

NEWSLETTER

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

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Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ 19th June 2022

and

13th Sunday of Ordinary Time 26th June 2022

(Year C for Sundays) (Cycle 2 for weekdays)

Dear Parishioners

This weekend we celebrate the feast of **Corpus Christi** – ‘**The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ**’.

Pope Francis reminds us that the Eucharist is, by its nature, the sacrament that unites the entire Church. Today we give thanks for the gift we receive in the Blessed Sacrament.

Pope Francis explains the ‘logic of smallness and giving’ in this Sunday’s Gospel on the multiplication of the loaves and fish with which Jesus feeds around five thousand people.

The Pope observes that Jesus did not create loaves and fish out of nothing but relied on what the disciples brought him from the child who gave them what he had, just five barley loaves and two fish.

Pope Francis remarks how the young child gave all that he had and how it seemed so little with respect to the needs of the moment. But thanks to that small, freely given and even heroic gift, “Jesus is able to feed everyone”. We learn here that “the Lord can do a lot with the little that we put at His disposal and we should ask ourselves every day ‘What do I bring to Jesus today?’” Jesus can do a lot with our prayers, gestures of kindness and offering up our suffering, he noted, working miracles with them. “This is how God loves to act: He does great things, starting from those small things, those freely-given ones.”

All the Prophets and Mary show the “logic of smallness and giving”, the Pope said, which is different from how we reason, where the temptation is to accumulate and increase what we have for ourselves, rather than give away even what little we have. “We like to add, we like addition; Jesus likes subtraction, taking something away to give it to others”, the Pope observes. But it is giving and sharing “that increases love and allows God to perform wonders”, he said, encouraging everyone to try to share more, as Jesus teaches.

Pope Francis calls to mind the tragedy of what happens when sharing does not happen - child hunger causes the death of around seven thousand children under the age of five every day due to malnutrition. He said faced with scandals such as these, the Lord calls on us to “Be brave, give what little you have, your talents, your possessions, make them available to Jesus and to your brothers and sisters..... if you share, God will multiply.”

- Welcome to **Monsignor Stephen Alker** who will be standing in for me during my absence over the next two weeks. A priest of the Archdiocese, Monsignor Stephen was brought up on the Island and helped us out last year. He spent many years as a chaplain with the British Army. I know you will make him welcome.
- We wish all our Dads a happy Father’s Day. We pray for all fathers and those who take on the role of father. We remember and give thanks to our fathers who have died.

Archbishop Malcolm has appointed Sister Lynne Baron fCJ as his delegate for Catholic social action. Sr Lynne will be a key member of the new Archbishop’s Advisory Body which will ensure that the voice of a woman is heard as the Archbishop makes important decisions. A key call from Synod 2020 was to renew our Church by being welcoming and inclusive. Consequently the Pastoral Plan for the Archdiocese called for a new role to ‘place at the forefront of church life inclusivity, justice and peace, the poor, marginalised and the environment.....’

Archbishop Malcolm said ‘I truly believe that Sr Lynne is the best person to help develop this important area of our life as a Church and to guide us as we implement the direction set by the Synod. The Synod clearly called us to reach out to those who feel on the edges of both church and society. It is clear to me that only if we look outward will we renew ourselves.’

Sr Lynne commented on her new role ‘I am delighted to be able to take up this appointment as Archbishop’s Delegate and to contribute to the mission of the archdiocese in this new way as the Church seeks to include the voice of women in its decision-making bodies. My area of responsibility, Catholic social action, is far reaching in these challenging times, but the archdiocese and its people have a strong history of social action, welcome and inclusion. I am excited to further enable this work to flourish, to ensure it is rooted in Catholic social teaching and that it remains a significant aspect of the archdiocesan agenda.’

- **Island Spirituality Network** will meet this **Saturday 18 June** from 10am to 4pm at Ballagarey Methodist Church, St Mark's. The theme will be 'Through turmoil to transformation' which will be led by Margaret Silf, the ISN Patron, who is a well-known writer and retreat giver.
- **Knights of St Columba Lourdes Walk** will take place on **Sunday 26 June** at the Arboretum St Johns at 2pm. Sponsor Forms available from Ivan Park, telephone 674364.
- The **Rosary** will be said in St Anthony's Pastoral Centre at 3pm on **Saturday 25 June**, followed by tea and cake. This will end in good time to allow people to go to 5pm Mass in St Mary's.
- **Offertory Collections:** St Anthony's: £365; St Mary & St Joseph: £650. Thank you.

Masses and Services for the next two weeks

All Masses and Services from St Mary's are live-streamed

Saturday 18th June Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)	5.00pm	St Mary's	People of our Parishes
Sunday 19th June Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)	9.30am 11.00am	St Anthony's St Mary's	Mark Mander, 8 th anniversary John Smith, 2 nd anniversary
Monday 20th June	<i>No Mass or Service today</i>		
Tuesday 21st June St Aloysius Gonzaga	10.00am 12.10 noon	St Anthony's St Mary's	<i>Eucharistic Service</i> Andy Lindsey, deceased
Wednesday 22nd June St John Fisher and St Thomas More	12.10 noon	St Mary's	Brian O'Doherty, sick
Thursday 23rd June The Birth of St John the Baptist	10.00am 12.10 noon	St Anthony's St Mary's	Peter Lees, recently died Gordon Savage, 5 th anniversary
Friday 24th June The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	12.10 noon	St Mary's	Special Intention
Saturday 25th June 13th Sunday of Ordinary Time	11.00am 5.00pm	St Mary's St Mary's	Confessions and Exposition Ma. Catherine Tayag
Sunday 26th June 13th Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.30am 11.00am	St Anthony's St Mary's	People of our Parishes Mary & Patrick Reaney, anniversary
Monday 27th June	<i>No Mass or Service today</i>		
Tuesday 28th June St Irenaeus	10.00am 12.10 noon	St Anthony's St Mary's	<i>Eucharistic Service</i> Richard Wylde, recently died
Wednesday 29th June Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul Holyday	12.10 noon 7.00pm	St Mary's St Anthony's	Peter Howe, recently died Veronica Stackhouse, deceased
Thursday 30th June First Martyrs of the See of Rome	12.10 noon	St Mary's	Kevin Manning, recently died
Friday 1st July St Oliver Plunket	12.10 noon	St Mary's	William Mullin, deceased
Saturday 2nd July 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time	11.00am 5.00pm	St Mary's St Mary's	Confessions and Exposition Alf and Betty Bowden, deceased
Sunday 3rd July 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.30am 11.00am	St Anthony's St Mary's	The Morocz & Matc Families People of our Parishes

Digital Collection Plate

We are taking part in a Liverpool Archdiocesan scheme to pilot **credit card donations** - an alternative way of giving using your debit or credit card in place of cash for those who wish.

- Mounted on a stand at the back of church the 'Digital Collection Plate' device is amazingly simple to use.
- Debit or Credit card payments can be either contactless or chip and PIN.
- Tap the screen to indicate the amount you wish to give, then tap your card as you would in any retail outlet.
- Donations are paid directly into Saint Mary's bank account.
- Cash payments continue for those who prefer.
- Options for contributing via standing order and online continue.
- These options reduce the need for volunteers to count and bank cash collections each week.

Thanks to those who have already chosen to give this way. Their feedback confirms 'it's so easy to use'.