**NEWSLETTER**

 **Parishes of St Anthony of Padua, Onchan; St Mary of the Isle & St Joseph, Douglas
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**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, 12th October 2025**

**Week of prayer for prisoners and their families**

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

 *(Readings: Page 976) (Page 449 for Order of the Mass)*

From the Presbytery desk……

A very warm welcome to Father Augustine Ogbonna, the latest member of the Spiritan Congregation (known in the past as the Holy Ghost Fathers) to come and share our life here on The Island. He will be living with Father Joseph at Castletown for the next two years while on Sabbatical from his various appointments in Nigeria; during his time with us as part of the Deanery Clergy he will assist here at Saint Mary of the Isle, Douglas and Saint Anthony of Padua Onchan.

This weekend, at the 5pm Mass on Saturday evening, Nigel Dempsey-Smith from Saint Patrick’s parish in Peel will be formally accepted as a Candidate for Ordination as a Deacon. Candidacy is the moment when, having begun formation and training, the Archbishop affirms a man’s calling and invites him to make a public profession of his desire and intention to continue his preparation and studies.

On Sunday afternoon at 3.00pm there will be a Service at Saint Patrick’s Anglican Church in Jurby to mark Prisoners’ Sunday, which is a National Day of Prayer for prisoners. We remember those in prison and those impacted by the criminal justice system. Within our church and wider communities there are victims and survivors of crime, people with convictions, family members who have a loved one in prison, employees and volunteers who work in prisons and the court system. If you are unable to participate in this afternoon’s Service, please remember in your prayer the work of PACT, the Prison Advice and Care Trust. PACT works to build a safer society in which fewer people suffer the consequences of crime and in which those whose circumstances or poor choices have led them down the wrong path can build new, better lives for themselves and their children.

Have a Good Sunday and a fruitful week ahead

Father Philip

**Pope Leo** has released the first major teaching document of his papacy: ***Dilexi te*** (I have loved you).

It is a profound and deeply moving document addressed to all Christians, reminding us that at the heart of our faith is the call to love our neighbour. It reminds us of the preferential love that God has for those who are poor, the most vulnerable and marginalised.

We are called to learn from our brothers and sisters who live in poverty, recognising that their experiences bring a unique perspective to the increasingly unequal world that we live in today.

And we are encouraged to take concrete actions to build a better world, through almsgiving and raising our voices against the injustice that we see, because:

"Charity has the power to change reality; it is a genuine force for change in history."

**Parking in Douglas on a Sunday Morning**

We have been asked to remind you not to park across the garage entrance/exit for Saint Mary’s Court in Hill Street. I know that parking near church on Sunday morning is at a premium, but please respect the needs of those who need access to their offices even on a Sunday!

**Completion of building renovation work in St Mary’s:** The bulk of the scaffolding is now in place. 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.

**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 now online. 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.

* **Pope Leo has asked that we pray the Rosary** this month with a particular intention of peace in the world. Once a week, a small group gathers at St. Mary’s Church to say the Rosary. Please join to pray for peace. Come and go as you please on Wednesdays between 1 - 2pm.
* The ‘**Warm and Cosy Hub’** resumed on Monday 6 Octoberand 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.
* **CAFOD Event:** John Woods, the **Liverpool Archdiocese CAFOD Representative**, will be visiting the island this coming week 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.

**Masses and Services for the coming week**

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

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| **Saturday 11th October**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time*Week of prayer for prisoners and their families* | 5.00pm | St Mary’s | 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 |
| **Monday 13th October** | *No Mass today* |  | *No Mass or Service today* |
| **Tuesday 14th October**St Callistus I | *10.00am*12.10pm | *St Anthony’s*St Mary’s | *Eucharistic Service*Private Intention |
| **Wednesday 15th October**St Teresa of Ávila | 12.10pm | St Mary’s | Ilario, anniversary |
| **Thursday 16th October**St Margaret Mary Alacoque,St Hedwig | 10.00am12.10pm | St Anthony’sSt Mary’s | Graham Priest, intentionsRobert McCartney, recently died |
| **Friday 17th October**St Ignatius of Antioch | 12.10pm | St Mary’s | Fr. Brian Dougherty, 90th birthday anniversary |
| **Saturday 18th October**29th Sunday in Ordinary Time*World Mission Day* | 11.00am to 12noon5.00pm | St Mary’sSt Mary’s | Exposition and Confessions People of our Parishes |
| **Sunday 19th October***World Mission Day*29th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 9.30am11.00am | St Anthony’sSt Mary’s | Joan Corran, 9th anniversaryMike Joe Hennessy, anniversary |