



Rushen Parish Magazine



November 2021



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From the Editor

We are coming to that part of the year when we remember the many lives that have been lost through world wars and other conflicts. We are also reminded of those who may not have died, but have had to suffer the loss of limbs, unbearable pain, and post-traumatic stress disorder, amongst many other afflictions, as a result of their devotion to their country, and in an effort to keep us safe. Even now there are tensions and disputes in many parts of the world, all of which will inevitably cause death and distress to innocent men, women and children. So it is fitting that we, as many other countries and territories, set aside a day each year to remember these selfless people.

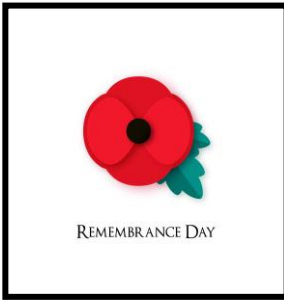
As a child I was proud to wear my cub and scout uniforms and each year to join a procession of other uniformed organisations, and walk to the parish church where many dignitaries would be assembled in preparation for a service of remembrance, and at 11am stand silently for two minutes alongside the many others in attendance. Being honest I don't think I fully understood the relevance of it all, I just went, did my duty, and went home with my parents who had attended the service too. I don't really think the significance of the event was ever publicised like it is today. It wasn't until I was much older that I fully understood the significance of such a sombre occasion.

Nowadays Remembrance Sunday, and in fact the 11th November, if it doesn't fall on a Sunday, is a well-publicised event. Television programmes are shown revealing the significance of war and the shocking aftermath. War films such as 'Saving Private Ryan' show, in great detail, the suffering and the after-effects, and how it all seems so futile. School children are taught about the wars and conflicts that occurred before they were born, and how the people who gave their lives for their freedom should never be forgotten. I know that in my school in Kent, on 11th November at 11am every year the children, some as young as four, would stand in the school hall in total silence for two minutes, and never once made a sound. Admittedly they had been learning about the wars and why we had a day when remembrance was important, and that they were required to stand quietly for such a long time, but it still made them stand and think.

Remembrance is important. The people who died, or were maimed, are important, as are those suffering the effects of war. The relatives of all these people are important too, because they bear the scars of their loved ones who fought so gallantly for us who are left to tell the tale. This we must do so that the generations of people who follow us will learn and continue to remember these wonderful people.

As a cub I didn't realise the significance of this important day. Probably war wasn't something discussed at schools, after all the second world war had only ended five years before I became one. Nowadays, with all the many ways in which the media is used, and information broadcast, there is no reason why the significance of war can't be portrayed, even to the very young. It is our job to add to this by telling our children and grandchildren about the wars that have occurred, and about the wonderful men and women who gave their lives for our freedom. If you can please attend one of our churches on 14th November and give two minutes of your time to stand in silence to remember them.

David



100 years of red poppies

Amid the mud, blood and carnage of trench warfare in World War 1, tens of thousands of bright red poppies grew, marking the graves of the fallen. This led John McCrae, a Canadian army physician who had lost a colleague, to write “In Flanders Fields”,

*In Flanders fields, the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place, and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly.*

This image inspired the adoption of a red poppy as the symbol of all soldiers who had died in conflict. Exactly 100 years ago, on the 11th Nov 1921, poppies of remembrance were sold for the first time in British and Commonwealth countries. Hostilities had actually ceased three years earlier at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

This year, on the 14th November, which is the nearest Sunday, a two-minutes silence will be kept at war memorials throughout the country, and at the national ceremony at the Cenotaph in London’s Whitehall. The Queen will pay tribute alongside Members of the Cabinet, Opposition Party leaders, former Prime Ministers, the Mayor of London and many others. Representatives of the Armed Forces, Fishing Fleets and Merchant Air and Navy will be there, as well as High Commissioners of Commonwealth countries. All will wear a red poppy.

Around 30 million poppies are sold each year in the UK by the Royal British Legion. All the proceeds are used to provide serving and ex-service personnel with financial support, advice, employment, mobility, housing and mental health facilities.

Today we are more aware than ever that battles are fought mainly by young people, and many of those who survive bear scars for life. The act of ‘remembering’ will not only look back to mark their sacrifice, but also yearn to learn lessons for the future.

Reflecting on the poem, ‘In Flanders Fields’, the American professor Moina Michael, wrote:

*And now the Torch and Poppy Red
We wear in honour of our dead.
Fear not that ye have died for naught;
We’ll teach the lesson that ye wrought
In Flanders Fields.*

The Venerable John Barton



Ladies Working Party – St Mary's

October has been a busy but most enjoyable month for the LWP, with Harvest and Coffee Morning activities, and we would like to say a most appreciative Thank You to all who helped us in any way.

St Mary's Church was beautifully decorated by members of the Parish for the Joint Harvest Service on 3rd October, and the Faith Lunch in the hall thereafter was well supported and well attended. It being Liz's last service in the Parish, she received huge thanks from Rev Joe for all her work over the last 3 years and was presented with a lovely painting of Kirk Christ, from the whole Parish. We all wish her every blessing for her future ministry in St Thomas's.

The chrysanthemum plants which had decorated the church window ledges were distributed with our best wishes to those in the Parish who had been experiencing ill health, and the food items to the Foodbank. Thank you to all who made this possible.

