

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



Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

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A Month of Remembrance: Finding Light in Our Grief

November is the month when the community of St. Mary and St. Columba remembers the faithful departed: parents, brothers and sisters, relatives, and friends. Death touches every household and calls us to hold memory and hope together. Grief is the honest language of love; it names the depth of attachment and the price of care.

This month, we 'gather our memories like lanterns', setting them in the dark so that what was loved continues to give light. Faith does not remove the ache, but it gives it meaning and a companionable presence. The parish is a home of consolation where tears are shed, stories are shared, and ordinary acts, such as sharing a meal, visiting, or praying, are channels of grace.

If you are missing someone, allow yourself the slow work of remembering. Speak their name; tell a story; visit a grave or light a candle. Let others carry part of your burden; accepting help is not a sign of weakness, but rather a demonstration of trust in our calling to bear one another's burdens.

For those supporting the bereaved, offer a steady presence more than words. Listen, keep company, and honour small rituals that sustain memory. In our shared sorrow, we discover the pattern of Christian hope: not forgetting but holding in trust.

We turn to Scripture for consolation: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want... he restores my soul." Psalm 23, and Christ's promise: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. I go to prepare a place for you;" John 14:1-2. These words do not erase grief; they place it within God's faithful care.

If you would like to schedule a visit, have a name remembered at Mass, or receive pastoral support this November, please get in touch with the parish office. May God's peace meet every sorrow, and may memory become a blessing.

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 9th November			
Sunday 9 th November Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	Marie Burke (Ann) People of the Parish
Monday 10 th November Memorial of St Leo the Great			No Mass
Tuesday 11 th November Memorial of St Martin of Tours	P/E	10 am	
Wednesday 12 th November Memorial of St Josaphat	C/T	10 am	
Thursday 13 th November Thursday in Ordinary Time	P/E	10 am 10.45 am	Confessions
Friday 14 th November Friday in Ordinary Time	C/T	10 am	
Saturday 15 th November Saturday in Ordinary Time	C/T	10 am 10 45 am	Intentions to Our Lady of Rushen Adoration and Confession
Sunday 16 th November Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	People of the Parish Barrie Woodward (RIP)

Responsorial Psalm:

The waters of a river give joy to God's city, the holy place, the abode of the Most High.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia

I have chosen and consecrated this house, says the Lord, that my name may be there for ever.

Alleluia

Communion Antiphon:

Be built up like living stones, into a spiritual house, a holy priesthood.

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)

Jubilee Icon Visit to the Isle of Man: Travel permitting the Jubilee Icon will be arriving in the Isle of Man on this Sunday evening 9th November for a very brief visit. The Icon is in the Liverpool Archdiocese for only a short timeframe, but they were keen for it to make an appearance in the Jubilee Church of St Mary's in Douglas. On Monday morning 10th November the Jubilee Icon will be in St Mary's school for their morning assembly. On Monday mid-morning to mid-afternoon, it will be placed in St Mary's Church for any parishioners who wish to view it.

FAIRTRADE: This year's FAIRTRADE sale will take place on Sunday, 16th November, in St. Columba's Hall from 12 to 4 pm. Please come along and support producers in the developing world to get a fair price for their goods. There will be a wide variety of craft and food items on sale, as usual. Equally as important, we will be serving homemade soup, bread, lunches, and puddings/cakes. All the money from refreshments goes directly to the Loreto Sisters and funds their work with orphaned children and trafficked women in Albania. When I last spoke with Sr. Imelda, she told me how much they appreciate and rely on the refreshment money each year to fund their work. So please save the date, treat yourself to a Sunday lunch you don't have to cook, and support the FAIRTRADE sale and the work of the Loreto Sisters in Albania. Any soup makers, bread bakers, cake, or pudding creators who can make something for the day—please contact Stella at 412740 or stellaharris13@icloud.com to let me know. Stella Harris.

Parish Nativity: The parish nativity this year is on Sunday, 14th December at 3 pm at St Columba's. As usual, we'd like to be as inclusive as possible. This is an invitation to all children and young people to take part. All are welcome. Invite your friends - they don't need to be parishioners to join us. The more, the merrier. Rehearsals are on Sunday, 30th November and Sunday, 7th December after the 11 am Mass, with a dress rehearsal on Saturday, 13th December (time to be confirmed). We will be having a short meeting at St Columba's after the 11 am mass on 23rd November to take names and whether they would prefer to be a narrator or actor. We can then make sure that there are parts for everyone doing what they'd prefer. If anyone can't come on November 23rd but would like to take part, please contact Deacon Graeme at 435056 (email g.easton@rcaol.org.uk) or Stella at 412740 (email stellaharris13@icloud.com) know, and we'll add you to the list.

Christmas Wreath Making Class. Anyone interested in the Christmas Wreath making class please email Sue at suemagee@me.com as she is taking numbers ready for the class on Saturday, 6th December.

SVP: Thank you all for your support in the past. The SVP Christmas Fayre is on Saturday, 29th November, and we once again will need your support so we can continue to help those in need in the south of the Island. We are looking for new unwanted gifts, bottles, raffle prizes, and homemade cakes and savouries. A box for your donations will be in each church porch throughout November. The hall will be open from 2-4 pm on Friday, 28th November, to accept items. Thank you.

Christmas Mass Times. In the upcoming two Sundays, we will conduct a survey to determine the preferred Christmas Mass times for our parish community. You can find form at the back of each church; please mark the box for the Mass you plan to attend. Thank you for your participation

Mass Intentions: Marie Burke, Barrie Woodward, and Ian James Younger.

Parish Diary

16 th November 12 pm to 4 pm	Fairtrade Sale at St Columba's Hall
29 th November 11 am to 1 pm	SVP Christmas Fayre at St Columba's Hall
6 th December 10 am to 12 pm	Christmas wreath making class at St Columba's Hall
14 th December 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

23 rd November	Animate Youth
14 th December	Christmas Flowers

“Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer”

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