of Peace.
- Holy Communion will be distributed **after the final dismissal of the Mass.**
- The words "The Body of Christ" and the reply "Amen" will only be said once at the beginning of distribution. These words will not be repeated for each person receiving Holy Communion.
- The priest will wear a visor during Holy Communion.
- The volunteer stewards will direct you to approach the altar to receive Holy Communion.
- People receiving Communion are instructed to approach the altar with their arms outstretched so as to maintain a reasonable distance from the minister.
- You may only receive the Sacred Host in your hand and not on your tongue. Communicants must avoid skin to skin contact with the minister's hands.
- Please then step to one side, place the Sacred Host in your mouth and follow directions to leave the church immediately.
- Please do not gather at the back of church to chat.
- Baskets will be available at the entrance (and exit) for your weekly Offertory collection.
- The doors will be closed immediately after Mass to allow the stewards to sanitise all surfaces.

The opening of our churches is only possible with the support of our volunteer stewards. We are really grateful to all our volunteers who help to make our churches safe places.