

NEWSLETTER

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

Tel 01624 675509 Email saintmaryiom@rcaolp.co.uk Website www.manxcatholic.org

24th Sunday of Ordinary Time **12th September 2021**

Our Lady of Rushen **Education Day**

(Year B for Sundays) (Cycle 1 for weekdays)

Dear Parishioners,

Our new auxiliary Bishop Tom Neylon is visiting the Island from 22nd to 29th September. We have arranged his diary so that as many as possible of the Island's Catholics get a chance to meet him. Obviously, we can't have him to ourselves in our parishes of St Mary & St Joseph; and St Anthony. If you would like to meet Bishop Tom, a number of events have been planned in our two parishes.

- Over the last 18 months, a significant number of parishioners have reached the milestone age of 80, many during lockdown. Other than a brief 'shout out' at our live streamed Masses we haven't had a chance to celebrate their birthdays. Many have been excluded from active participation in parish life through Covid restrictions. **Every parishioner over the age of 80 is invited to Afternoon Tea in St Anthony's Pastoral Centre at 2.30pm on Thursday 23rd September.** Spouses (even if they are less than 80 years old) are also invited. **Bishop Tom will be attending.** It will be an opportunity for our senior parishioners to meet him at what we hope will be a memorable occasion. ***If you would like to attend, please let us know for catering purposes, preferably by email.*** Eucharistic Ministers are asked to spread the word to those over 80 to whom they take Holy Communion.
- Bishop Tom has been invited to attend the **official opening of the refurbished and extended St Mary's Primary School** at 2.00pm on Friday 24th September. The Minister for Education, Culture and Sport, Dr Alex Allinson, will also be present. This event will give children and school staff a chance to meet the new bishop. That same evening Bishop Tom will be celebrating a special Mass at 7.00pm in **St Columba's, Port Erin.**
- On **Saturday 25th September** Bishop Tom will celebrate the **5.00 pm Mass at St Mary's** when he will dedicate a plaque commemorating **Fr Leslie Daley and the people of St Joseph's, Willaston.** Those attending this Mass are invited to stay on afterwards to meet Bishop Tom and share drinks and nibbles.
- On **Sunday 26th September** Bishop Tom will be celebrating the **9.30am Sunday Mass at St Anthony's.** The Bishop hopes to meet as many parishioners as possible before that Mass as he will then be travelling directly to **Ramsey** to celebrate the **11.00am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea.**
- On **Tuesday 28th September at 7.00pm** Bishop Tom will lead the first day of our Novena to **Mary Untier of Knots** at St Mary's. The full programme of novena dates will be published when they have been arranged.

Bishop Tom also hopes to have a few days break before returning to a busy schedule in the rest of the Archdiocese.

Each of us, when we were baptised, was anointed on the crown of the head with Sacred Chrism with these words: 'As Christ was anointed **Priest, Prophet and King**, so may you live always as a member of his body, sharing everlasting life.' These three words sum up the Christian life in its entirety.

* We are all called to be **priests** in that we are all called to **pray and to worship God in the liturgy.**

* We are called to be **prophets - to live and proclaim the truth of God's word** in today's world.

* We are called to be **kings**, following the example of Christ, the Servant King, **in serving the needs of the community - especially the poor, the sick and the stranger.**

Shortly after Archbishop Derek Worlock was appointed to Liverpool in 1976, he launched the 'Twelve Apostles' scheme. Each priest was asked to choose twelve parishioners to meet with him to reflect on living out the faith in their daily lives. Originally, they met in Lent but, in many parishes, these groups continued to meet for years after. In every parish where I have previously served there has been a Parish Council. I have set up many such bodies over the years. I would like to set up one at St Mary & St Joseph's and St Anthony's. I believe there was one such body at St Mary's in years past. I now propose inviting twelve parishioners actively involved in these three areas of parish activity (**Priest, Prophet and King**) to form a **Steering Group**. I will lead this group. Its purpose will be to work towards establishing a formal **Parish Council** sometime in the future and to provide an interim sounding board for issues relating to the general running of the parishes.

