

# 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](mailto:saintmaryiom@rcaolp.co.uk) Website [www.manxcatholic.org](http://www.manxcatholic.org)

26<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021

## Day of Special Prayer in Thanksgiving for Harvest and Fruits of Human Work World Day for Migrants and Refugees (Year B for Sundays) (Cycle 1 for weekdays)

Dear Parishioners,

Bishop Tom Neylon, our newly ordained Auxiliary Bishop, is currently visiting the Island. On Thursday afternoon he enjoyed meeting senior parishioners at a special Afternoon Tea for the over eighties at St Anthony's Pastoral Centre. He described how he only ever knew one of his grandparents and she lived a long way away in Ireland. Quoting Pope Francis he said that grandparents now live longer and healthier lives and play an important role in bringing up their grandchildren. It was a really enjoyable afternoon. Canon Brendan and Fr Brian were also present.

During his visit Bishop Tom has attended the formal re-opening of St Mary's Primary School after a major remodel. The following is an official **press release** from the Manx Government and the Archdiocese:

- An Isle of Man primary school has been officially reopened after a £4.5m project to transform its aging and cramped facilities into an environment fit for 21st century learning. The work at St Mary's school in Douglas has seen five new classrooms built with modern breakout areas, the main hall extended and access improved across the split-level site. Other improvements to the 60-year-old school building included a new roof covering, windows and disabled toilet blocks. **Headteacher Donna Martin**, said: *"Children are at the heart of everything we do at St Mary's and it is fantastic that they can now be taught in such a high quality and inclusive learning environment – fit for the 21st century. The improvements enable staff and pupils to work in a more creative and collaborative way and we are proud to be able to use them daily for the benefit of all our pupils and staff."* Before the work was completed the multi-level school was difficult to navigate and some classes were taught in an outdated mobile classroom. A Department of Education, Sport and Culture (DESC) spokesperson said: *"The major investment has transformed once inadequate facilities into a bright and modern learning environment. It also means the school can accommodate more children in future years – increasing the learning opportunities on offer."* **The school on Somerset Road, is under the trusteeship of the Archdiocese of Liverpool but is maintained by the DESC.** **Bishop Tom Neylon**, who attended the opening, said: *"It was a pleasure to be at the reopening of St Mary's school. The redevelopment will provide an incredible amount of benefits for both pupils and staff to develop in their studies and faith. The increase in capacity at the school is a positive step forward for education on the Isle of Man, and particularly Catholic education."* Currently 229 children are attending the Roman Catholic school although the works mean it can comfortably accommodate up to 350 going forwards.

On Friday evening Bishop Tom visited the South of the Island to celebrate 7.00pm Mass at St Columba's followed by supper with parishioners from **Castletown and Port Erin**. On Saturday evening Bishop Tom is due to celebrate the **5.00pm Mass at St Mary's** to dedicate a plaque in memory of Fr Leslie Daley and the parishioners of **St Joseph's Willaston**. This event is to be followed by drinks and nibbles when Bishop Tom hopes to chat with those present. On Sunday morning he will celebrate the **9.30am Mass at St Anthony's, Onchan** before travelling to **Our Lady of Star of the Sea, Ramsey**. On **Tuesday at 7.00pm at St Mary's** he will lead the first day of our **Novena to Mary Untier of Knots**. Bishop Tom has had additional official appointments during his stay on the Island and is hoping to snatch some free time for himself before returning to a hectic diary in his new role as Auxiliary Bishop of Liverpool.

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Message from **CAFOD Liverpool**:

**CAFOD's Family Fast Day is on Friday 1 October**. This Harvest the focus is on the climate crisis which is affecting us all. Last week Archbishop Malcolm met school children at the Cathedral to send out a message to the World Leaders ahead of COP26. The short video clips can be seen here:

<https://twitter.com/CAFODLiverpool/status/1437872431155318787?s=20>

<https://twitter.com/CAFODLiverpool/status/1437832071494393863?s=20>

CAFOD is helping people all over the world to adapt to climate change and protect our common home. This Family Fast Day, if you can, please donate using a CAFOD climate crisis appeal envelope or online at [cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis](http://cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis) to help communities affected by the worst impacts of the climate crisis. You can also add your voice to our online [petition](#) calling for the British Prime Minister to show leadership in tackling the climate crisis at [cafod.org.uk/Campaign](http://cafod.org.uk/Campaign).

