**NEWSLETTER**

 **Parishes of St Anthony of Padua, Onchan; St Mary of the Isle & St Joseph, Douglas
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**27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, 5th October 2025**

**CAFOD Day of Prayer for Justice and Peace in the world**

 **(**Year C for Sundays; Cycle 1 for weekdays)

 *(Readings: Page 972) (Page 449 for Order of the Mass)*

Friends,

Yesterday (October 4th) we celebrated the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. This year, 2025, we celebrate the 800th anniversary of a prayer of thanks composed by Saint Francis in 1225, just one year before his death, The Canticle of the Creatures, is a prayer, a poem and a hymn of praise and joy. Francis’ faith in the fatherhood of God becomes a song of praise that proclaims our connection with all creatures and with their beauty. We are all part of God’s creative and loving plan and purpose.

Most High, all-powerful, good Lord, Yours are the praises, the glory, the honour, and all blessings.

Praised be You, my Lord, with all your creatures;
especially Brother Sun, who is the day, and through whom You give us light.

And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendour, and bears a likeness to You, Most High One.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars;
in heaven You formed them clear and precious and beautiful.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Wind, and through the air, cloudy and serene,
and every kind of weather through which You give sustenance to Your creatures.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Water, which is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Fire, through whom You light the night;
and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Mother Earth,
who sustains us and governs us and who produces varied fruits with coloured flowers and herbs.

Praise and bless my Lord, and give Him thanks, and serve Him with great humility. Amen.

*Father Philip*

**Archdiocese of Liverpool Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage 2026** will take place from 22 to 31 July 2026 which will be the 50th anniversary of the Youth Pilgrimage. Application forms will go online earlier this year on **Monday 15 September 2025** when young people aged 15-22 can apply at [www.liverpoollourdesyouth.co.uk](http://www.liverpoollourdesyouth.co.uk) There is an **Early Bird Discount of £50** for applications received before 9am on 20 October 2025. If you are interested in being part of the Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage and require more information, please email St Mary’s parish office saintmaryiom@rcaol.org.uk. You can also see posters and flyers at the back of church. The full cost for each young person travelling from Liverpool is £720. Deposit of £100 to be paid on application. As soon as you have applied to go on the pilgrimage please email the parish office so your safeguarding requirements can be processed for the Liverpool Lourdes Youth Leaders.

**Completion of building renovation work in St Mary’s:** Weather permitting, the erection of scaffolding will begin this weekend. The necessary risk assessments have been completed by the contractors. Please take extra care entering and leaving church. Could parents please supervise their children responsibly at all times while in church.

* The ‘**Warm and Cosy Hub’** will resume on **Monday 6 October** and will run each Monday and Friday from **10am until 2pm** throughout the winter months in the **Columba Club, Circular Road, Douglas.** The Club will provide a warm space offering company, refreshments and light lunches to which all are welcome. Thank you to the Knights of St Columba and volunteers who host the Warm and Cosy Hub.
* **T and Chat** will meet on **7 October 2025** at **St. Anthony’s Pastoral Centre** from **10.30am -12 noon**. The Group is delighted to welcome Dee Newson who will be displaying bonnets made by the IoM branch of the Embroiders Guild and will chat about the history behind them. Everyone will be warmly welcomed; refreshments will be served. Please contact Josie for any further information.
* **St Anthony’s Charity Bingo** will be held at 7.30pm on **Thursday 9 October** in the Pastoral Centre. Everyone welcome to come and join in the fun! Tea and coffee will be served during the break.
* **CAFOD Event:** John Woods, the **Liverpool Archdiocese CAFOD Representative**, will be visiting the island from 16 – 20 October. John will speak briefly at weekend Masses to thank parishioners for their support as well as visiting St Mary’s School on Monday 20th. There will also be an All-Island gathering on **Saturday 18 October from 10am to 12.30pm** in **St Anthony’s Pastoral Centre** when John will share more about the type of work your support makes possible, including a current project providing access to safe water in Nigeria. During the morning there will be time for reflection on how we can all be tangible signs of hope in this Jubilee Year. Everyone welcome. Hot drinks and biscuits will be served with a chance for attendees to meet and chat. Please also see the CAFOD event posters at the back of church.
* The **Columba Club’s** **Cheese and Wine and Film Night** has been rescheduled to **Saturday 25 October**. This evening is open to Club members and any guests who wish to attend. The film being shown is the comedy set on the Island - “Waking Ned”. Doors open at 7pm. Film shown at approximately 7.30pm. Tickets £15 available from Brian Murphy, Richard Coase and Sandra Slann. See posters in church.
* **Island Spirituality Network:** Next meeting on **11 October** at **St. John’s Mill** from **10am to 1pm**. The speaker will be **Revd David Smith** whose theme will be “God and Mammon”. The session will focus on Jesus’ statement concerning the impossibility of worshipping God and Mammon.All welcome.
* **Invitation from Michael Manning, 8th Manx Bard,** to a free poetry and music concert to launch the release of his book, ***Graih: Prophetic-Utopian Poems****,*on **Saturday 8th November** at 7.30pm at Broadway Baptist Church, Douglas. Guests include Annie Kissack, Phil Gawne and Adele Harris. Culture Vannin are supporting the publication. All welcome. Tea and Cake provided. See poster in church.
* Tickets still available **for The Ann Fox Foundation’s Annual Gala Ball** which will be held on **22nd November 2025** at the **Empress Hotel 7pm – late.** For tickets, please contact Tony Fox, 493398, Andrea Gilmore 401548 or Stephen Fox on 497993. Tickets are £75.00 each. There are a few tables left. Tables seat 10 - 13 people.

**Masses and Services for the coming week**

*All Masses and Services from St Mary’s are live-streamed*1

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| **Saturday 4th October***St Francis of Assisi*27th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 5.00pm | St Mary’s | Sean Nash and all the Nash family |
| **Sunday 5th October***CAFOD Day for Justice and Peace*27th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 9.30am11.00am | St Anthony’sSt Mary’s | People of our ParishesCaridad Rosales, deceased |
| **Monday 6th October**St Bruno | *No Mass today* |  | *No Mass or Service today* |
| **Tuesday 7th October**Our Lady of the Rosary | *10.00am****12.00 noon*** | *St Anthony’s****St Mary’s*** | *Eucharistic Service****Requiem Mass: Mike O’Hare*** |
| **Wednesday 8th October** | 12.10pm***2.00pm*** | St Mary’s***Crematorium*** | Fr. Michael O’Connor***Funeral Service: Elizabeth Swancott*** |
| **Thursday 9th October**St John Henry Newman | 10.00am12.10pm | St Anthony’sSt Mary’s | Debra Sutherland, sickBill Blinston, deceased |
| **Friday 10th October**St Paulinius of York, St Denis & Companions, St John Leonardi | 12.10pm***1.30pm*** | St Mary’s***St Mary’s*** | Maire Murray, sick***Requiem Mass: Anne Morgan*** |
| **Saturday 11th October**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time*Week of prayer for prisoners and their families* | 11.00am to 12noon5.00pm | St Mary’sSt Mary’s | Exposition and Confessions Seán Metcalfe, anniversary |
| **Sunday 12th October**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time*Week of prayer for prisoners and their families* | 9.30am11.00am | St Anthony’sSt Mary’s | People of our ParishesBrian Leneghan, 1st anniversary |