**St. Mary’s & St. Columba’s Parish Newsletter**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

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**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Today’s readings start out with the stoning to death of St. Stephen – for preaching the love of God and the redemption offered by Christ. The Gospel passage ends: ‘I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.’

Our time of Easter is almost concluded, with Pentecost just a week away. We celebrated the Easter triduum, that is: the trial, death and resurrection of Jesus. It is a festival of three parts: Jesus’ suffering in this world, loss and emptiness followed by joy at the fulfilment of God’s promise – the fact that death has no lasting hold upon us – we can and should look forward to life everlasting. Through our faith in God and His message, His promise.

We are a people of Easter - of life after death. We must live in and through this world, this life, for a time but it is not the end, only a journey toward our destiny. Light can and will always outshine darkness – even when we are experiencing the pain of this world. Stephen is an example of man’s inhumanity to man. That was 2,000 years ago. We have very similar examples at this very moment in the world. It is easy to despair, to wonder where God is in all this. God is in the heart and soul of every person – man, woman and child suffering in the conflicts we see, and in those of individuals suffering in any way in this life. But it is not the end.

The Apostles waited, unknowing, after Jesus’ crucifixion and death, wondering, we have the advantage of knowing the outcome! We have journeyed with Jesus and his followers since Easter. We have heard the message of Christ and seen the Apostles’ understanding develop. We await the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Let us embrace that love, in faith, knowing what awaits us.

**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).

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| **Week commencing 1st June** | | | |
| Sunday 1st June  **Seventh Sunday of Easter** | C/T  P/E | 9 am  11 am | People of the Parish  Angela Main Thompson (RIP) |
| Monday 2nd June  **Monday week seven of Easter** |  |  | No Mass |
| Tuesday 3rd June  **Memorial of St. Charles Lwanga and Companions**. | P/E | 10 am | Elaine Morley (RIP) |
| Wednesday 4th June  **Wednesday week seven of Easter** | C/T | 10 am |  |
| Thursday 5th June  **Memorial of St Boniface** | P/E | 10 am  10.45 am | Louise Heaney (RIP)  Confessions |
| Friday 6th June  **Friday week seven of Easter** | C/T | 10 am |  |
| Saturday 7th June  **Saturday week seven of Easter** | C/T | 10 am    10.45 am | Intentions to Our Lady of Rushen  Adoration and Confession |
| Sunday 8th June  **Solemnity of Pentecost** | C/T  P/E | 9 am  11 am | Barry Smith (RIP)  People of the Parish |

**Responsorial Psalm:**

The Lord is King, most high above all the earth

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, Alleluia**

I will not leave you as orphans, says the Lord.

I am going away, and I will come to you, and your hearts will rejoice.

**Alleluia**

**Communion Antiphon:**

Father, I will pray that they may be one as we also are one alleluia.

**Jubilee Year 2025:**  During the year of the Jubilee the parish motto will be, “Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.” (Rom 12:12)

**Offertory Collection:**  Last week the offertory collection was £246.40   Thank you for your generous offerings both by direct debt and in Mass.

**Second Collection:** This Sunday there is a second collection for World Communications. Next Sunday there will be a second collection for Spiritans Missions.

**Installation of new Archbishop:** Will be installed into his seat at the Co-Cathedral Church of St. Mary of the Isle during a special service at 2pm on Tuesday, June 10th. On that day, we hope all roads on the Isle of Man will lead to St. Mary’s of the Isle to welcome and greet Archbishop John Sherrington. 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.

**Angela Main Thompson:** It is with great sadness that we note the death, last week, of Angela Main Thompson, a valued member of our congregation and the wider community. She died peacefully in hospital after a short illness. May she rest in peace. Our sincere condolences go to Howard Connell, her loving husband and great friend of our Parish.

**Barn Dance Social evening:** Barn Dance Social Evening on Saturday 13th September. Brendan McLaughlin will provide the music, and Carol Hayes will call the dances. This will be a faith supper so please bring a plate to share and your own cold drinks. Fancy dress optional. We are limited to 50 people in the hall, so if you would like to secure a ticket, please contact any social club member after church. Cost £2.50 adults and £1 children.

**Eucharistic Ministers:** All Eucharistic Ministers are requested to attend a meeting on Tuesday 10th June at 7pm at St Columba’s Hall**.**

**Mass Intentions:** Barry Smith, Lucy Gresty, Louise Heaney, and Angela Main Thompson

**Parish Diary**

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| 10th June  2 pm | Installation of Archbishop John Sherrington to his seat at Co-Cathedral Church of St. Mary Douglas |
| 10th June  7 pm | Eucharistic Ministers meeting at St Columba Hall |
| 14th June  10 am | Island Spirituality Network at St John’s Mill. The theme is “The Psalms” with Kiran Wimberley. |
| 26th July  Time to be announced | Concert at St. Columba’s with Rushen Silver Band and Castleford Young Musicians. |
| 16th August  Afternoon | Procession and open-air Mass at Rushen Abbey. |
| 13th September  7 pm to 9.30 pm | Parish Barn Dance at St Columba’s Hall. |
| 14th December  3 pm | Parish Nativity Service at St. Columba’s. |

If you have any thoughts on how we can celebrate the Jubilee Year as a parish, please talk to Deacon Alan or Graeme.  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 until the end of September

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| 1st June | World Communications |
| 15th June | Day for Life |
| 29th June | Peter’s Pence |
| 20th July | Priests in Retirement |
| 14th September | Catholic Education |
| 21st September | Evangelii Gaudium |

**“Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer”**

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