

St Mary's & St Columba's Parish Newsletter

10th September 2023 – Twenty-Third Sunday of Ordinary

Time. (A)

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Fr. Peter Otuonkpaikhian, CSSp. (Ass. P/P St Mary's Douglas)

Deacons: Rev. Alan Molloy a.molloy@rcaol.org.uk

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To Everything There Is A Season

Welcome back to those who have been away on holiday. Hopefully you have enjoyed a good rest, stayed safe, had fine weather! For those who have remained on the Island, and indeed for all of us, hopefully we will enjoy some autumn sunshine and good weather, after what has been a mixed summer weatherwise. For those of school age, this is a new start, a new school year – for some a first year (whether in primary or secondary school) or perhaps in a new school, with all that entails.

This new autumn (post-holiday) season is part of the rhythm of the year: evenings closing in, growth in nature slowing down, cooler days and nights, leading toward the end of the year. The darkness and cold of winter won't last forever. Just as the earth turns on its axis, so we know that day follows night, spring follows winter etc.

So it is with the Church year too. We all know that the Church year starts with Advent. The autumn and winter period also offer us all, especially to those of us who may not be completing school homework(!), an opportunity to spend some *quiet* time: Time on reflection. Time on planning, including for Christmas and then Easter. Time on relationships. Time for action - Time to act on our relationship with God in prayer, as well as all the other things we need to plan and do in our daily lives. Let us make a little *quiet* time each day to spend in conversation with God.

Deacon Alan

Please find below details of this week's Mass Intentions and other services in our Parish of St Mary's, Castletown (C/T) and St Columba's, Port Erin (P/E).

Week commencing 10th September			
Sunday 10 th September: 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time.	C/T P/E	9am 11am	Nuala & Brian Dwyer (RIP) People of the Parish
Monday 11 th September: Weekday in Ordinary Time.			No Mass.
Tuesday 12 th September: Mem. of Our Lady of Rushen:	P/E C/T	10am 7pm	No Mass Edward Mooney (Get Well)
Wednesday 13 th September: Mem. St. John Chrysostom.	C/T	10am	Deceased Members of the O'Friel & Poole Families.
Thursday 14 th September: Fst. Exhaltation of the Holy Cross.	P/E	10am	Fr. John Gilda (RIP)
Friday 15 th September: Mem. Our Lady of Sorrows.	C/T	10am	Kerry Doherty (Sick)
Saturday 16 th September: Mem. St. Cornelius.	C/T	10am	Les Chorley (RIP)
Sunday 17 th September: 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time.	C/T P/E	9am 11am	People of the Parish Linda Stabler (Ann)

Response to the Psalm:

O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your heart.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your word is truth, O Lord,
consecrate us in the truth.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

Offertory Collection: Last week's collection came to £255.54.

Next week's second collection is for Catholic Education.

Novena To Our Lady of Rushen: The Novena begins on 4th September, concluding on the 12th September where a mass will be held at 7pm at St. Mary's Church Castletown. The Main Celebrant will be Mgr. John Devine. Over the 9 days, during daily Mass, the Novena will be celebrated. For those who cannot attend the daily Masses, you can pray the Novena in private. The Novena Prayers will be provided.

We are aware of a couple of parishioners who have been medically advised to avoid gluten. We provide the Eucharist via gluten-free hosts to those requiring it. If you have such a medical condition, please let either Fr Joseph or Deacons Alan / Graeme know of that need and the parish will make the necessary arrangements for you to receive gluten-free hosts at Mass or Eucharistic Services.

First Holy Communion Classes: If your child will be 7 years or over before September please take a form from Sacristy for First Communion classes to start in November. Otherwise speak with Julie Maddrell on 438462.

Confirmation Preparation: In preparation for the children being confirmed we require copies of their Baptism Certificates. Please drop these in at the Sacristy or email them to us at your earliest convenience. The sessions are from 7-8pm in St. Mary's Church Castletown on the following Wednesday - 13th September. There will be a rehearsal at 4.45pm on Tuesday 19th September in St. Mary's **Douglas**. The Confirmation Celebration will be at 11am on Saturday 30th September in St. Mary's **Douglas**.

Port St. Mary Civic Service: Following a ceremony at 10:00am today, Sunday 10th at the Memorial Garden in Port St Mary to bless a plaque in memory of those who died in the Brig Lily disaster, the PSM Commissioners are holding their Civic Service at 10.30am at Mount Tabor Methodist Church. St Mary's & St. Columba's will be represented by Deacon Alan Molloy, with John Pennington leading the Intercessions (the Bidding Prayers). All are invited to attend, with refreshments following the service. We are beginning to be invited to these Civic Services again, so it would be good if we were able to attend.

Archbishop Malcolm Visit: On Sunday 1st October we are planning on holding a luncheon at St. Columba's Hall at 12pm. We are looking for volunteers to help make Manx Broth, Vegetarian soup, Bonnag (Manx soda bread), Sandwiches, sausage Rolls and Cake. A list will be placed in each hall/coffee room if you can add your name where you are able to assist. Thank you for your on-going support.

Foodbank Item Collection: On the 17th of September we will be holding a Foodbank item collection in both Churches. This has been so well supported previously and we thank you for your continued support.

Mass Intentions Received: Kerry Doherty, Nuala & Brian Dwyer, O’Friel/Poole family, Les Chorley, Doreen Short, Mary, John & Frank Hutchinson, Edward Mooney, Margaret Rennie & Ann Smith.

Parish Diary:

Wednesdays as listed, 7pm	Confirmation Preparation at St. Mary’s Castletown on Wednesday 13th Sept.
12th Sept. 7pm	Please Note Change of Venue: Mass at St. Mary’s Castletown in honour of Our Lady of Rushen.
16th Sept. St. John’s Mill 10am – 1pm	Island Spirituality Network – A Morning with the Northumbria Community. A covenanted, dispersed network of Christians, exploring new ways for living in our changing world.
16th Sept. 6.30 – 9.30pm	Games Night at St Columba’s Hall. Adults £3.00 Children £1.00
29th Sept. - 2nd October	Archbishop Malcolm will be visiting our parish during this time and will be celebrating Mass in both our churches.
30th September 11am	Confirmation Service, St. Mary’s Douglas.
4th October 2pm-4pm	The Parish Craft club - This is a lovely social gathering where we bring along a craft we are working on or use this opportunity to learn a new skill.
4th November 3pm	First Communion Classes commence.
9th Dec. 10am – 12.30pm	Wreath making class. St Columba hall 10am -12.30pm.
17th Dec. 3.00pm	Parish Nativity Service at St. Columba’s.
20th April 2024	Sacrament of Reconciliation.
18th May 2024	First Communion Mass.

If there are other future events of which you are aware, please let us know so we can add them to the diary.

Social Club Committee contact details: Susan 460514, Nick 431606, Dee 437487, or Lynn 472867.