



May 2022

Rushen Parish Magazine



John 21:4-9

Contact Details for Rushen Parish

Vicar:

Rev'd Joe Heaton (rev.joeheaton@gmail.com) 832275
Rushen Vicarage, Barracks Road, Port St Mary

Readers:

Mrs Margaret Galloway
Mrs Wendy Heaton
Mr Harry Dawson

Active Clergy

Rev Roger Harper
Rev John Gulland
Rev Ginny Viner

Church Wardens:

Mr Gerry Callister, 60 Ballamaddrell, Port Erin 474924/834627
Mr Harry Dawson, Thaloo Reagh, Cregneash 478050/835770
Mr Peter Hayhurst, Fois Fraon, Fistard 832974/464949

PCC Secretary:

Mr David Bowman, The Old Bakery, Qualtroughs Lane, 837117/260539
Port Erin

PCC Treasurer:

Mr Stephen Curtis, Clybane Cottage, Phildraw Road, 823475
Ballasalla

Parish Administrator and Safeguarding Officer for Children and Vulnerable People:

Mrs Claire Jennings: rushenparishorg@gmail.com 830850



From the Editor

Dear Friends

“Grief is like the ocean; it comes in waves, ebbing and flowing. Sometimes the water is calm, and sometimes it is overwhelming. All we can do is learn to swim.” This quotation, written by an author called Vicki Harrison, sums up how I have felt over the past two years.

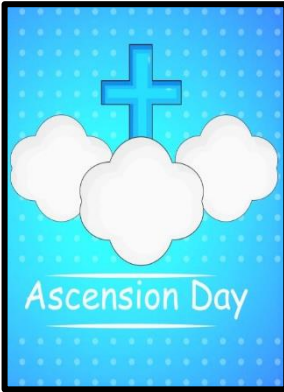
It is in fact two years ago, on 22nd April 2020, that my wife Pauline died. It is so hard to put into words how grief has affected me, and of course the many other people in our parish who have lost a loved one. The route that it takes for all relatives is probably different than the one I have endured, but nevertheless will have been overwhelming. You could almost say that you wouldn’t wish it on anyone, but all of us will face the death of a loved one, and it certainly isn’t easy.

So what is it that sees us through this difficult time? Here, in the Parish of Rushen, we are blessed by people who care, and will do their utmost to make the grieving process for the person who’s lost a loved one easier. Last month I wrote a true story about a little girl who, during a dramatic production, burst into tears at the sight of our Lord Jesus being crucified. She, like other Christians, was emotionally affected by the events on Good Friday, and in fact demonstrated this by grieving for the loss of Jesus.

I have never lived in a parish like this. The fellowship is second to none, and the different personalities which make up our congregations, so unique that my grief has been made easier. Nobody knows what I feel like when I go to bed at night without the person I cherished and loved from the bottom of my heart. Or what I feel when I wake up and immediately imagine that she’s there with me, and then suddenly realise that she isn’t. I still have some of her belongings because I can’t bear to part with them. I even bedeck the bed with six teddy bears in the same order that she placed them when she made it in the morning. It is so hard.

Despite all this I have you, my friends, and Jesus, who have made my life bearable when it could have been so different, and for this I thank you from the bottom of my heart. Queen Elizabeth said these words as part of a condolence message she sent to the families of the 250 British victims of the 9/11 terrorist attack, *“Grief is the price we pay for love.”* She was so right.

David



Where did Jesus go at the Ascension?

(26th May 2022)

In Salvador Dali's picture of Jesus' ascension all you can see are his feet! As we celebrate the event this month, it prompts the question 'where did Jesus go?' Peter says Jesus 'has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand' (1 Peter 3:22).

However, the New Testament tells us three things about what Jesus is doing at the Father's side.

At Pentecost Peter said that Jesus is 'exalted to the right hand of God, He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear...*"The Lord said to my Lord: 'Sit at my right hand'"* (Acts 2: 33-4). Peter is affirming Jesus' position of authority and power at the heart of the universe. By pouring out the gift of the Holy Spirit upon us, Jesus gives us a foretaste of the life of heaven ie eternal life, forgiveness, healing, release and God's provision for our lives.

When Stephen, the first Christian martyr, was being stoned to death by the Jewish authorities he points out, 'I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.' (Acts 7:56). Our experience of heaven is only ever partial, as we live with the reality of suffering and setbacks. However, Jesus is still on the throne! We are called to trust him daily.

The Bible also tells us that 'Christ Jesus who died....is interceding for us.' (Romans 8:34, cf Hebrews 7:25). Even when we don't know how to pray, we have the assurance that Jesus is already praying for us! He knows our needs even better than we do ourselves, so when we feel condemned or defeated in our Christian lives, we have somebody on our side! The Ascension reminds us that the risen Jesus lives in the immediate presence of God, and both transcends and embraces our present experience. This truth lies at the heart of the *up* language used to describe the event.

'Heaven relates to earth tangentially so that the One who is in heaven can be present simultaneously anywhere and everywhere on earth: the ascension therefore means that Jesus is available, accessible, without people having to travel to a particular spot on the earth to find Him.' (Tom Wright)

When children pray (they did their best!)

~ Give us this steak and daily bread, and then forgive us our mattresses.

~ Hail, Mary, full of grapes.

~ He suffered under a bunch of violets. (Pontius Pilate)

Ladies Working Party – St Mary's



Thanks to the generosity of the Clucas family who gathered all the flowers, a team of helpers from the parish churches were able to make up more than 100 posies of nice fresh daffodils. These were handed out at a lovely Mothering Sunday Service on 27th March, with those remaining going to Southlands. Thank you to all who helped in any way.

