

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

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

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Daily Meals and Eucharist

Every day, in our homes and families, we gather around a table to share a meal. These ordinary meals do more than feed the body. They strengthen relationships, create memories, reconcile differences, and remind us that we belong to one another. A family meal says, without words, "You are welcome here. You matter. We share life together."

On the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, the Church invites us to look at our daily meals and see in them a reflection, though only a faint one, of the Eucharist, the greatest meal of all. In today's Gospel, Jesus declares, "My flesh is real food, and my blood is real drink" (John 6:55). This is not symbolic nourishment. It is Christ giving us His very life. In our homes, we prepare food from the earth; at the altar, Christ gives us the Bread from Heaven. At home, we share what we have; in the Eucharist, Christ shares all that He is. At home, meals strengthen family bonds; in the Eucharist, we become one Body, united with Christ and with one another.

The first reading this Sunday reminds us of Israel's journey through the desert, where God fed His people with manna, teaching them that "one does not live on bread alone" (Deuteronomy 8:3). The Eucharist is the new manna, the food that sustains us on our pilgrimage through life.

Saint Paul, in the second reading, asks a profound question: "The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ?" (1 Corinthians 10:16). Every time we come to Mass, whether daily or every Sunday, we do not simply remember Christ; we participate in His life, His sacrifice, and His love.

So, as we celebrate Corpus Christi, let us look at our own tables with new eyes. Every meal we share becomes a reminder of the greater feast to which Christ invites us. And every Eucharist we receive strengthens us to become what we eat, that is, the living Body of Christ in the world, offering welcome, reconciliation, and life to others.

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 7th June			
Sunday 7 th June The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	People of the Parish Betty O'Callaghan (RIP)
Monday 8 th June Monday week Ten in Ordinary Time			No Mass
Tuesday 9 th June Feast of St Columba	P/E	10 am	Gerard Doyle (Sick)
Wednesday 10 th June Wednesday week Ten in Ordinary Time	C/T	10 am	Major Reid (RIP)
Thursday 11 th June Memorial of St Barnabas	P/E	10 am	Louise Heaney (RIP)
Friday 12 th June Solemnity of Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	C/T	10 am	Daniel Murphy (RIP)
Saturday 13 th June Saturday week Ten of Ordinary Time	C/T	10 am 10.45 am	Intentions to Our Lady of Rushen Confessions
Sunday 14 th June Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	People of the Parish Maria Hampson (Good Health)

Responsorial Psalm:

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia

I am the living bread that came down from heaven says the Lord.

If anyone eats of this bread, he will live for ever.

Alleluia

Communion Antiphon:

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him says the Lord.

Second Collection: The second collection in May for World Communications £211.01 and for The Spiritans £372.69. Thank you very much for your continued support and generosity.

Invitation: You are warmly invited to join us each evening for Vespers at 6:30 pm at St Mary's. As a parish family, we will pray the Church's beautiful evening prayer and then read together Pope Leo XIV's first encyclical, Magnifica Humanitas (Magnificent Humanity) You can download it on your mobile phone or tablet from the website -<https://www.papaslencyclicals.net>.

This is a wonderful opportunity to:

- Root our evenings in the peace of the Liturgy of the Hours.
- Grow together in understanding the Holy Father's vision for the dignity of the human person.
- Strengthen our sense of communion as we reflect, pray, and learn side by side.

Whether you come every night or whenever you are able, your presence enriches our parish prayer. Let us gather as one community, lifting our hearts to God and deepening our appreciation of the gift of our shared humanity.

St Columba: Tuesday is the feast day of one of our patrons, St. Columba - or in Gaelic, Colm Cille. He was born in Gartan, in County Donegal, and was of royal lineage. He studied under Finnian of Moville and Finnian of Clonard. He founded monasteries at Derry, Durrow, and possibly Kells, before leaving Ireland as a missionary, "an exile for Christ". His greatest foundation was Iona, from where he converted much of western Scotland, and his followers took the Gospel as far as northern England. He died at Iona in 597. He was renowned as a poet and scribe as well as a spiritual guide. In Gaelic literature he appears as Ireland's most popular saint, noted for his great personal love of all creatures, both human and animal.

St. Columba, pray for us.

Cake Sale: Mikhaella and Marczhela will be holding a cake sale after Mass at St. Columba's to help fund their trip to the Lourdes Pilgrimage with other young people from the island. Please support them by picking up one of their delicious cakes.

Coffee Morning: The SVP would like to thank you for your continued support. With your help we have been able to help several young families in recent months. However, we now find it necessary to raise more funds. There will be a coffee morning on Saturday 4th July from 11 am to 1pm. Boxes will be in the

porch of both churches for unwanted gifts, and raffle prizes. The hall will be open on Friday 3rd July from 2 pm to receive cakes etc. Thanking you in anticipation and wishing you every blessing.

Mass Intentions: Brenda Lynch, Garry Heaney, Maria Hampson, Gerard Doyle, and Louise Heaney.

Parish Diary

13 th June 10 am to 1 pm	Island Spirituality Network at St John’s Mill with Jill Weber theme “Ancient Sparks New Fires”
4 th July 11 am to 1 pm	SVP Coffee Morning at St Columba’s Hall
11 th July 11 am	Parish to Parish Walk
19 th September 6.30 to 9 pm	Barn Dance at St Columba’s Hall
28 th November 11 am to 1 pm	SVP Christmas Fayre at St Columba’s Hall
5 th December 10 am	Christmas Wreath Making Class at St Columba’s Hall
13 th December 3 pm	Parish Nativity Service at St. Columba's

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 from April to September

Sunday 21 st June	Day for Life
Sunday 28 th June	Peter Pence
Sunday 19 th July	Priests in Retirement
Sunday 13 th September	Catholic Education
Sunday 20 th September	Home Missions

Abide in Me, as I abide in you” (John 15.4)

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