

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

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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Summer's In – Enjoy a treat!

We've been enjoying fine weather for some weeks now and with schools now closed until September, it's officially summer! Hopefully it will be 'bucket and spade' weather for some time yet.

The balmy sunshine and warm weather have, I hope, allowed you to take your 'foot off the pedal' from the usual routine and take a breath from busy lives to enjoy some tranquillity or peace in the open air – whether or not you are a parent or carer – to take a few moments to sit in your garden (if you have one) or perhaps to rest on a park bench and just enjoy the sights and sounds of summer and nature.

Recharging is essential. Even Jesus needed some quiet time to rest and reflect. If you haven't been able to do so yet, then do try to do so within the next few weeks, before the usual autumnal tasks take over your schedule.

A break from one's routine can be as good for your body and mind as a holiday abroad. The public parks, benches and countryside are just a few minutes away. Give yourself a little 'me' time, to calm, reflect and recharge.

Oh, and by the way, Fr Joseph told me a couple of weeks ago that, as it is now the summer holiday season, we should give parishioners a treat for August – three-minute homilies!

Deacon Alan

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 16th August			
Sunday 16 th August Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	People of the Parish Bob Stabler (RIP)
Monday 17 th August Week twenty in Ordinary Time			No Mass
Tuesday 18 th August Week twenty in Ordinary Time	P/E	10 am	Funeral of Jan Walraven
Wednesday 19 th August Week twenty in Ordinary Time	C/T	10 am	
Thursday 20 th August Memorial of St Bernard	P/E	10 am	Funeral of Susanne Elizabeth Davies
Friday 21 st August Memorial of St Pius X	C/T	10 am	
Saturday 22 nd August Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	C/T	10 am 10.45 am	Intentions to Our Lady of Rushen Confessions
Sunday 23 rd August Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time	C/T P/E	9 am 11 am	)

Responsorial Psalm:

Show us, O Lord, your mercy, and grant us your salvation.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia

I long for you, O Lord my soul longs for his word.

Alleluia

Communion Antiphon:

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

Teaching Session and Celebration of Jubilee Year of St. Francis of Assisi

Pope Leo XIV has proclaimed 2026 a Jubilee Year of St Francis, marking the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi. This has particular significance for our parish of St Mary and St Columba. Around 1373, the Franciscan Friars Minor established Bymacan Friary in Arbory, within the bounds of our present parish, and served the people of the south of the Isle of Man until the dissolution in 1540. Their legacy remains an important part of our spiritual heritage. To help mark this special occasion, we have invited Fr Maximilian Martin, OFM Conv. to the Isle of Man, weekend of the 26th-27th of September. As part of the visit, he will be doing a talk at St Columba's starting at 10 am on Saturday 26th September. He will offer two teaching sessions to the Catholic and Christian communities on the Island. The two sessions, each 45 minutes, with a short tea/coffee break between them, will be:

1. Caring for Creation, Promotion of Peace, and Serving the Poor. A reflection on the heart of Franciscan mission and its relevance for Christian discipleship today.
2. The Relevance of Franciscan Spirituality in the Modern World. How the Charism of St Francis continues to speak powerfully to contemporary society and to the life of the Church.

Jubilee Year of St Francis – Parish Celebration:

On Sunday 27th September, our parish will joyfully celebrate the Jubilee Year of St Francis, marking the 800th anniversary of his death. We are blessed that Fr. Maximilian Martin, OFM Conv. Will be the Main Celebrant of the Eucharist at St Columba at 11 am, for this special occasion. All Parishioners and God's people are warmly invited to continue the celebration together with a Faith Plate lunch in the parish hall, following the Mass. May this Jubilee year deepen our love for Christ, renew our Franciscan spirit, and strengthen our unity as God's people on the Isle of Man.

About Father Maximilian Martin:

Fr. Maximilian Martin, OFM Conv. Is the serving Custos (Major Superior) of the Greyfriars in Great Britain and Ireland. He is currently living in the Liverpool Convent of Greyfriars. Fr. Maximilian, who also ministers to the Secular Franciscans, has a passion for the life and spirituality of St. Francis, and his particular area of interest includes the interface of the Franciscan charism with Catholic Social Teaching and the care for creation. Fr. Maximilian's hobbies include music, cooking, reading and long walks. A much-loved brother in his community, Fr. Maximilian teaches with an engaging style, and he brings to all of his presentations the warmth, joy and humanity so associated with the Seraphic Father Saint Francis.

Mass Intentions Received: Brendan O’Friel, Jan Walraven, James Wadsworth, and Bob Stabler

Parish Diary

19 th September 6.30 to 9 pm	Barn Dance at St Columba’s Hall
26 th September 10 am	Teaching session with Fr Maxmilian Martin OFM at St Columba’s.
27 th September 11 am	Parish Celebration of the Jubilee Year of St Francis
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: Susan 460514, Nick 431606, Dee 437487, or Lynn 472867

Second Collections to the end of the year

Sunday 13 th September	Catholic Education
Sunday 20 th September	Home Missions
Sunday 18 th October	APF World Missions
Sunday 22 nd November	Animate Youth
Sunday 13 th December	Christmas Flowers for churches

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

Archdiocese of Liverpool

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