

NEWSLETTER

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

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

4th Sunday of Easter, 30th April 2023

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

(Page 262 in Mass Book)

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

Dear Parishioners

The Coronation of King Charles III takes place next Saturday 6th May 2023. The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have issued a commemorative leaflet with prayers for the King. These are available at the back of church. Please take one.

The Church of England has published a set of daily prayers for the twenty-eight days leading up to the Coronation.

The theme for Saturday 29th April is **Peace**: *'Jesus said to his disciples 'Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you' (John 14:27)*. Peace is the word most often used to translate the Hebrew word *shalom*, which appears 250 times in the Old Testament. Surely a word used so often conveys so much more than what might be called 'an absence of war'. The Hebrew *shalom* communicates at its heart a sense of total harmony. Even inanimate objects could be in *shalom*. For example, when King Solomon finished all the work of the Temple, it was in *shalom* (1 Kings 7:51). Later the prophet Zechariah declared 'Your king will make *shalom* among the nations (Zechariah 9:16).

In these days of prayer, let us pray that our nation under the King may hold fast to the promise of peace: **God our Saviour, look on this wounded world in pity and in power; hold it fast to your promises of peace won for us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

The theme for Sunday 30th April is **Patience**: *'I waited patiently for the Lord; be inclined to me and hear my cry (Psalm 40:1)*. We have all been reminded to be patient many times throughout our lives. Living in patience and peace with one another is not always easy and it is a discipline that, appropriately, takes much patience to cultivate. Nevertheless, patience is among the Fruits of the Spirit listed by St Paul and something we should aim to embrace whenever we can; looking to God who remains ever patient with us all. All Christian people are also called to be patient and persistent in prayer.

Let us ask God for this gift today: **Lord of heaven and earth, as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer, give us patience and courage never to lose hope, but always to bring our prayers before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Assisted Dying

Last week we made available the churches' collective response to the results of the recent consultation on the proposed Assisted Dying Legislation. Churches Alive in Mann (CAIM), which represents all the main Christian denominations on the Island, are united in their opposition to this Bill.

Manx Duty of Care are arranging two public meetings with Dr Claud Regnard, a highly regarded palliative care consultant, entitled 'Assisted Dying: The Facts, The Evidence. These will take place at

- 7pm on Tuesday 16 May at the Keyll Darree Post Graduate Centre, Nobles Hospital
- 7pm on Wednesday 17 May at the Mountain View Innovation Centre, Ramsey.

Born in London of French parents, **Claud Regnard, BMSc, MBChB, FRCP** studied medicine in Scotland. His first choice of surgery was based solely on his ability to rebuild the engine and gearbox on a Morris 1100 and was not his best decision. Whilst training in general practice he came across a hospice in Dundee but was strongly advised in 1979 that there was little to learn from such places. Consequently, over four decades in palliative care medicine came as something of a surprise, let alone becoming the medical director of a hospice.

Now clinically retired he is an honorary consultant at St. Oswald's Hospice, Newcastle-upon-Tyne and maintains his interests in assessing distress in individuals with communication difficulties (www.disdat.org.uk), helping others to understand the Mental Capacity Act and accessible learning such as CLiP (Current Learning in Palliative Care on www.clip.org.uk).

In addition, he tries to stay sane by playing the Northumbrian small pipes and the bodhran drum with both a folk orchestra and a large ukulele group.

(Dr Claud is an agnostic, so these events could be easy for parishioners to invite non-Christian friends and family.)

- The **Memory Support Group** will next meet on **Tuesday 2 May** at 10.30am - 12noon in St Anthony's Pastoral Centre. The leaders are delighted that Dr Chris Jagus will be attending for a fun 'Name that Tune' music quiz. Everyone warmly welcomed. Refreshments will be served. Please contact Josie on 406063.
- **Confirmation:** Archbishop Malcolm is making official visits to all our Island parishes this year. In March he visited Ramsey and Peel. On the weekend of 20/21 May he will be with our St Mary & St Joseph and St Anthony's parishes. During the weekend of 30 September, he will visit the South of the Island. The Archbishop has agreed to take the opportunity that weekend to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for young people from across the Island in St Mary's Church, Douglas. This will allow time for the necessary preparation classes. **Young people currently in Year 7 (who will be in Year 8 in September 2023) are eligible to receive the Sacrament. Older children under 18, who have missed out on Confirmation in previous years will also be included. The preparation will consist of sessions in Ballakermeen High School at the end of the school day. Please email the parish office at saintmaryiom@rcaol.org.uk if you wish to enrol your child.** Many thanks to high school teachers Peter Wiles and Gerard Murphy who have once again generously agreed to lead the course. Details of the preparation courses will be sent in due course to those who have enrolled.
- **Lourdes Youth Group:** Massive 'Thank You' to everyone who attended the Bingo on Sunday in support of the young people from our Island parishes travelling to Lourdes. Thanks also to all those who gave donations, raffle prizes and helped in any way. A fantastic £1,751.50 was raised - a wonderful result for your efforts!
- **St Mary's School** beginning of term Mass will be celebrated in the school on **Friday 5 May at 9.30am**. Parishioners are welcome to attend.
- Parishioners have expressed their appreciation of the new up-to-date toilet facilities at the back of St Mary's Church. Unfortunately, on several occasions the toilets have been abused and left in a disgraceful state. Regrettably, access to the toilets will now have to be limited to those attending Mass and other church events. The toilets will be locked at other times.
- **Offertory Collections:** St Anthony's £415; St Mary & St Joseph £991. Thank you for your generosity.

Masses and Services for the coming week

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

Saturday 29th April <i>St Catherine of Siena</i> 4 th Sunday of Easter	5.00pm	St Mary's	Sue Manning, recently died
Sunday 30th April 4 th Sunday of Easter Day of Prayer for Vocations	9.30am 11.00am	St Anthony's St Mary's	People of our Parishes Rose & William Keenan, anniversary
Monday 1st May St Joseph the Worker	12.10 noon	St Mary's	Phil Crowley, recently died
Tuesday 2nd May St Athanasius	10.00am 12.10 noon	St Anthony's St Mary's	<i>Eucharistic Service</i> <i>Eucharistic Service</i>
Wednesday 3rd May St Philip & St James, Apostles	10.00am 12.10 noon 2.00pm	St Anthony's St Mary's St Mary's	Tom Tyrrell, recently died Noeleen Smith & Teresa Ellis, sick Funeral Service: Eileen Looney
Thursday 4th May The English Martyrs	12.10 noon	St Mary's	Tim O'Hanlon, 2 nd anniversary
Friday 5th May	9.30am 12.10 noon 1.30pm	St Mary's School St Mary's St Mary's	School staff, children & families Luc Liekens, recently died Funeral Service: Maureen Sweetman
Saturday 6th May 5 th Sunday of Easter	5.00pm	St Mary's	<i>No Confessions today</i> Ken Daly, 4 th anniversary
Sunday 7th May 5 th Sunday of Easter	9.30am 11.00am	St Anthony's St Mary's	Deceased members Wheeler & McNally families People of our Parishes

We remember parishioners **Eileen Looney** and **Maureen Sweetman** whose funerals will take place this coming week. We think of their grieving families and friends. May they rest in peace.