

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

## **Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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### **A Changing Time of Year – Unchanging Message**

This time of year, may seem familiar to us – a change in season, changing times for many, especially where children are concerned – first time in school perhaps or the changing of class year for all those in education. Changing weather, changing of clothes into warmer wear!

Some things don't change – unfortunately. We live in a world where violence or terrorism seem to be top of the news programmes. Of attacks on the innocent, of anger in what is often referred to as 'social media' – which sometimes can be very anti-social. In such times of media overload, where do Jesus' words fit in or how do they fit into our daily lives?

Well, in order to understand what Jesus is really saying to us, we need to put aside our prejudices and assumptions and really listen to what he is saying. As Fr Bonaventure said in his homily last week - In the Old Testament, hatred of evildoers is presumed to be the right attitude to have aka 'An eye for an eye'. But Jesus asks us to extend love to the enemy and the persecutor, something he himself practised.

The Golden Rule, which is sometimes expressed as 'Do not do to others what you would not want them to do to you,' may be expressed in positive terms as 'Do unto others as you would wish done unto you.'

Jesus is not telling us to be in love with our enemies. He is not even telling us to like them. The Greek word used is Agape. It is an attitude of positive regard towards other people by which we wish for their well-being. In other words, we wish them to change their mindset, their perspective, so that they may see the world, us and everything in a better way.

To put Jesus' teaching into action, we need to change our conventional thinking at the deepest level, to see things His way. The emphasis is on reaching out to others. It is a change of mindset, of (in Greek) Metanoia!

We hear the Greek word Metanoia in the three Synoptic Gospels and in the Acts of the Apostles. It means a change of heart or having a change of perspective in what and how we see things, allowing us to undergo a metamorphosis or change in our lives and faith.

In times of stress, of anxiety and/or change, perhaps the words of Julian of Norwich in her Revelations of Divine Love, may resonate or be apt: 'All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.'

**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).

| <b>Week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> September</b>                                  |            |               |                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> September<br><b>Twenty- Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> | C/T<br>P/E | 9 am<br>11 am | People of the Parish<br>Dan Hanifin and Hanifin family |
| Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> September<br><b>Feast of St Mathew</b>                    |            |               | No Mass                                                |
| Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September<br><b>Tuesday in Ordinary Time</b>             | P/T        | 10 am         | Kieran Collister (Operation)                           |
| Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September<br><b>Memorial of St Pius of Pietrelcina</b> | C/T        | 10 am         |                                                        |
| Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> September<br><b>Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham</b>     | P/E        | 10 am         | Gary Heaney                                            |
| Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> September<br><b>Friday in Ordinary Time</b>               | C/T        | 10 am         | People of the Parish                                   |
| Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> September<br><b>Saturday in Ordinary Time</b>           | C/T        |               | No Mass                                                |
| Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> September<br><b>Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>  | C/T<br>P/E | 9 am<br>11 am | Doreen Short (Ann)<br>Eileen Fidler (RIP)              |

**Responsorial Psalm:**

The Lord is close to all who call him.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, alleluia**

Open our hearts, O Lord, that we may pay attention to the words of your son.

**Alleluia**

**Communion Antiphon**

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

**Second Collection:** There is a second collection today for Home Missions.

**Pilgrimage:** Prayers are requested for Julie Maddrell as she embarks on her pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in Spain along the Camino de Santiago this upcoming week.

**Jubilee Year of St Francis – Parish Celebration:** A reminder of the teaching sessions with Fr Maxmilian Martin OFM on Saturday, 26th September, and on Sunday, 27th September, the parish Jubilee Mass at St Columba's at 11 am. Our 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.

**Mass Intentions Received:** Kieran Collister.

## Parish Diary

|                                            |                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 26 <sup>th</sup> September<br>10 am        | Teaching session with Fr Maxmilian Martin OFM at St Columba's. |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> September<br>11 am        | Parish Celebration of the Jubilee Year of St Francis           |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> November<br>11 am to 1 pm | SVP Christmas Fayre at St Columba's Hall                       |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> December<br>10 am          | Christmas Wreath Making Class at St Columba's Hall             |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> December<br>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 18 <sup>th</sup> October  | APF World Missions             |
| Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November | Animate Youth                  |
| Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> December | Christmas Flowers for churches |

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

Archdiocese of Liverpool

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