As I write this, the sun is shining and temperatures are rising, albeit slowly. We are meeting soon to fill vases and decorate the church once again for Easter. We continue to set up and serve refreshments at the back of church after morning services, and look forward to a time when all the reordering can be done. Also, we are starting to think about holding a coffee morning soon, but no date as yet.

Mr and Mrs Rivers keep us informed with regular newsletters about the impact of the war in Ukraine on the families and children with whom the charity Friends of Chernobyl's Children was involved. The best way of providing practical aid for Ukrainian children is being investigated by FOCC IOM.

Our weekly meetings on Tuesday afternoons continue to be well attended although one or two members have recently had Covid. As we do at the start of each of our meetings, we pray for those in poor health, in hospital or awaiting results.

With love and very best wishes from all the ladies

Pat Thomson



*This photograph was taken at the Palm Sunday All-Age Service at St Mary's.
Please turn to pages 6 and 7 to find out more*

News from St Mary's Sunday School

At the end of March, we had an enjoyable lesson in preparation for Mothering Sunday. We looked at the historical context and played a game to match up the names of significant mothers in the Bible and their children, eg Sarah and Isaac; Jochebed and Moses, Aaron and Miriam; Hannah and Samuel; Elizabeth and John the Baptist, and, of course, Mary and Jesus. The children also made beautiful 'lollipop cards' for their mums, in the shape of hearts which unfold into flowers. On Mothering Sunday itself, we had a joyful joint service at Kirk Christ, where the children helped give out the beautiful flower posies lovingly prepared by members of our congregations with flowers from the Clucas family's orchard. Many thanks!

On the first Sunday in April, we learnt about the events of Holy Week from Palm Sunday to Easter, with the help of 'resurrection eggs' (each plastic egg contains a small item to represent part of the Easter story, with the eggs themselves being a symbol of the 'new life' we have in Jesus). We waved palms to the song "We have a king who rides a donkey" and thought about Jesus the King fulfilling the Old Testament prophecy in an unexpected way. We remembered the Last Supper by sharing tortilla bread and 'wine' (red juice) to represent Jesus's body broken for us and His blood poured out for us on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. We thought about how Jesus would have felt when He prayed in the garden of Gethsemane and how He chose to do God's will, although He knew that it would be very painful. We remembered the cruel death Jesus died for each of us on the cross, ... in order to give us everlasting life! When we opened the egg for Easter Sunday, it was empty! Why? Because Jesus was no longer in the tomb – He had risen! God had raised Him back to life! Hooray! And Jesus is alive today and lives in our hearts! Alleluia! Praise the Lord!

The following week we celebrated Palm Sunday in our all-age service, led by Ginny Viner, who had prepared a dramatised version of the gospel for all to join in with. Peter played the part of Jesus, with Lukas and Thomas as his disciples, who he sent ahead to get the young donkey. Margot shouted for her dad Henry, the donkey owner (who relished acting his part), and he agreed to let the disciples take the donkey (as long as they would bring it back later!). As Jesus rode into Jerusalem, the crowds (i.e. the congregation) welcomed him by putting their coats on the ground, waving palm branches and shouting "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory to God in the highest! Hosanna, Hosanna!" Even the Pharisees, convincingly played by David and Stephen, couldn't stop them from shouting praises to their king!

In her talk, the Rev Ginny Viner also mentioned other significant references to donkeys in the Bible, mainly portraying the ideas of service, suffering, peace and humility. During our intercessions, we held our blessed palm crosses, as we faced first North, then East, South and finally West to pray for the various needs of the world. Following this joyful service, we all enjoyed refreshments and fellowship. Many thanks to all who helped on

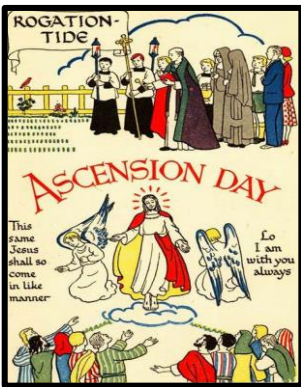
(Continued on page 7)

the day, and especially to our 'cast' who all played their parts very well.

On Easter Sunday, the Rev Ginny Viner led us in our joyful celebration of the glorious resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The church had been beautifully decorated with flowers bursting with joy in bright colours, and the window ledges showed our solidarity with the people of Ukraine. It was wonderful to be able to celebrate Easter together in church for the first time in three years! With several Sunday School families away on holiday, Laura and Emily did very well in our annual Easter egg hunt, and everybody enjoyed the special refreshments prepared and served by the ladies of St Mary's. Thank you!

Easter Blessings

Claudia Koenig, Helen Guy and Lukas Hayhurst



Rogation Sunday (22nd May)

Rogation means an asking of God - for blessing on the seed and land for the year ahead. It is appropriate in any emergency, war, plague, drought or foul weather. The practice began with the Romans, who invoked the help of the gods Terminus and Ambarvalia. In those days a crowd moved in procession around the cornfields, singing and dancing, sacrificing animals, and driving away Winter with sticks. They wanted to rid the cornfields of evil.

In about 465 the Western world was suffering from earthquake, storm and epidemic. So Mamertius, Bishop of Vienne, aware of the popular pagan custom, ordered that prayers should be said in the ruined or neglected fields on the days leading up to Ascension. With his decision, 'beating the bounds' became a Christian ceremonial.

