

## **H**OLY WEEK LITURGY TIMES THIS WEEK:

**WEDNESDAY MASS** 10am,

**HOLY THURSDAY:** Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm

**GOOD FRIDAY:** The Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 3pm

**GOOD FRIDAY EVENING IN THE ORATORY:** 6.30pm - silent prayer followed by Stations of the Cross 7pm

**HOLY SATURDAY NIGHT:** Easter Vigil 8pm

**EASTER SUNDAY MORNING:** Mass in Rhosneigr at 9am and Mass in Holyhead at 11am

**EASTER CARDS:** are at the back of the Church with the Mass and Service times for this Holy Week and Easter in the various Faith Communities across the Island. Take one, and maybe one for someone not here this weekend.

**PRAY** for Vincent Short (4 Mile Bridge), Maureen Williams (Rhosneigr), Ana Klnard and Fred Topham who have died recently. And for those whose anniversaries are around this time - Ann McHugh, Pat Burgess, Kate Weir and Phillip Eddy

**VINCENT SHORT'S FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE:** to Church at 5pm this Monday. Funeral Mass at 12.30pm this Tuesday followed by cremation at Bangor.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION** last week £679.56. Thank you.

### **JOYCLUB WINNERS 3rd April**

£50 - 192 Helen                      £25 - 015 James Kerry

£10 - 070 Mary Williams        £5 - 075 Nicola M

**LENTEN LUNCHESES:** Thank you to all who supported the Wednesday Lenten Lunches at noontime which raised money for CAFOD. The five Wednesdays were very popular with parishioners and friends who came for a bowl of soup and a piece of bread and cheese. There was also a raffle each week which helped boost the funds. Special thanks to the various "teams" who took a Wednesday and prepared the soup, bought the bread and butter and contributed prizes - all paid for by themselves. The total money raised (including our *Family Fast* 2nd collection) is **£1,009**. Fantastic!!

**HYMN BOOKS.** Our stock of hymnals in St Mary's has reduced radically over the past few years. Part of the reason is that some have been taken by persons who have been bereaved - to select hymns for the funeral services of their loved ones. It is easy to forget to return them in those difficult and painful circumstances. But maybe now they could be brought back. So - this is an appeal. If you have one, please return it. Many thanks. Also missing are a number of chequered tablecloths from our Parish Hall. Please return.

**HOLY PLACES COLLECTION:** The Holy Land Collection is taken up in most dioceses around the world on Good Friday. The collection ensures not only that sacred buildings remain accessible, but that local Christians are able to stay in their homeland. Funds gathered support young families, parishes, seminaries, schools, hospitals and clinics, and refugees.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to all who arranged, participated on stage and worked behind the scenes for *The French Night* of songs and hilarity last Saturday evening. Wonderful occasion raising £724 for the Zimbabwe "Sandra Jones" Orphanage which we have supported generously for a good while. The Can-Can was extraordinarily vigorous and executed with style and panache!! The bottom line is definitely—oo la la!!

**I****T IS A SAD REALITY** that only the most dedicated people in our communities attend the liturgies of the Sacred Paschal Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil). For some, the issue is work and family schedules, while for others it may be that they are not aware of the true importance of the Three Days. Many may come for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday without experiencing the full Triduum. Many Catholics, at this time, are just not Sunday Christians. These *Three Days* are one continuous, glorious liturgical celebration during which we accompany Christ to his death and celebrate his return from the dead. If people only attend Mass on Easter Sunday, they will find the tomb already empty. During these Three Days (Triduum) we celebrate all saints and no saints. The Liturgies of the Triduum take precedence over all saint's days, no matter how significant. And yet, during the Paschal Triduum we are constantly aware of the great company of witnesses who have gone before us, who have witnessed to the mystery of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection by the holiness of their lives. We remember them at the Easter Vigil, as well as in the various Eucharistic Prayers of the Masses of Holy Thursday and Easter Morning. Yes, the saints are with us during the Paschal Triduum!

**A****WARM WELCOME** to Fr Lorcan O'Reilly OMI. He will be on Anglesey for this Holy Week and Easter Day. This weekend he is with us in Holyhead and Rhosneigr. For the rest of the week he will minister liturgically in Benllech and Amlwch. Having only two priests on the Island presents difficulties at Christmas and Holy Week/Easter for our three pastoral areas. So having an extra priest for these extra-important days in the Church's calendar is a bonus for us all. All parishioners on the Island can participate in Mass and receive the Lord in Holy Communion. Fr Lorcan used to minister here - firstly along with Fr Sean McDermott and then on his own for a number of years. We welcome him back, thank him for his presence and hope his stay with us brings sunshine and mild weather! Welcome too to all you visitors who come here for holidays and visits to families living here. Thank you for your presence among us here in Church and for joining in with us at the various liturgies that this week unfolds for our participation.

**L****ENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE.** Our annual Lenten Service of Reconciliation took place last Wednesday evening in St Mary's. There were over 90 people present. Thank you to those who contributed to the Liturgy - both on the Sanctuary and behind the scenes by way of preparation for it to take place. For those unable to attend and would wish to avail of this form of Reconciliation there are two Services this week: both on Tuesday (16th) - one in the church in Amlwch and the other in the church in Benllech - both at 7pm.