

St. Mary's & St. Columba's Parish Newsletter

Seventh Sunday of Easter

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Parish Priest: Father Joseph Kiganda, CSSp

Father Peter Otuonkpaikhian, CSSp (Asst. P/P St Mary's Douglas).

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“The Family that Prays Together Stays Together”.

Archdiocesan Synodal Council 2023: Part 4

Becoming a church that renews its organisational structures and administers its property to serve its mission. The Archdiocese has implemented new deanery structures, establishing Deanery Synodal Councils (DSCs) in each deanery, chaired by a layperson. Formation training has yet to take place for Deans and the Chairs and Members of DSCs. The Families of Parishes have been identified and their details were published during the inaugural meeting of the Archdiocesan Synodal Council (ASC). Most Families consist of a number of Parishes in close geographical proximity, who will share resources, and it is intended that if one priest is away, the others in the Family will provide cover, reducing the need to find “supply” priests. The Isle of Man is different. In size, we are about 1/3 of the area of the Archdiocese, but largely rural, with larger distances between the churches. We are split into 3 Families based on the geographical location of parishes. Castletown and Port Erin is unique in the Archdiocese, being both a single parish and a Family!

An audit of property has taken place to identify surplus buildings which could be disposed of or put to other use. The audit found no surplus property on the Isle of Man, St Joseph's Willaston having already been leased to Living Hope Church, which has taken on responsibility for repairs and maintenance of the building. This has allowed the various social purposes for which the presbytery was used to continue.

Some DSCs are already exploring different models of leadership by priests, deacons or laymen and women. The Archdiocese is committed to becoming a synodal and mission-oriented church and is providing resources to facilitate this.

Angela Main Thompson

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 12th May | | | |
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| Sunday 12 th May Seventh Sunday of Easter | C/T P/E | 9 am 11 am | People of the Parish Clifford Hampson (RIP) |
| Monday 13 th May Feast Dedication of Liverpool Cathedral of Christ the King | | | No Mass |
| Tuesday 14 th May Feast of St. Matthias, Apostle | P/E | 10 am | No Mass |
| Wednesday 15 th May Weekday of Easter | C/T | 10 am | Nigel McFarlane (Sick) |
| Thursday 16 th May Weekday in Easter | P/E | 10 am | |
| Friday 17 th May Weekday of Easter | C/T | 10 am | |
| Saturday 18 th May Weekday of Easter | C/T | 10 am | Intentions to Our Lady of Rushen |
| Sunday 19 th May Pentecost Sunday | C/T P/E | 9 am 11 am | Spiritans Missionaries Bob Stabler (Ann) |

Response to the Psalm:

The Lord has set his sway in heaven.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.

I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;

I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy.

Alleluia.

Communion Antiphon:

Father, I pray that they may be one as we also are one, Alleluia.

Offertory Collection: Last week's collection was £279.13.

Pentecost Sunday: There will be a second collection for the Holy Ghost Fathers known as Spiritans.

Catholic Pic: There are free copies of this month's Catholic Pic at the back of both churches.

First Communion: Congratulations for Ciaran Eoin McKenna who received the Sacrament of Holy Communion on Saturday. We pray for him and his parents.

Praying The Keeills week: takes place this year from Saturday 18th to Saturday 25th May. For more details, please see www.prayingthekeeills.org

Assisted Dying Bill: A demonstration against Assisted Dying Bill takes place on Tuesday 14 May 2024, from 8.30 am to 10 am outside the Tynwald Building, Douglas. Please join us if you can.

Two clauses have already been debated in the House of Keys on Tuesday 7 May, and those of us trying to mount an opposition to the Assisted Dying Bill feel we need to protest outside the Tynwald Building when the clauses are debated again this Tuesday.

The upcoming demonstration will mirror the one held on 31 October last year, characterized by silence and respect as the MHKs arrive at the Tynwald building in Douglas. We received significant support from parishioners during the previous demonstration, and we hope to see an equally large turnout this time.

We should back our MHKs who are against assisted dying and ensure that the undecided individuals are aware of our support. A large demonstration was organized by the pro-assisted dying group on Tuesday in preparation for the first debate on the clauses, and they intend to return next week to continue their efforts. It is important for us to also be visible to prevent the MHKs and the public from assuming that there is overwhelming support for assisted dying. The BBC will be present on Tuesday to cover the demonstration.

We will once again utilize the slogans "Bin the Bill", "Protect the Vulnerable", "Save our Health Service", and "No Intentional Killing" for our cause. Kindly ensure that you bring bins displaying the "Bin the Bill" slogan prominently, and/or create placards as large as possible.

Please wear black and white.

I urge you to participate with us once more. If we do not advocate for the vulnerable and marginalized, then who will? It is our Christian obligation to protect the Sanctity of Life. For any queries, please contact Stella at 412740 or stellaharris13@icloud.com.

Mass Intentions:

- Bob Stabler
- Clifford Hampson
- Lucy and Barry Gresty

Parish Diary:

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| 18th - 25th May | Praying The Keeills week |
| 19th May | First Communion Mass |
| 12th July 7 pm | South Family meeting in St Columba's Hall |
| 11th September 8 pm | Concert by Manx Concert Brass in St Columba's Hall |
| 15th December 3 pm | Parish Nativity Service at St. Columba's |

If you are aware of future events, please let us know so we may add them to the diary. **Social Club Committee contact details:** Susan 460514, Nick 431606, Dee 437487, or Lynn 472867.