**NEWSLETTER**

 **Parishes of St Anthony of Padua, Onchan; St Mary of the Isle & St Joseph, Douglas
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 **6th Sunday of Easter, 25th May 2025**

 **(**Year C for Sundays; Cycle 1 for weekdays)

 *(Page 449 in Missal for Order of the Mass) (Mass Readings: Page 863)*

Dear Parishioners,

Last Sunday afternoon, a Cistercian monk, a friend of Catholic journal *The* *Tablet*, found himself in the departure lounge at Heathrow with tears in his eyes. He hadn’t been pick-pocketed or mislaid his passport in the folds of his habit. He had, instead, been listening to the **Holy Father Pope Leo XIV** say Mass to mark the inauguration of his pontificate.

His tears were not surprising. Anyone who watched as the Pope accepted the fisherman’s ring from Cardinal Tagle, stared at it for several seconds, and looked momentarily overcome with what he was taking on, will surely have had a lump in their throat. And then came the homily, with St Augustine’s not-to-be-forgotten words, “Lord, you have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you”; and the reminder of how Christ urged his disciples “to cast their nets again and again, to bring the hope of the Gospel into the ‘waters’ of the world”.

The Tablet reported on **Pope Leo’s inaugural sermon** as follows:

*Pope Leo has said that the self-sacrificing love of St Peter can unite the church. ‘Peter must shepherd the flock without ever yielding to the temptation to be an autocrat, lording it over those entrusted to him,’ said Pope Leo XIV preaching at the inaugural Mass of his papacy in St Peter’s Square last Sunday. Pope Leo described his experience of the conclave, where cardinals ‘could feel the working of the Holy Spirit, who was able to bring us into harmony, like musical instruments, so that our heartstrings could vibrate in a single melody.’*

*‘I was chosen, without any merit of my own, and now, with fear and trembling, I come to you as a brother, who desires to be the servant of your faith and your joy, walking with you on the path of God’s love, for he wants us all to be united in one family,’ he said. Leo emphasised the importance of love and unity to the Pope’s role. ‘The ministry of Peter is distinguished precisely by this self-sacrificing love, because the Church of Rome presides in charity and its true authority is the charity of Christ,’ he said.*

*For a world facing ‘too much discord, too many wounds caused by hatred, violence, prejudice’, the Church could be ‘a small leaven of unity, communion and fraternity within the world…..This is the missionary spirit that must animate us,’ he said, ‘not closing ourselves off in our small groups, nor feeling superior to the world.’*

*‘Brothers and sisters, this is the hour of love,’ he continued, citing the encyclical of ‘Rerum Novarum’. With my predecessor Leo XIII, we can ask ourselves today: ‘If this criticism were to prevail in the world, would not every conflict cease and peace return?’*

*In his Regina Caeli address following the Mass, Pope Leo said the Church ‘cannot forget our brothers and sisters who are suffering because of war’, particularly in Gaza, Ukraine and Myanmar.’*

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An Augustinian priest who taught Pope Leo as a student at Villanova University in the USA had this to say about him: *‘I remember that particular class well. It included several particularly bright young people who went on to have outstanding careers – even if they did not all end up quite as globally glamorous as Bob Prevost…. Bob was not the most vocal student in the class. He listened. One of the virtues the cardinals saw in him was his ability to lead by listening to what other people had to say, making them feel heard, which they call the ‘synodal’ spirit. So maybe that was already on display back then. It is a virtue badly needed in these dark days,’* his old teacher reflects.   (The Tablet 24 May 2025)

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At 12 noon on Tuesday 27th May ournew **Archbishop John Sherrington** will be installed as Archbishop of Liverpool in the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King in Liverpool. As well as clergy and people of the Archdiocese, this ceremony will be attended by the Apostolic Nuncio and the bishops of England and Wales. Priests and People from the dioceses of Nottingham and Westminster, where Archbishop John spent many years serving as a priest and bishop, will also be attending. A small contingent of clergy and lay people will be travelling to the Metropolitan Cathedral from the Isle of Man. This Mass will be livestreamed on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGZxo1xn1zQ>

**On 10th June at 2.00pm, Archbishop John will be travelling to the Island to be installed in our cathedral church of Saint Mary of the Isle. All are welcome.** Catholics from across the Island are invited. The Lieutenant Governor and Lady Lorimer will be joined by Isle of Man Government dignitaries and civic leaders along with ecumenical guests from the Island’s Christian churches. The ceremony will be followed by a reception. **For catering purposes, it is essential that you let us know if you are coming by emailing the parish office by 31 May 2025**. We will be charged per head, so names and exact numbers are required. *Fr John*

* **T & Chat** will meet on **3 June 2025** from 10.30am – 12 noon at St. Anthony’s Pastoral Centre. Tea / coffee and cakes will be served, please come along! For further enquiries please contact Josie on 406063.
* **Film Night and Cheese & Wine:** On **Saturday 14 June** in the **Columba Club**, there will be a showing of the topical film “Conclave”. This will be accompanied by a cheese and wine tasting. Doors open at 7pm with the film commencing at 7.45pm. Tickets for the evening are £17.50 and can be ordered from Richard Coase or Brian Murphy at the back of St Mary’s church or via the Parish Office. Proceeds will go to support the Club.
* Thank you to parishioners who bakes cakes for the Sunday morning refreshments after Mass.

**Masses and Services for the coming week**

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

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| **Saturday 24th May**6th Sunday of Easter | 5.00pm | St Mary’s | Cyrus, Naro & Angeline intentions |
| **Sunday 25th May**6th Sunday of Easter | 9.30am11.00am | St Anthony’sSt Mary’s | People of our ParishesFr Brian Dougherty, recently died |
| **Monday 26th May**St Philip Neri | *No Mass or Service* |  | *No Mass or Service today* |
| **Tuesday 27th May**St Augustine of Canterbury | *10.00am**No 12.10pm Mass**today in St Mary’s* | *St Anthony’s**St Mary’s* | *Eucharistic Service**No 12.10 Mass:* ***Archbishop’s Installation Mass in Liverpool at 12 noon*** |
| **Wednesday 28th May** | 12.10pm***1.30pm*** | St Mary’s***Lawn Cemetery*** | Deceased Clergy***Funeral Service: Marina Tait*** |
| **Thursday 29th May*****The Ascension of the Lord (Holyday)*** | 12.10pm***7.00pm*** | St Mary’s***St Anthony’s*** | Roney family, deceasedErnest John Reilly, deceased |
| **Friday 30th May** | 12.10pm | St Mary’s | Una Kelly, anniversary |
| **Saturday 31st May**7th Sunday of Easter*World Communications Day* | 11.00am to 12noon5.00pm | St Mary’sSt Mary’s | Exposition and Confessions Antonio Amosin, anniversary |
| **Sunday 1st June**7th Sunday of Easter*World Communications Day* | 9.30am11.00am | St Anthony’sSt Mary’s | Carmel Worboyes, deceasedPeople of our Parishes |

We remember in our prayers **Marina Tait** who died recently and whose funeral takes place on Wednesday. May she rest in peace.

This week we welcome TT contestants and visitors. We will do our best to ensure the good weather continues 

TT fortnight also means Exam time. We pray for our young people at this time that they do themselves justice.