Rogation-tide arrived in England early in the eighth century and became a fixed and perennial asking for help of the Christian God. On Rogation-tide, a little party would set out to trace the boundaries of the parish. At the head marched the bishop or the priest, with a minor official bearing a Cross, and after them the people of the parish, with schoolboys and their master trailing along. Most of them held slender wands of willow. At certain points along the route - at well-known landmarks like a bridge or stile or ancient tree, the Cross halted, the party gathered about the priest, and a litany or rogation is said, imploring God to send seasonable wealth, keep the corn and roots and boughs in good health, and bring them to an ample harvest. At some point beer and cheese would be waiting.

In the days when maps were neither common nor accurate, there was much to be said for 'beating the bounds.' It was still very common as late as the reign of Queen Victoria. Certainly, parish boundaries rarely came into dispute, for everyone knew them.

Parish Pump



News from St Catherine's & Kirk Christ



Firstly, a big thank you to all who decorated both Kirk Christ and St Catherine's churches so beautifully with spring flowers for our Easter services. Many good comments were made by the congregations of both churches in connection with how beautifully they were both decorated. Again our thanks are to those who kindly donated flowers and foliage to add to the ambience.

We held our normal Easter services at both churches and attendance at them all was good. The service at St Catherine's Church attracted seventy adults and five under sixteens. The vicar had organised an Easter Bingo as part of his address with the congregation crossing off numbers whilst answering Christian questions. This was well received even though there were no prizes!

At Kirk Christ the Dawn Service was attended by sixteen people. As usual this was a moving service, starting in the dawn light then moving outside and waiting for the sun to appear over the horizon. It was lovely to be back at this service after three years. Unfortunately we did not see a lot of sun owing to the mist hovering around so we didn't actually see the sunrise. Actually it was really exciting to be back at this service having not being able to attend during 2020 and 2021 because of the pandemic.

We now look forward to the joint service being held on 24th April at Kirk Christ. It is so good for the congregations of our four churches to meet for worship. Please do continue to attend our joint services which are held on the fourth Sunday of every month.

Can I remind you of the Soup Inn on 5th May in St Catherine's Church Hall from 12 noon to 1.30pm. Soup and desserts are always required for this event which always takes place on the first Thursday of every month. If you are able to supply these, or help with the serving of food, I would be most grateful.

On the following day, 6th May, we are holding another Murder Mystery Evening in St Catherine's Church Hall. Tickets for this event are still available at £20 each. For this you are provided with food and a dessert as well as having an evening of fun. If you could provide a raffle prize please contact me on 474924. On Friday 17th June we are holding a quiz evening, again in St Catherine's Church Hall. I will supply you with details in next month's magazine. At this fish and chips, or sausage and chips will be served. Please make a note of the date in your diaries. Again you will be guaranteed with lots of fun, and a chance to show how knowledgeable you are. There will be a raffle but prizes will not be requested until nearer the date of the quiz. Regards ad blessings.

Gerry Callister

Sudoku May 2022

	2				1	4		6
9					3	8		
				4				3
	6		2					
	5						4	
					9		7	
6				2				
		3	9					1
8		1	5				9	

Encyclopaedias

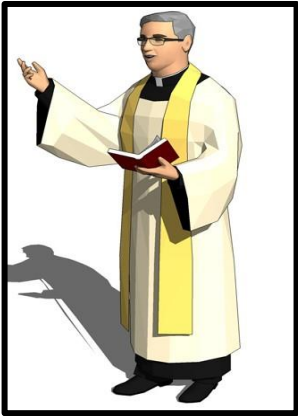
Sorting out books for the local fete, a parishioner came across some well-worn and dusty illustrated encyclopaedias, treasured from his childhood. Unwilling to part with them, he put them on a shelf in the garage where his small grandchildren found them and spent many happy hours looking at the pictures. These books, however, caused him great embarrassment the day the minister came to visit. One of his grandchildren suddenly said: "Granddad, can we go look at those dirty books you keep in the garage?"

April Sudoku Solution

2	7	9	4	8	6	1	5	3
4	8	1	3	7	5	6	2	9
6	3	5	2	1	9	4	8	7
7	6	4	5	2	3	8	9	1
3	1	8	7	9	4	2	6	5
9	5	2	1	6	8	3	7	4
8	9	3	6	4	7	5	1	2
5	2	7	8	3	1	9	4	6
1	4	6	9	5	2	7	3	8

April Crossword Solution

W	O	M	B		A	G	N	O	S	T	I	C
I		I		Z	L		F	H		I		
L	O	N	G	A	G	O		F	L	E	E	T
L		O		B		R		A		R		Y
H	O	R	E	B		Y	E	L	L	O	W	
I				A		O				B		P
D	E	C	E	I	T	F	U	L	N	E	S	S
E		H				C		E				A
	B	A	N	I	S	H		T	O	W	E	L
A		L		F		R		O		O		M
B	O	I	L	S		I	N	F	E	R	N	O
L		C		O		S		F		S		D
E	T	E	R	N	I	T	Y		D	E	F	Y



Reflected Faith Series: The Meaning of Colours - part 1

*Editor: **The Revd Dr Jo White** continues her series on aspects of Christianity.*

In March, April and May this year the coloured frontal of the altar will have been changed many times – as will the colour of the priest’s vestments.

Each colour – and there can be as many as six in a church’s store – has a different meaning. They reflect the significance of that day or the season.

In **March purple** was used as a symbol of penitence, as we were in Lent and trying to prepare ourselves for Christ’s final act of love for each of us.