We are so grateful that the Catholic community on the Island has supported CAFOD's work throughout the difficult circumstances of the pandemic. Thank you too for your generosity for our emergency appeals to support our sisters and brothers in crisis in Afghanistan and Haiti. You can read more about CAFOD's response at [cafod.org.uk/emergencies](https://cafod.org.uk/emergencies).

**Fr Dave Heywood of the Archdiocese Environmental Task Group** shares his thoughts on **CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day**:

As we enter the last week of the **Season of Creation**, we are invited to give thanks to God for the gift of creation and the fruits of the earth which sustain us. In the UK, for the last sixty years, the Catholic Church has marked harvest time by observing CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day on the first Friday in October. So, this coming Friday, 1 October, we are invited to give thanks by going without a meal or some form of amusement and giving what we save in this way to CAFOD. CAFOD uses our offerings to help those across the world who don't have access to the fruits of the earth because of extreme poverty, food shortages, conflicts and natural disasters.

You can find out more about this Friday's Fast Day here: <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Family-Fast-Day>

#### Prayer for CAFOD'S Harvest Fast Day

*Walk beside us, Lord, in the cool of the day, in the garden you have created as our common home.*

*Walk beside us, Lord, as the cries of the forest pierce the dawn, and flames rip through our common home.*

*Grant us courage, Lord, as we walk beside all those who struggle to protect our common home.*

*Grant us hope, Lord, and the vision to walk dark paths in the light of a single sunbeam.*

*Grant us grace, Lord, to put the flourishing of all people and the wonder of your creation at the heart of all we do, as we strive to be guardians of our common home.*

*St Francis, pray for us.*

#### Masses for the coming week

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

<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September</b> 26 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time	5.00pm	St Mary's	People of our Parishes
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September</b> 26 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time <i>Thanksgiving for Harvest</i> World Day for Migrants and Refugees	9.30am 11.00am	St Anthony's St Mary's	Rosa Leonetti, birthday anniversary James Stack, anniversary
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September</b> St Vincent de Paul	No Mass today		
<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September</b> St Wenceslaus	12.10 noon <b>7.00pm</b>	St Mary's <b>St Mary's</b>	James Palmer, recently died <b>Novena to Mary Untier of Knots – Day 1</b> led by Bishop Tom
<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September</b> Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels	<i>10.45am</i> 12.10 noon	<i>Crematorium</i> St Mary's	<i>Funeral Service: Patrick Loughman</i> Concordia C. Vargas, 1 <sup>st</sup> anniversary
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September</b> St Jerome	12.10 noon	St Mary's	Maurice Hayes, sick
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October</b> St Teresa of the Child Jesus	<b>10.00am</b> 12.10 noon	<b>St Anthony's</b> St Mary's	<b>Requiem Mass: Breda Watters</b> Denis Dougan, 1 <sup>st</sup> anniversary
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b> 27 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time	11.00am 5.00pm	St Mary's St Mary's	Confessions and Exposition Rose and William Keenan, deceased
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October</b> 27 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time <i>Rosary Sunday</i>	9.30am 11.00am	St Anthony's St Mary's	Milton Clough, recently died People of our Parishes

Please keep in your prayers the family and friends of our parishioners **Robert Lees** and **Breda Watters** who died last week.

- The **Memory Support Group** will meet on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October** from **10.30am - 12 noon** in St Anthony's Pastoral Centre. All those with memory problems, their families, friends or carers will be warmly welcomed. Peter Kelly will be giving a talk at this session on the history of Onchan and St Anthony's. Refreshments will be served. Please contact Josie on 406063 or Amanda on 642879 for more details.
- Lourdes 2022 Liverpool Archdiocese Youth Pilgrimage Thursday 21 July to Saturday 30 July 2022:** Animate Youth, the Youth Service of the Archdiocese of Liverpool, is planning the Lourdes pilgrimage next summer as close to normal as possible. The cost is £540 with a deposit of £40 payable within 7 days of completing an online application. Refunds will be offered if the event is cancelled. There will be no paper applications this year. Young people, aged 15 (or in school Year 10) up to 22 years old, are asked to apply online from 4 October 2021 via [www.liverpoolourdesyouth.co.uk](http://www.liverpoolourdesyouth.co.uk). Young adults, aged 18 by 21 July 2022, can also apply to join the **St Bernadette Team** which offers service and care to assisted pilgrims. Cost of this Group is £600 with £50 deposit.