

# NEWSLETTER

Parishes of Saint Anthony of Padua, Onchan; Saint Mary of the Isle & Saint Joseph, Douglas

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6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026

(Year A for Sundays; Cycle 2 for weekdays; Psalter Week 2)

(Readings: Page 293) (Page 449 for Order of the Mass)



From the Presbytery desk.....

May is the month of Mary.....

In our Catholic tradition, this month is marked by devotion to Mary, Mother of Jesus. Why? well perhaps it is because it is the time of the flowering of nature around us as we move through Spring into Summer.... just as in Mary and with her 'Yes' to the Angel Gabriel there is the flowering of God's plan and purpose in and through the life of Jesus.

The Jewish faith which Mary inherited from her parents, Joachim and Anne, meant that when the message came at the Annunciation she was able to welcome and accept the invitation of God, trusting that God knew exactly what he was doing, as he had done across the many centuries and generations which had gone before. Mary welcomes the message of the Angel Gabriel and says 'Yes' .... even though she does not know exactly how this is to come about; she TRUSTS in God because she LOVES the Lord her God. Her generosity of spirit is an inspiration to the followers of the way of Jesus through the centuries.

One way in which we can embrace her generosity of Spirit is to try to draw closer to the Lord Jesus, to see things through Mary's eyes, to respond in our own lives to that same Trust and Love which is shown in Mary, Mother of Jesus.

The praying of the ROSARY is in essence a prayer which centres upon JESUS – the mysteries or the elements of his life are to be seen and contemplated through the eyes and the intercession of Mary herself.

As you leave church today, please take with you a small pocket-sized guide to the praying of the Rosary, its 'mysteries' the events of the life of Jesus.....

One of the earliest known prayers asking for the intercession Mary is known (in latin) as the **Sub Tuum Praesidium**, even though the original prayer was composed in Greek.

**We fly to your patronage, O Holy Mother of God;  
do not despise our petitions in our necessities,  
but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin.**

Mary is invoked under many and various titles: it is always the same Virgin Mary to which we refer but sometimes the title will seek to draw out a particular aspect of her motherly intercession for us – as in Our Lady Untier of Knots which was a favoured devotion of Pope Francis, or Our Lady of Good Counsel which is a favoured Augustinian devotion (in fact Pope Leo made a visit to her shrine at Genazzano just outside Rome within the first days of his election), or Our Lady of Perpetual Succour (help) which is favoured by the Redemptorist Congregation.

Sometimes the dedication is more local or geographical – as in Saint Mary of Rushen (the Abbey in Ballasalla) Our Lady of Walsingham in England or indeed our own Saint Mary of the Isle (referring to the Isle of Refuge in Douglas Bay, highlighting the role of Mary as a tower of strength or refuge for the Christian people).

**REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to you do I come; before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer me. Amen.**

Saint Bernard of Clairvaux (?) 12<sup>th</sup> century.

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Sincere and heartfelt thanks to all who worked so diligently to prepare for the Liturgies surrounding Father Brian O Mahony's funeral Rites, both at Saint Patrick in Peel and Star of the Sea in Ramsey. It was a very beautiful celebration of our Island-wide Catholic Community and I know Father Brian's family were both moved and immensely grateful for the way in which the parishes and the wider Community on the Island welcomed and supported them in these past days.

Over these past years we have mourned together the deaths of our faithful Clergy; Canon Brendan Alger, Father Brian Dougherty, Father Ged Hurst and Father Brian O Mahony. It will be a long time until we see their like again. May they rest in peace and rise in glory!

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An incident occurred in Saint Anthony's car park at Onchan last Sunday morning (3<sup>rd</sup> May) when a car reversed into a person and then drove off without even enquiring as to the person concerned. This is naturally a most distressing occurrence – made worse by the fact that the person seemed oblivious to the potential for injury by their actions.

Please be extremely careful not only when entering or exiting the car park but also when reversing/manoeuvring in the car park itself.

Canon Philip

- **Lourdes Youth Fundraising:** Some of the Young People travelling to Lourdes with the Archdiocesan pilgrimage this July are arranging a Bake Sale at the back of St Mary's Church **after 5pm Mass this Saturday 9 May** and **after 11am Mass on Sunday 10 May**. Please support if you can. All proceeds will go towards the considerable cost of travel and accommodation for the Lourdes Youth Group.
- **St Anthony's Charity Bingo** will be held on **Thursday 14 May** at 7.30pm in St Anthony's Pastoral Centre. Everyone welcome to come and join in the fun with tea, coffee and a raffle.
- **Tallis Consort** presents Music of the Spheres, a concert of choral music inspired by space, in St Mary's Douglas on **Friday 15 May** at 7.30pm. Free admission. Everyone welcome.
- **Come and See Group:** The next regular meeting will be on Thursday 28 May at 6.30pm in the Presbytery.
- **Praying the Keeills Week** will take place across the island from 16 – 23 May 2026. It's an opportunity to explore tiny ruined chapels (keeills) which have dotted the Manx landscape for over a thousand years. In this 'Year of the Manx Language (Blein ny Gaelgey)', this theme will be celebrated during the week. There will be daily walks of varying lengths as well as a coach trip and an evening lecture. Further information available on leaflets at the back of church or at [www.prayingthekeeills.org](http://www.prayingthekeeills.org)

### Masses and Services for the coming week

*All Masses and Services from St Mary's are live-streamed.*

<b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	5.00pm	St Mary's	Una Kelly, anniversary
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	9.30am 11.00am	St Anthony's St Mary's	People of our Parishes Adelaide Grewe, deceased
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>	<i>No Mass today</i>	<i>St Mary's</i>	<i>No Mass or service today</i>
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>	10.00am 12.10pm	<i>St Anthony's</i> St Mary's	<i>Eucharistic Service</i> Peter Cunningham-Davis, recently died
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b> Dedication of the Cathedral	12.10pm	St Mary's	Christopher Stewart Barr, recently died
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b> <i>The Ascension of the Lord</i>	<i>No 10am Mass</i> 12.10pm 7.00pm	<i>St Anthony's</i> St Mary's St Anthony's	<i>No 10am Mass today (replaced by 7pm)</i> Annette McClure, 7 <sup>th</sup> anniversary Canon Eugene Hopkins, anniversary
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>	12.10pm	St Mary's	John & Helen Cowburn-Wood anniversary
<b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	10.30am 11.00am 5.00pm	St Anthony's St Mary's St Mary's	First Holy Communion: St Anthony's Exposition and Confessions People of our Parishes
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	9.30am 11.00am	St Anthony's St Mary's	Keith Moore, sick Frances McCarrick intentions