Holy Week – the time of Christ’s final journey – was denoted by the colour **red**. Red, the colour of blood, is used for feasts of martyrs as well as those for the Holy Spirit – when it more likely represents his flames of ‘fire’ which rested on those in the Upper Room.

Mundy Thursday, we switched to **white** for any Communion service, as this celebrates the remembrance of the first Communion with His apostles which He commanded us to continue.

Good Friday, and we were back to **red**.

Then on **Easter Sunday**, the day of the greatest Christian Celebration, we entered to an altar bedecked in gold or the ‘**whitest**’ with the most elaborate decoration the church possesses.

‘**Plain**’ **White** will be used for the **Easter Season** signifying purity and Christ’s triumph over death until **Ascension Day on 26th May**. This, being a special and more significant day in the life, death and resurrection of Christ, goes to **gold** again: then immediately back to **white** for the next ten days.

On the day of **Pentecost** itself, **Whit Sunday, 5th June**, the colour will be? Yes, you got it, **red** for flames of fire.

This month:

Watch out for the changing colours indicating the special meanings that day has in the life of the church. If you could choose a different colour for a different or even one of the same meanings, what would you choose and why? In June it will all change again, so we’ll consider those next month.

Christ's Legacy



Editor: The Ven John Barton on the Ascension, and what lies beyond....

There was no mourning when Christ's resurrection appearances came to an end. After the final occasion we are told the disciples 'worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy'.

They had already experienced the onset of grief caused by His death, intensified because of the dreadful manner of it and the consequent crushing of their hopes. Then, with feelings combining bewilderment with elation, they were confronted by Christ alive and had to rethink everything they had understood until then about the certainty of death.

They became convinced that the Crucifixion and Resurrection signposted a new beginning, not an ending, and that it gave fresh purpose to humanity, past, present and future.

Why was Christ's final departure met by joy rather than gloom? Here are some reasons, which we might think of as His legacies.

First, He had said that He was going to prepare a place for His followers. It's worth pondering John Chapter 14, to see why Jesus' disciples were so confident after His Ascension.

Second, He taught them His departure was, actually, for their *benefit*. Only in this way would the 'Advocate' come. 'Advocate' is one translation of a word meaning 'called alongside' and is a description of the Holy Spirit's work in and for humanity, then and now.

Third, Christ continues to campaign for the human cause, though now out of sight. The writer of the letter to the Hebrews puts it bluntly: "He is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them." Paul writes something similar in his letter to the Romans. It means that Jesus prays for us nonstop, so when we pray it's like treading on a moving walkway taking us in the right direction.

Fourth, He came to show us what the unseen God is like. When one of His trainees asked, "Lord, show us the Father", the reply was, "Have I been with you all this time and you still do not know Me? Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father". So, the more we contemplate Jesus, the closer we get to the unseen God.



War in Ukraine: Diocese in Europe and USPG launch Ukraine emergency

The Church of England Diocese in Europe and USPG, the mission agency, have launched an emergency appeal to get aid to people in desperate need because of the invasion of Ukraine.

Funds raised by the appeal will support Christian charities and churches carrying out humanitarian work both in Ukraine and responding to the arrival of refugees in neighbouring countries.

Partners on the ground are providing food, medicine, shelter, care for children and people internally displaced in Ukraine. With refugees they are supplying care at the border and beyond, including attention to those from Africa and Asia as well as Ukrainians who are fleeing the war.

The appeal is for urgent help NOW, but the work will go on for many months.

The Church of England's Bishop in Europe, the Rt Revd Robert Innes says: "War is horrible. It injures, destroys, and kills in an often indiscriminate and uncontrollable way. And now, we face war in Europe.

"The people of our little church, Christ Church Kyiv, find themselves in the midst of this crisis. They are typical of so many others.

"Some have fled the city whilst others are still there; praying for their safety and for peace as they shelter as best they can. These people are our brothers and sisters. Those still in Ukraine and those who have fled need our help."

USPG's General Secretary, the Revd Duncan Dormor, adds: "Our hearts and prayers go out to the people of Ukraine. We have launched this appeal in partnership with the Diocese in Europe to stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine and support church responses to the current crisis."

To donate to the Ukraine emergency appeal, visit <https://ukraine-emergency-appeal.raisely.com>





Looking again at Mary Whitehouse

Is it time to look again at the legacy of anti-obscenity campaigner Mary Whitehouse?

Although many Christians under 40 may not know her name, Mary Whitehouse was a high-profile figure from the mid-sixties until she retired in 1994. To many people, she was a figure of fun, often parodied and mocked in the media for her campaigns against obscenity on TV, in print and on the stage.

A recent BBC radio profile, 'Disgusted, Mary Whitehouse' based on 30 years of newly available diaries and letters, has led some to a reassessment of her impact.

Programme presenter Samira Ahmed raises a key question: "Mary Whitehouse's name became shorthand for anti-liberal prudery and censorship, but more than 20 years after her death, do her diaries reveal a woman who was ahead of her time in warning about the corrosive impact of internet pornography on society?"

The documentary reviews Mary Whitehouse's years of protests and records how she persistently lobbied MPs and ministers to draft legislation.

Her successes included laws criminalising the making of indecent images of children and controlling sex shops and the displays of pornographic material in newsagents, and laws that regulated the sale of extreme content (so-called 'video nasties'). She warned about technology getting out of control, long before the internet was born.

