

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

Twenty-Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

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“The Family that Prays Together Stays Together”

THE JUBILEE YEAR 2025 - THEME: ‘PILGRIMS OF HOPE’

To prepare for the Jubilee year in 2025, a significant event in the Catholic Church that marks a period of spiritual renewal and reflection, Pope Francis has called upon the Catholic Church to focus on the Four Constitutions of the Second Vatican Council. These are Sacrosanctum Concilium (Constitution on the Liturgy), Dei Verbum (Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation), Lumen Gentium (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church), and Gaudium et Spes (Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the World). Delving into these constitutions will not only serve as a reminder but also to rediscover the profound wealth that the council has bestowed upon us. These sources give individuals and communities a unique opportunity to engage with the Four Constitutions and understand them prayerfully and reflectively.

Sacrosanctum Concilium (the Vatican Council II document on the liturgy), the Church's public prayer, was the first to be written in November 1963. In its first 20 paragraphs, the liturgy is always permeated with hope. It is a prayer of the Trinity. It is the priestly prayer of Jesus Christ. And importantly, it is a call for us to be fully conscious and active participants whenever we gather for the liturgical celebrations. In the liturgical celebration, there are no spectators, and each of us, without exception, has a vital role to play. You are not just a participant but a co-creator of the sacred moment.

Liturgy is the source and summit of Christian Life. Liturgy, especially the Eucharist, is not just a ritual but the heart of Christian life where the faithful encounter Christ. The liturgy unites the Church with Christ's saving work, binding us together in a shared faith and mission. In the liturgy, we are not alone but part of a community with a common goal and a shared mission.

When we gather for Sunday worship, we are nourished by the word of the Eucharist to return to our daily prayer, united with angels and Saints. Our personal prayers and public prayers feed one another.

Q. In what ways does the liturgy you celebrate enable you to glorify God? For instance, we glorify God when we sing hymns of praise, listen attentively to the readings, and receive the Eucharist with reverence. What are the positives of your Sunday celebration?

Article 11 of this document reminds us that when we come to the liturgy, we must be 'well disposed,' meaning we should approach the liturgy with a spirit of openness, humility, and reverence, ready to participate and actively engage in the rites. This means being fully present, participating in the responses, and engaging in the prayers and rituals. Article 14 restates this by saying that it is the 'right and duty' of Christian people to be able to participate fully as 'the chosen race, the royal priesthood, and the holy nation.'

How do you participate in the Liturgy, and what is your role?

Fr Joseph

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 15th September			
Sunday 15 th September Twenty-Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	Yvette Moreno (Sick) People of the Parish
Monday 16 th September Memorial of St Cornelius, Pope			No Mass
Tuesday 17 th September Memorial of St Ambrose Barlow, Priest and Martyr	P/E	10 am	Sr. Leonie McDermott (RIP)
Wednesday 18 th September Weekday in Ordinary Time	C/T	10 am	Elizabeth Holles (Thanksgiving)
Thursday 19 th September Weekday in Ordinary Time	P/E	10 am 10.45 am	Edward Turnbull (RIP) Confession
Friday 20 th September Memorial of St Andrew Kim Taegon Priest and Martyr	C/T	10 am	Clemencia Moreno (RIP)
Saturday 21 st September Feast of St Matthew the Apostle	C/T	10 am 10.45 am	Intentions to Our Lady of Rushen Adoration and Confession
Sunday 22 nd September Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	People of the Parish Kathleen Jenkins (RIP)

Response to the Psalm

I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life, says the Lord
no one can come to the Father except through me.

Alleluia.

Communion Antiphon

How precious is your mercy, O God!

The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

Offertory Collection: Last week's collection was £212.79

Second Collection: Last Sunday for Catholic Education was £198.39

This Sunday the second collection is for Evangelii Guadium

Adoremus Day: On 21st September, St Mary's and St Columba's Parish has been allocated a time slot of 2 pm to 4 pm for prayers, adoration, and confession as part of the Adoremus Liverpool event. It is encouraged to mark your diaries and strive to attend during this time.

South Parish Meeting: The South Parish meeting will take place on Thursday 19th September at 7 pm in St Columba's Hall. The topics to be discussed will be distributed to everyone this Sunday at Mass. All are welcome to attend this meeting.

Readers' Training: With the introduction of a new Lectionary from the start of Advent, all current and potential new readers are requested to attend some training. This will be held on Tuesday 15th and 22nd October at 8 pm in St. Columba's Hall. Both evenings will be required for the whole training. If you wish to continue reading but are unable to attend those dates, please contact Deacon Graeme to arrange an alternative time.

Walking Treasure Hunt: On Sunday, 6th October, starting at St Mary's in Castletown at 2 pm. Time to complete is around 1 1/2 hours followed by refreshments, answers and prize giving in St Mary's Church. Format - walk around the heart of Castletown answering quiz questions from clues found. If wet, instead a quiz will be held in St Mary's Church. Cost is £3 for adults and £1 for children. Interest in attendance is requested to help organise the catering. Please come and join in this fun social event and bring along your friends.

Thank you: A heartfelt thank you to all who attended the Novena and the celebration of the memorial of Mary, Mother of the Church and our mother, whom we honour with the title Our Lady of Rushen, on Thursday, September 12th. Special thanks to the choir for their awe-inspiring and beautiful singing that added a divine touch to the event, and to those who lovingly prepared the tea, coffee, and cakes. Your contributions made this celebration truly special. May God bless each of you abundantly for your service and dedication. Fr Joseph.

Eucharistic Minsters Existing Eucharistic Ministers and those interested in training, please keep Saturday, the 5th, free. The training will take place at St. Anthony, Onchan. More details on training times will be announced soon.

Mass Intentions: Sr Leonie McDermott. Yvette and Clemencia Moreno, Edward Turnbull, Paul Douglas, Doreen Short, Oliver Corkish, Elizabeth Holles and Kathleen Jenkins.

Parish Diary:

19th September 7 pm	South Parish Meeting in St Columba's Hall.
21st September	Adoremus Liverpool. A day of Eucharistic Pilgrimage. We will hold a Pilgrimage to the Co-Cathedral St Mary's Douglas to mirror that being held in the Cathedral in Liverpool. St Mary's and St Columba's Parish has been allocated a time slot of 2 pm to 4 pm for prayers, adoration, and confession as part of the Adoremus Liverpool event. It is encouraged to mark your diaries and strive to attend during this time.
6 October 2 pm	Walking Treasure Hunt.
9th October 8 pm	Concert by Manx Concert Brass in St Columba's Church.
12th October 10 am to 1 pm	Island Spirituality Network at St John's Mill. The theme is "A Single Sunbeam." The speaker is Reverend Sharon Grenham-Thompson.
15th & 22nd October 8 pm	Readers Training at St Columba's Hall.
15th December 3 pm	Parish Nativity Service at St. Columba's Church.

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.

Second Collections for 2024

20 th October	APF World Missions
24 th November	Animate Youth
8 th December	Christmas flowers for both churches

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