It is important that such a body does not become a talking shop and a crucible for gossip. (That would lead me to early retirement, if not an early grave!) Members will be drawn from parishioners who are the 'boots on the ground', the often-hidden parishioners who quietly undertake the routine, practical and unglamorous tasks that keep the parishes going.

The three words of **Priest, Prophet and King** provide a useful template for all parish activity. I propose using these headings to ensure that all aspects of parish life are represented on the steering group and the future parish council.

Liturgical life: eg, Servers, Stewards, Sacristy, Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, Choir, Church Cleaners, Flowers etc

Evangelisation & Catechesis: eg, Children's Liturgy, Sacramental Preparation, RCIA, Youth, School, Scripture Study, the Environment, Ecumenism etc.

Service, Administration & Social: eg, Parish Office, Finance, Fabric & Maintenance, Rotas, Offertory Collections, CAFOD etc, Safeguarding, SVP, KSC, Memory Support Group, Justice & Peace, Social Activities, Website etc.

This weekend **CAFOD envelopes** are being made available at the back of church to receive your donations towards alleviating the suffering of the people of Afghanistan and Haiti. Details of CAFOD's work can be found on their website:

<https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/Afghanistan-crisis-appeal>

<https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/Haiti-earthquake-appeal>

• **Fr Dave Heywood of the Archdiocese Environmental Task Group UN Climate Change Conference (COP26)**

The UK will host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow from 31 October to 12 November 2021. 'COP' means 'conference of parties'. Leaders from 197 countries, including Pope Francis, who have signed up to the UN's climate change treaty, will travel to Glasgow to take part in the conference. This will be the largest gathering of world leaders ever to take place on British soil.

The focus of the conference will be how to keep temperature rises below 1.5C. If the world warms more than this threshold, millions more people in the most vulnerable communities around the globe will suffer from devastating droughts, storms, floods and other impacts of climate change. Governments will be obliged to set out more ambitious goals for ending their contribution to climate change under the Paris Agreement (2015).

CAFOD invite us to sign a petition urging the Prime Minister to make sure the communities hardest hit by the climate Emergency are listened to at COP26. You can sign the petition online here:

<https://e-activist.com/page/73304/petition/1>

- **Quiz Night:** There will be a Quiz night and Raffle at the Columba Club at 8pm on Saturday 25th September in support of St Marcellin's, a Catholic orphanage in Zimbabwe. Teams of 6. Tickets at £6, including supper, from Brian Murphy, Tel 350070.

Masses for the coming week

All Masses from St Mary's are live-streamed

Saturday 11th September 24 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	5.00pm	St Mary's	Katrina Domingo & Mary Daniels, anniv
Sunday 12th September 24 th Sunday of Ordinary Time <i>Education Day</i>	9.30am 11.00am	St Anthony's St Mary's	People of our Parishes Mary and Gerard Mullin, recently died
Monday 13th September St John Chrysostom	12.10 noon	St Mary's	Glenys Casey, recently died
Tuesday 14th September Exhaltation of the Holy Cross	No Mass today		
Wednesday 15th September Our Lady of Sorrows	12.10 noon	St Mary's	David Dimayuga, sick
Thursday 16th September Saints Cornelius and Cyprian	10.00am 12.10 noon	St Anthony's St Mary's	Requiem Mass: Norah Margaret Cullinane Armand Burinskas, anniversary
Friday 17th September St Robert Bellarmine	12.10 noon	St Mary's	Brian Kerwin, 80 th birthday intention
Saturday 18th September 25 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	11.00am 5.00pm	St Mary's St Mary's	Confessions and Exposition People of our Parishes
Sunday 19th September 25 th Sunday of Ordinary Time <i>Home Mission Day</i>	9.30am 11.00am	St Anthony's St Mary's	Robert Lees, sick John Prior, birthday anniversary

- We remember in our prayers **Kevin Corkhill** and **Patrick Loughman** who died this week and we think of their families and friends who mourn their loss.