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

**Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity**

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**The Trinity: The Source of Life**

God, who existed before all creation, is the Creator of everything that exists. The life we cherish is a sacred gift from God that we must treasure, protect, and nurture. Today, we celebrate Trinity Sunday, which also marks the Day of Life—a day dedicated to honouring the dignity of human life from conception to natural death.

Life is not to be tampered with or taken away. God’s commandment, “Thou shalt not kill,” instructs us to avoid all forms of murder—physically through homicide, suicide, abortion, and euthanasia (or “assisted dying”)—as well as spiritually through scandal, where we lead others into sin. Mortal sin destroys the life of grace in our souls and can be viewed as a type of spiritual suicide.

In 2024, Christian communities across the island united several times in front of the government building in Douglas to oppose the “Assisted Dying Bill.” With placards bearing messages like “PROTECT THE VULNERABLE, BIN THE BILL, AND CAMPAIGN FOR DIGNITY IN DYING,” they demonstrated a commitment to safeguard vulnerable groups, including the elderly, people with disabilities, and those with serious illnesses. This unity supports the Day of Life, dedicated to reflecting on the importance and dignity of every human being.

Saint John Paul II taught that “life is a good, a precious gift from God,” urging us never to abandon the sanctity of life, no matter how challenging circumstances may seem. Scripture reinforces this belief: “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you” (Jeremiah 1:5).

As we reflect on the gift of life, let us commit to valuing it, recognizing that every life is a precious creation of God, deserving of dignity and respect. We join the Psalmist in declaring, “For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you, for I am wondrously made” (Psalm 139:13-14).

**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).

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| **Week commencing 15th June** | | | |
| Sunday 15th June  **Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity** | C/T  P/E | 9 am  11 am | Robert Preston( RIP)  Sheila Preston (Birthday)  People of the Parish |
| Monday 16th June  **Weekday in Ordinary Time** |  |  | No Mass |
| Tuesday 17th June  **Weekday in Ordinary Time** | P/E | 10 am | Charles Mc Cue (RIP) |
| Wednesday 18th June  **Memorial of St John Rigby** | C/T | 10 am | Tony Glen (Sick) |
| Thursday 19th June  **Weekday in Ordinary Time** | P/E | 10 am  10.45 am | Confessions |
| Friday 20th June  **Weekday in Ordinary Time** | C/T | 10 am | Angela Main Thompson (RIP) |
| Saturday 21st June  **Memorial of St Aloysius Gonzaga** | C/T | 10 am  10.45 am | Sheila O’Toole (Ann)  Adoration and Confession |
| Sunday 22nd June  **The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ** | C/T  P/E | 9 am  11 am | People of the Parish  Angela Main Thompson (RIP) |

**Responsorial Psalm:**

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name through all the earth!

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, Alleluia**

Glory be the father, and to the son, and to the Holy Spirit,

the God who is and who was and who is to come.

**Alleluia,**

**Communion Antiphon:**

Since you are children of God, God has sent into your hearts the Spirit of his Son the Spirit who cries out Abba Father.

**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 £124.61 and second collection for Spiritans Missions was £222.25  Thank you for your generous offerings both by direct debt and in Mass.

**Second Collection:** Next Sunday there is a second collection for Day of Life. **Please** **note** that there are some changes to dates of second collections.

**Getting Involved :** Many hands make light work. The more parishioners that are involved in each area, the less the time commitment is for any one individual. There are forms this weekend at the back of each church for those who would like to get involved within the parish. If wish to help, please fill in the form and leave it in the box at the back of each church.

**Eucharistic Ministers Meeting**: Thank you for all those who attended the Eucharistic Meeting this week.

**Parish Walk**: On Saturday 19th July we will be holding our annual Parish Walk. We will leave from St Mary’s Castletown at 11am and walk to St Columba’s via Scarlett. On arrival at St Columba’s there will be Sausage Baps and refreshments. Cost adults £4 and children £2. Please let any members of the Social Club know if you can make it. Thank you.

**Mass Intentions:** Angela Main Thompson, Charles Mc Cue, Tony Glen, and Shelia O’Toole

**Parish Diary**

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| 19th July  11 am | Parish Walk from St Mary’s to St Columba’s via Scarlett |
| 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 the year

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| 22nd June | Day for Life |
| 6th  July | Peter’s Pence |
| 20th July | Priests in Retirement |
| 14th September | Catholic Education |
| 21st September | Evangelii Gaudium |
| 19th October | APF World Missions |
| 23rd November | Animate Youth |

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

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