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

**Solemnity of St Peter and Paul**

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Saints Peter and Paul

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. What a combination! A fisherman, and a zealot. Uneducated Peter on the one hand and a Pharisee on the other. Paul who happily watched Saint Stephen – the first martyr of the early Church (and a deacon) - being stoned to death and thought it was a job well done and, on the other hand, Peter who appears to put his foot in his mouth every time he opens it.

These two individuals, who almost came to blows when they met, share the same day of honour in our Church calendar. Why? Well, they were and are such foundation stones for our faith, and not just for the early church. They provide an example of faith and of diversity and of grace. They both came to faith in Jesus Christ through their roots in Judaism. They had very different backgrounds and education, one a manual labourer (a fisherman), the other a scholar in the Torah. Both had their own epiphanies. Both, through the grace of God, were ‘baptised’ into their faith, our Christian faith.

Surely if today’s celebration of the faith of Saints Peter and Paul teaches us anything it is that we can be and are, by our faith, members of this same church. Whatever our background, our education or role in this life, we share the same faith journey and destiny as Peter and Paul. We are chosen by God. We are loved. Jesus commissioned Peter and the apostles, just as he commissions us. And as He said: “ I am with you always; yes, to the end of time” (Mt28:20)

**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 29th June** | | | |
| Sunday 29th June  **Solemnity of St Peter and Paul** | C/T  P/E | 9 am  11 am | People of the Parish  Judith Watkins (RIP |
| Monday 30th June  **Weekday in Ordinary Time** |  |  | No Mass |
| Tuesday 1st July  **Weekday in Ordinary Time** | P/E | 10 am | Elaine Morley ( RIP) |
| Wednesday 2nd July  **Weekday in Ordinary Time** | C/T | 10 am |  |
| Thursday 3rd July  **Feast of St Thomas** | P/E | 10 am  10.45 am | Angela Main Thompson (RIP)  Confessions |
| Friday 4th July  **Weekday in Ordinary Time** | C/T | 10 am | Noreen Nelson (RIP) |
| Saturday 5th July  **Weekday in Ordinary Time** | C/T | 10 am    10.45 am | Intentions to Our Lady of Rushen  Adoration and Confession |
| Sunday 6th July  **Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time** | C/T  P/E | 9 am  11 am | People of the Parish  Bob Stabler (RIP) |

**Responsorial Psalm:**

From all my terrors the Lord set me free.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, Alleluia**

You are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall

not prevail again.

**Alleluia**

**Communion Antiphon:**

Peter said to Jesus: You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.

And Jesus replied: You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church.

**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 £287.o4 Thank you for your generous offerings both by direct debt and in Mass

**Second Collection:** Last Sunday the second collection for Day of Life was £186.82. Next Sunday there is a second collection for Peter’s Pence.

**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.

**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.

**Mass Intentions:** Angela Main Thompson, Judith Wakins, Bob Stabler, Elaine Morley, and Noreen Nelson.

**Parish Diary**

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| 12th July  0am to 1pm | Island Spirituality Network at St John’s Mill. The theme is Church of Sanctuary with Rev. Inderjit Bhogal |
| 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  10am to 1pm | Island Spirituality Network at St John’s Mill. The theme is Who do you say that I am? With  Steven Hoyland. |
| 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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| 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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