As a teenager, I interviewed Mary Whitehouse in the 1970s, and asked about her faith and how this motivated her. She told me, "It's basic. I can't say any more than that. I couldn't have stood up to what I have if I didn't have a sense of commitment that God wanted me to do this work."

Many people saw Mary Whitehouse as a campaigner seeking to return Britain to 'Victorian values.' In fact, in many ways, she was warning about the increased sexualisation of society that the internet – then many years in the future – would bring.

Revd Peter Crumpler

Pillar

After a certain Dean retired, a number of years ago, from his cathedral, he began writing for the press. Soon a rival paper declared that he was no longer a pillar of the Church of England, but now only two columns in the Evening Standard.

All in the month of May



150 years ago, on 18th May 1872 Bertrand Russell, Welsh philosopher, mathematician, historian, and writer was born. He won the 1950 Nobel Prize in Literature.

125 years ago, on 26th May 1897 Bram Stoker's horror novel *Dracula* was published.

100 years ago, on 27th May 1922 Christopher Lee, British film actor was born. Best known for his many Hammer Horror films, especially his role as Dracula. He also played a leading role in *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit*. (Died 2015)

90 years ago, on 9th May 1932 London's Piccadilly Circus was lit with electrical lighting for the first time. The road junction later became famous for its neon lighting and video advertising displays.

60 years ago, on 25th May 1962 the new Coventry Cathedral was consecrated. The previous one had been destroyed by German bombing during WWII.

50 years ago, on 28th May 1972 Prince Edward, Duke of Windsor, died. He was formerly Edward VIII, until his abdication in December 1936.

40 years ago, 27th-28th May 1982 the Battle of Goose Green took place during the Falklands War. British victory.

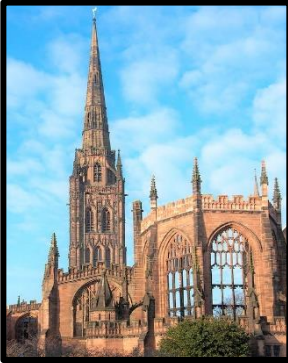
25 years ago, 1st May 1997 the Labour Party won a landslide victory, ending 18 years of Conservative Rule. Tony Blair became Prime Minister.

15 years ago, on 3rd May 2007 three-year-old Madeleine McCann went missing while on holiday with her parents in Praia da Luz, Portugal. Despite long-running investigations costing millions of pounds, she has never been found. Her disappearance is the most-reported missing person case in history.

10 years ago, on 18th May 2012 social media network Facebook went public. Its initial public offering raised \$16 billion – the third-largest amount in US history.

Knit a corgi for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Thousands of people across the country are buying in light brown and white wool just now, in order to knit up a corgi in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It is a fun way in which anyone with knitting needles can get involved in the coming celebrations.



Coventry Cathedral – 60 years on

Sixty years ago, on 25th May 1962, the new Coventry Cathedral was consecrated. The previous one had been destroyed by German bombing during World War Two. The Queen had laid the foundation stone in 1956, and she was present for the consecration.

On the night of 14th November 1940, the old Cathedral – together with much of the centre of Coventry – was devastated by incendiary bombs, but the decision to rebuild it was taken the next morning. The Provost, Richard Howard, wanted to do so as a sign of faith, trust and hope, rather than as an act of defiance.

This rejection of bitterness and hatred led to the Cathedral's Ministry of Peace and Reconciliation, which continues to give spiritual and practical support in areas of conflict. It is symbolised now by the Cross of Nails, made from three nails found in the roof truss of the old cathedral and set in the centre of the altar cross.

The place now called Coventry Cathedral, on the site of a Benedictine monastery, is in fact two buildings – a joining of the old and the new. The older building, still hallowed ground, was originally a parish church, and then given cathedral status in 1918. Its 295ft (90m) spire, containing 181 stone steps, is the third highest in England, behind Salisbury and Norwich.

The 'new' Cathedral was an inspiration to many celebrated artists, most of them yet to become famous. Among those commissioned by the architect, Sir Basil Spence, were Graham Sutherland (iconic Christ in Glory tapestry), John Piper (baptistry window), Ralph Beyer, John Hutton, Elisabeth Frink and Jacob Epstein, who created the striking sculpture of St Michael defeating Lucifer.

The famous Charred Cross was created when the cathedral stonemason, Jock Forbes, saw two wooden beams lying in the shape of a cross after the bombing and tied them together.

Tim Lenton

Parking space

Angus was driving down the street worried because he had an important meeting and couldn't find a parking place. So, looking up toward heaven, he said "Lord, take pity on me. If you find me a parking place I will go to church every Sunday for the rest of my life and give up whisky." A moment later, miraculously, a parking place appeared. Angus looked up again and said, "Never mind. I found one."

From the Registers

Funerals March 2022:

4 th March	Ada Watterson	Kirk Christ	Service & Burial
11 th March	Ingrid Shilling	Kirk Christ	Service & Burial
18 th March	Jean Callister	RBG	Burial only
25 th March	Elizabeth Corrin	RBG	Burial only

Baptism March 2022:

6 th March 2022	Nancy Rosa Young	Kirk Christ	9.30am
	(RBG	Rushen Burial Ground)	

Not expecting this

The young minister took his wife to the Maternity Hospital and was told it would be a long labour. So, he agreed to ring at lunchtime for news. But when he phoned, he dialled the wrong number and got the County Cricket Ground. He said: "I brought my wife to your place early this morning. Is there any news?"

He was surprised to be told: "Yes, there are seven out and the last two were ducks."

