

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



## Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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### **The boat may be small, but the hope it carries is vast.**

These days, the BCC News is filled with the cries of small boats, the fragile vessels carrying men, women, and children fleeing danger, poverty, or persecution. These cries are not new to humanity's story; the Bible is a migration book.

Abraham left his homeland for a place God would show him (Genesis 12:1). Israel wandered through the wilderness seeking the Promised Land (Exodus 16). The Holy Family fled to Egypt as refugees to protect the Child Jesus from Herod's wrath (Matthew 2:13-15). Fear is real, for those who leave, uncertain if they will survive the journey, and those who receive, unsure of the change that strangers may bring.

However, Scripture repeatedly reminds us: "Do not be afraid, for I am with you" (Isaiah 41:10). God calls us to see the stranger not as a threat, but as an opportunity to welcome Christ Himself: "I was a stranger, and you welcomed me" (Matthew 25:35). "Immigrants often arrive with little in their hands but much in their hearts; faith, resilience, and dreams". They bring the hope of rebuilding life, just as Ruth the Moabite brought new life to Bethlehem's fields and became part of the lineage of Jesus (Ruth 1-4).

For Christians, hope is not naive optimism; it is rooted in the God who journeys with His people. "When fear tempts us to close our doors, hope urges us to open our hearts". In welcoming the stranger, we participate in God's great migration story, moving the world closer to His kingdom, where "nation will not lift sword against nation" (Isaiah 2:4) and all will dwell in safety.

In conclusion, migration stories teach us that hope overcomes fear. By welcoming the stranger, we honour their resilience and embody God's love, moving closer to a world where all dwell safely, united in compassion and purpose.

**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).

| <b>Week commencing 17<sup>th</sup> August</b>   |            |                   |  |
|---|------------|-------------------|--|
| Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> August<br><b>Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>                    | C/T<br>P/E | 9 am<br>11 am     | People of the Parish<br>Caroline McGuinness (RIP)            |
| Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> August<br><b>Weekday in Ordinary Time</b>                             |            |                   | No Mass  |
| Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> August<br><b>Weekday in Ordinary Time</b>                            | P/E        | 10 am             | Evelyn Furness (Sick)  |
| Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> August<br><b>Memorial of St Bernard</b>                            | C/T        | 10 am             | Ann, Sadie & Jim Dolan.                                      |
| Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> August<br><b>Memorial of St Pius X</b>                              | P/E        | 10 am<br>10.45 am | Brian Malloy (RIP)<br>Confessions                            |
| Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August<br><b>Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> | C/T        | 10 am             | Lillian Mallya (RIP)   |
| Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> August<br><b>Feast of the Dedication of the Co-Cathedral</b>        | C/T        | 10 am<br>10.45 am | Intentions to Our Lady of Rushen<br>Adoration and Confession |
| Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> August<br><b>Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>                 | C/T<br>P/E | 9 am<br>11 am     | People of the Parish   |

### **Responsorial Psalm:**

Lord, make haste to help me!

### **Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, Alleluia**

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord, and I know them, and they follow me

**Alleluia**

### **Communion Antiphon:**

With the Lord there is mercy in him is plentiful redemption.

**Jubilee Year 2025:** During the year of the Jubilee the parish motto will be, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer." (Rom 12:12)

**Offertory Collection:** Last Sunday the offertory collection was £257.26  
Thank you for your generous offerings both by direct debit and in Mass.

**New Parish Banking details:** Here are the details for the new Parish bank account for those wishing to donate or pay their offerings by direct debit. If you already used direct debit, you do not have to change anything.

| Account Details |                        |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Bank            | HSBC                   |
| Account name    | St Mary and St Columba |
| Account number  | 94255178               |
| Sort Code       | 40-19-38               |

**Mass Intentions:** New Mass Intention forms have been introduced, which now require consent for the publication of the individual's name in both print and digital newsletters. In future only those Mass Intentions for which consent has been granted will feature in the newsletter.

**Eucharistic Ministers:** On Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August at 11am Mass Fr Joseph will be commissioning and recommissioning the Eucharistic Ministers. Fr Joseph will be giving out the certificates for all who are yet to receive them.

**Barn Dance:** - On Saturday 13th September at St. Columba's Hall. 7-9.30 pm. This is a shared Supper event, so we ask that you bring a plate of food to share and your own drinks. Brendan McLaughlin is very kindly supplying the music. Carol Hayes will call thee dances. There will be a prize for the best fancy dress. Tickets are priced at £2.50 for adults and £1.00 for Children. There are still a few tickets left, please see any social committee member. Proceeds from this event will be put towards the purchase of a projector, for the Parish.

**Mass Intentions:** Evelyn Furness, Caroline McGuinness, Anniversaries of Nuala and Brian Dwyer, Lillian Mallya and Ann, Sadie & Jim Dolan.

## Parish Diary

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 13 <sup>th</sup> September<br>10 am to 1 pm   | Island Spirituality Network at St John's Mill with Steven Hoyland. The theme is "Who do you say that I am?"  |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> September<br>7 pm to 9.30 pm | Parish Barn Dance at St Columba's Hall.  |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> October<br>10 am to 1 pm     | Island Spirituality Network at St John's Mill with Rev Richard Littledale. The theme is "To heaven on foot." |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> December<br>10 am to 12 pm    | Christmas wreath making class at St Columba's Hall.  |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> December<br>3 pm             | Parish Nativity Service at St. Columba's.  |

If you have any thoughts on how we can celebrate the Jubilee Year as a parish, please talk to Deacon Alan or Deacon Graeme. 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 until the end of the year

|                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 14 <sup>th</sup> September | Catholic Education |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> September | Evangelii Gaudium  |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> October   | APF World Missions |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> November  | Animate Youth      |

### ANIMA CHRISTI -SOUL OF CHRIST

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.

Body of Christ, Save me.

Blood of Christ Inebriate me.

Water from the side of Christ, wash me.

O good Jesus, hear me.

With your wounds, hide me.

Suffer me not to be separated from you.

At the hour of my death, call me.

And bid me come to you, that with your saints I may praise you. Forever and ever. MEN.

**"Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer"**

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