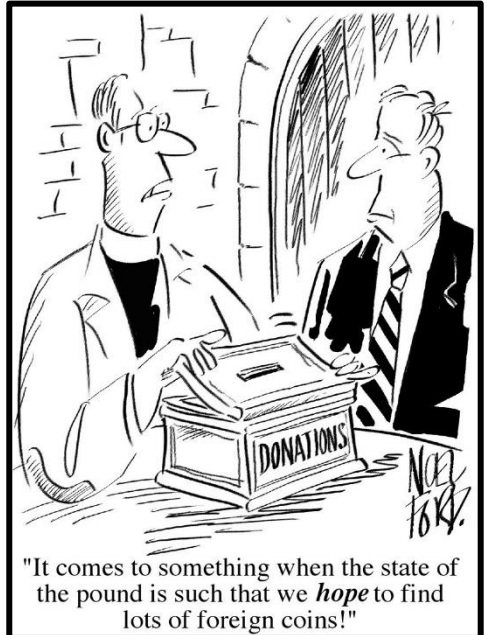
Safeguarding

The Parish of Rushen is committed to the safeguarding, nurture and care of **everyone** within our church community. If you, or someone you know, are concerned that a child or vulnerable adult is at risk or has been harmed, or are concerned about the behaviour of someone towards children or vulnerable adults, please contact:

Rushen Parish Safeguarding Officer, Claire Jennings (Tel. 830850)

The **Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser** has now been appointed. For more details contact the diocese.

A copy of the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy is available on the Diocesan website: http://www.sodorandman.im/safeguarding_inclusion



Rushen Mothers' Union



We were delighted to welcome our new Diocesan President, Revd Jeanette Hamer, to our branch meeting on Monday 11th April. She had kindly offered to come to present long service certificates to members who had been unable to attend the Festival Service at the Cathedral in March. Mrs Valerie Vaughan graciously accepted hers for 70 years of active service in Mothers' Union, and Mrs Sue Bould kindly delivered a 50 year certificate to Mrs Sue

Maddrell. Altogether, three of our members have a total of **180** years of service, Mrs Elizabeth Sheen, with 60 years, having already received hers at the Cathedral. What a remarkable achievement!

Mrs Jane Gunn led our short service, including hymns, prayers and three meaningful poems written and read by Mrs Margaret Couper. Mr David Bowman gave us an inspiring talk on some of the ways in which "God is working His purpose out", which gave us all food for thought: true stories in which the hand of God was apparent. Mrs Pat Thomson gave the vote of thanks, and we concluded with the Grace. Our next meeting will be on 9th May at 2pm, in St Catherine's Hall, when we shall plan our programme for 2022-23.

Mrs Margaret Galloway, celebrating a special birthday, had arrived with lovely cakes, which we all enjoyed, having sung Happy Birthday to her, and these, combined with Jane's tasty hot cross buns, ensured we all had a very nice tea. Thanks, as always, to Mr Gerry Callister for his unflinching help in setting up the hall and kitchen.

We were saddened to hear of the death of a long-time member of Mothers' Union, Mrs Beryl Niblett, and remember her family and friends in our prayers. We also pray for those who are housebound, unwell or recovering from treatment, and send them our love.

With very best wishes

Pat Thomson

Dates for Diaries:

Quiet Day - Tuesday 21st June, St Luke's, Baldwin

Founder's Day - Tuesday 9th August, St Ninian's at 7pm

Autumn Council Meeting - 12th September, 7pm TBA

General Meeting (Annual Gathering) – 23-24th September, Belfast

Advent Service – 6th Dec at 7pm TBA

God in the Arts

The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series on God in the Arts with a famous painting by Dirk Bouts. It is found in the church of St Peter in Louvain.

A meal to remember!



When we gather with other Christians to celebrate the Eucharist and to make our communion, we are remembering that special meal Jesus shared with His disciples on the eve of His arrest and death. But do we always appreciate what we are doing? Sometimes the monotony of repetition and distractions will get in the way. We fail to recognise Christ's gift at communion for what it truly is.

In the 15th century the prosperous burghers of the Flemish town of Louvain commissioned the artist Dirk Bouts to paint a special altarpiece devoted to the Eucharist for the church of St Peter. Dirk Bouts, with his imagination, portrayed the Last Supper in a room looking out to his own town of Louvain. The faces of the servers in the room and the cooks looking through the hatch were modelled on the burghers who commissioned the work.

Other faces are modelled on theologians at the new university who visited the artist. They wanted to ensure he kept his theological feet on the ground while his imagination took flight. And so around the scene of the Last Supper, Bouts has painted Old Testament scenes foreshadowing that holy communion: Melchizedek offering bread and wine in return for Abraham's offering, the eating of the first Passover, the gathering of the manna in the wilderness, and Elijah wakened by the angel to eat and drink before setting out for Horeb. Signs of sacrifice, the Passover of the old covenant, daily food and food for the journey – all key aspects of the communion we celebrate and share in.

Just as the theological faculty reminded Dirk Bouts of all these facets, so the artist is reminding us of the richness of the distinctive meal we have as Christians. When we see the bread and wine taken up and offered, we remember not only the Last Supper, when Jesus fed His disciples with the sacrifice of His life, but those occasions when God reached out to feed His people of old. We rejoice that the food our Lord gives us in the Eucharist feeds us now and enables us to make our journey through life to the eternal banquet offered in the heavenly kingdom.

Children's Page

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Genesis chapter 1 to 2 verse 3.

This story is at the start of the Bible, and the start of time...


When God first made the universe it was empty and shapeless. God said...

Let there be Light!



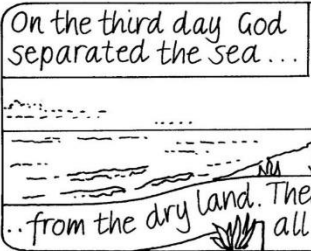
God separated the light and dark.

On the next day, God separated the sky...



...from the sea.

On the third day God separated the sea...




..from the dry land. Then He made plants of all kinds grow on the land.



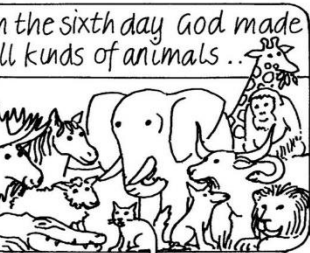
On the fourth day God made lights shine in the sky for day and night.




On the fifth day God filled the sea with all sorts of fish, and the sky with all sorts of birds




On the sixth day God made all kinds of animals...




and then He made people, men and women.



God told the people....

Take care of all I have made.



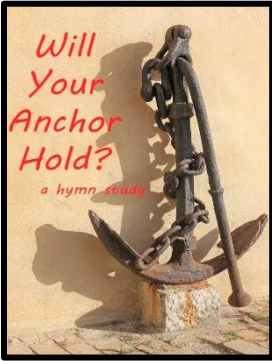
God saw that everything He had made was very good.

On the seventh day God rested...



and so did everyone else!

The Story Behind the Hymn



Will Your Anchor Hold

Will your anchor hold in the storms of life,
when the clouds unfold their wings of strife?
When the strong tides lift, and the cables strain,
will your anchor drift, or firm remain?

*We have an anchor that keeps the soul
steadfast and sure while the billows roll;
fastened to the Rock which cannot move,
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!*

Will your anchor hold in the straits of fear,
when the breakers roar and the reef is near?
While the surges rage, and the wild winds blow,
shall the angry waves then your bark o'erflow?

Chorus

Will your anchor hold in the floods of death,
when the waters cold chill your latest breath?
On the rising tide you can never fail,
while your anchor holds within the veil.

Chorus

Will your eyes behold through the morning light
the city of gold and the harbour bright?
Will you anchor safe by the heavenly shore,
when life's storms are past for evermore?

Chorus

The author of this hymn, "Will Your Anchor Hold", is Priscilla Owens. She was born in Baltimore, USA in 1829 of Scottish and Welsh blood. For over 50 years Priscilla Owens was actively involved in work for Christian youths and most of her songs were therefore composed for children. Besides this hymn she is also well known as the composer of another beloved Christian hymn, "We have heard a joyful sound". She also composed several other hymns during her fruitful life on earth. The hymn suggests that personal stability can only come from the right foundations. It employs a seafaring analogy in making its point.

Moody and Sankey, also prolific Methodist hymn writers, changed the hymn so that each verse began with a question, suitable for evangelistic campaigns. They were members of the same Christian denomination, Methodist Episcopal Church as Owens.

The hymn has always been closely associated with the Boys' Brigade founded by Sir William Alexander Smith, which has the motto, "Sure and Steadfast". It is the official hymn of Dollar Academy, an independent day school in Scotland where it is known as the "Dollar Anthem". The music was written by William J. Kirkpatrick (1838–1921) of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a leading Methodist Episcopal musician, a carpenter and furniture maker who compiled 87 books of hymns.

Rushen Parish Prayer Diary



Lord Jesus, open our ears and hearts today to Your message so that through the power of Your death and resurrection we may walk in newness of life in accord with the teachings of Your Gospel
Amen



May 2022

This is your invitation to pray day by day for:

- 1st Anyone awaiting a diagnosis from their general practitioner or the hospital
- 2nd Those involved in bringing the news to us on radio, television, or other means
- 3rd The safety of all aid workers in places of unrest
- 4th Our vicar and readers as they relay the Word of God during their sermons
- 5th The Bishop and staff at the Diocese of Sodor and Man
- 6th All those affected by the coronavirus pandemic throughout the world
- 7th The work of missionaries and evangelists
- 8th Everyone involved in the recruitment and training of clergy
- 9th Farmers as they prepare their land for a fruitful harvest
- 10th Doctors, nurses and all of the key workers trying to catch up after the pandemic
- 11th All who are anxious, distressed or discouraged
- 12th All teachers of the Christian Faith
- 13th The courage to carry Christ within us and to present Him wherever we go
- 14th Peace and stability in troubled areas of the world
- 15th Children who are hungry, orphaned or homeless throughout the world
- 16th Those who regularly read the lessons and lead our intercessions
- 17th The life and witness of the Apostles
- 18th Those who have lost loved ones to the coronavirus pandemic throughout the world
- 19th People who still feel lonely and isolated even though restrictions have eased
- 20th Preparations being made for holidays during the summer
- 21st The war in the Ukraine and the safety of its citizens day after day
- 22nd Skills given by God to surgeons as they carry out dangerous procedures
- 23rd Students having to depend on their coursework as the only means for success
- 24th Technology that has helped to link friends and family together during the pandemic
- 25th The Rev Ginny Viner and the Christian message she shares with us all
- 26th Christ's glorious ascension to heaven
- 27th Help in places throughout the world where food and water are in short supply
- 28th For all those hoping to be married this year
- 29th Those who live rough and who sleep out in cities throughout the United Kingdom
- 30th Charitable organisations which devote their energy and resources to those in need
- 31st Mary, the Blessed Virgin, chosen to be the mother of Jesus Christ

Services May/June 2022

1 st May (Easter 3)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
4 th May	2pm	Play & Praise St Catherine's Church Hall
8 th May (Easter 4)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's All-Age Service
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
15 th May (Easter 5)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's All-Age Service
	3.15pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
21 st May	3.30pm	St Catherine's Messy Church
22 nd May (Easter 6)	11am	Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)
29 th May (Easter 7)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
1 st June	2pm	Play & Praise St Catherine's Church Hall
5 th June (Pentecost)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
12 th June (Trinity Sunday)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's All-Age Service (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)

Dates and times of services/activities subject to alteration/or cancelled
 (CW) Common Worship (BCP) Book of Common Prayer

Contact Details for Rushen Parish cont'd....

St Mary's Sunday School Leader:

Mrs Claudia Koenig, Fois Fraon, Fistard, Port St Mary 832974/495630

St Mary's Ladies Working Party

Mrs Lesley Scott, 20 Rhenwyllan Close, Port St Mary 832919

(Mobile: 07808254356 email: lesley@pharmaconsulting.co.uk)

St Mary's Hall Bookings:

Mr G Callister, 60 Ballamaddrell, Port Erin 474924/834627

St Catherine's Hall Bookings:

Mr & Mrs G Callister, 60 Ballamaddrell, Port Erin 474924/834627

Web Site/E-mail:

www.rushenparish.org.uk

rushenparishorg@gmail.com

Magazine Editor

Mr David Bowman, The Old Bakery, Qualtroughs Lane, 837117/260539
Ballafesson, Port Erin

e-mail: dbow43@manx.net

Articles for the magazine should be submitted to the editor no later than 20th of each month. This arrangement is subject to change.

Parish Director of Music:

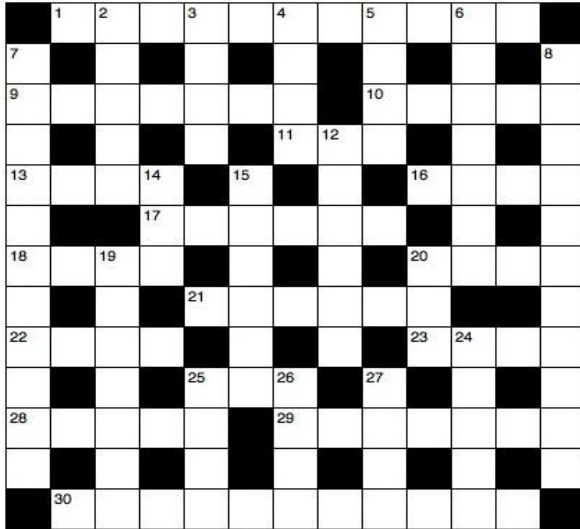
Mr M D Porter, 10 Fairway Drive, Rowany, Port Erin 832143

Churchyard Enquiries:

Please contact Mr Harry Dawson: 478050/835770

or Mr G Callister: 474924/834627

Crossword May 2022



Across

- 1** Overpowered (Deuteronomy 11:4) (11)
9 'The — are mantled with corn'
 (Psalm 65:13) (7)
10 'Each man—a sword to his side'
 (Exodus32:27)(5)
11 On the death of Jesus the curtain in the temple was torn from— to bottom
 (Matthew 27:51) (3)
13 Stagger(Isaiah 28:7)(4)
16 'Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought—and doesn't do it, sins'
 (James 4:17) (2,2)
17 Stir up or provoke (Acts13:50)(6)
18 Burden(Luke 11:46)(4)
20 'As far as the east is from the—,so far has he removed our transgressions from us'
 (Psalm 103:12) (4)
21 Sign (Luke 23:38)(6)
22 'After that, Jesus poured water into a basin and began to—his disciples' feet'
 (John 13:5) (4)
23 The nature of the seven ears of corn which swallowed up the good ears in Pharaoh's dream (Genesis 41:23) (4)
25 Has(anag.) (3)
28 'This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth,—sons' (Genesis 10:1) (5)
29 'I will...make them drunk, so that they...sleep for—and— awake'
 (Jeremiah 51:39) (4,3)
30 Paul said of him, 'He often refreshes me and is not ashamed of my chains'
 (2 Timothy 1:16) (11)

Down

- 2** Worth (Matthew 13:46) (5)
3 'A bruised — he will not break'
 (Matthew 12:20) (4)
4 'Suddenly a great company of the heavenly — appeared with the angel'
 (Luke 2:13) (4)
5 Slip (anag.) (4)
6 'Take an awl and push it through his — into the door, and he will become your servant for life'
 (Deuteronomy 15:17) (3,4)
7 Bountiful (2 Corinthians 8:2) (11)
8 'Therefore, as we have — , let us do good to all people'
 (Galatians 6:10) (11)
12 Acquire (2Timothy2:10)(6)
14 Container cover (Numbers19:15)(3)
15 'He...became obedient to death, even death on—!' (Philippians 2:8) (1,5)
19 Refrain(1Peter2:11)(7)
20 'She began to—his feet with her tears'
 (Luke7:38)(3)
24 One who worships Brahma, Vishnu or Shiva(5)
25 'Give to everyone who you'(Luke6:30)(4)
26 'I lift up my eyes to the hills; where does my—come from?' (Psalm 121:1) (4)
27 One of those whom the Lord said would be taken from Jerusalem and Judah as judgment on them
 (Isaiah 3:2) (4)