The day of our Coffee Morning was fine and sunny, and the venue, Port St Mary Golf Pavilion, had been beautifully prepared for us by the management and staff, the tables and chairs set out, the crockery all arranged, and the coffee and tea brewing. We cannot thank them enough for all their help to us which resulted in £750 being raised for The Women's Refuge, IOM. Thank you too to all the many people who supported us in a variety of ways and enabled us to reach this amazing total.

Our next event will be our pre- Christmas lunch, on Tuesday 30th November, the plans for which are still being finalised.

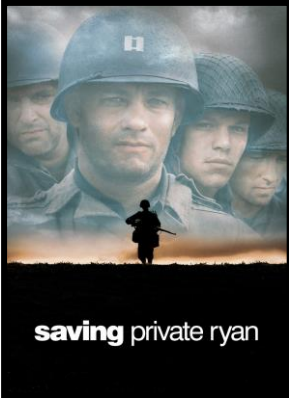
We send our love and very best wishes to all, but particularly to those who are not in the best of health, and pray for their recovery.

Pat Thomson

First Communion

My three-year-old niece, Kelly, went with a neighbour's little girl to church for her First Communion practice. The minister had the children cup their hands, and then went solemnly down the line, giving each child a piece of bread, and intoning: "God be with you". Apparently, this made quite an impression on my niece. She came home and told her mother to cup her hands and bend down. Kelly took a piece of bread from her sandwich, placed it in her mother's hands, and whispered, in her most angelic voice, "God will get you."

Remembrance



Have you seen the film *'Saving Private Ryan'*? The first 20 minutes of the film is a powerful account of war, portraying the first landing crafts arriving at the Normandy beaches on D Day. The film successfully brings to life the events of that day, as a vivid act of remembrance.

From a biblical perspective, the word *remembrance* means making present a past reality, so that we can benefit from it today. On Remembrance Sunday we think about those who have given their lives in wars over the years, as well as those who continue to grieve over their lost loved ones. We want to make their sacrifice in past conflicts real for us today, so that we can engage with the horror of war and those enduring suffering today.

It involves dealing with the *why* question in the face of relentless tragedies and injustices: *why does God allow such suffering to take place?* One of the great themes of the Scriptures is that God identifies with the suffering. But the Christian faith goes beyond this! It affirms that in Jesus, God's Son, divinity became involved in suffering and death on the cross. It is at Calvary that we see how God Himself knows what it is to lose a loved one in an unprovoked attack. *'I could never myself believe in God if it were not for the Cross. In the real world of pain, how could one worship a God who was immune to it?'* (John Stott).

Although we don't fully understand the reason why God allows evil and suffering to continue, we do know what the reason isn't! It can't be that He doesn't love us! God so loved us and hates suffering that He was willing to come down and get involved in our hurting world. This can be a source of real strength on such an occasion.

However, how can we ensure that those who have given their lives are truly honoured, not forgetting those who are risking their lives in conflicts today? An appropriate response is to actively work and pray for justice in our world, especially where there is inequality and conflict. In a divided world we are also called to renew our efforts to work for peace. We need to be serious about being peacemakers, especially where it involves those close to us. As Jesus said, *'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God'* (Matt 5:9).

Revd John Tyler



St Mary's Sunday School



On the Sunday before our Harvest Festival at St Mary's, we had a very enjoyable Sunday School session with a Harvest theme. The children tried to guess different types of fruit and vegetables by touch, and between them they managed to guess them all, including the avocado, parsnip and mango! They also bravely tasted a variety of foods blind-folded, including chopped dates, dried pineapple, dried apricots, grapes and sultanas, with the latter being

everybody's favourite (not so the dried pineapple and dates)! We also used the session to prepare for the Harvest festival service by practising the Harvest Samba song, as well as a poem and prayers.

Our joint Harvest Festival was a great success! St Mary's Church had been beautifully decorated with flowers and fresh produce, as well as tinned and packaged items for the Food Bank, and many more generous donations were brought along on the day itself! With members from the congregations of St Catherine's and Kirk Christ joining us, it was lovely to have a church full of people praising God and giving thanks for all His goodness and His provision.

The children enjoyed contributing to the service by leading the congregation in the lively Harvest Samba song, accompanied by Lukas on the mandolin and Wendy Heaton on the bongo drums. Ethan from St Catherine's read the first lesson from the book of Joel with great confidence, and the children and young people from St Mary's presented an acrostic poem about all the good gifts we are thankful for at Harvest time. In the Learning Together section, Joe got us all thinking about what we are grateful for (apart from food) as well as what makes us happy, and how we may be able to use the various gifts God has given to each of us to bless others, just as He blesses us. St Mary's Sunday School also led the intercessions, with all children confidently reading their prayers. Well done!

However, there was also a tinge of sadness, as we were saying farewell to Liz Hull, who had been our curate for almost exactly 3 years to the day. We were able to give thanks to God for all that Liz had given to our parish in these 3 years, and we gave her a good send-off with beautiful cards designed by David Bowman (who was unfortunately unwell and unable to attend the service) and signed by the 4 congregations, as well as a beautiful sparkly painting of Kirk Christ with the words of one of Liz's favourite hymns. We will miss her very much, but we wish her all the best for her future ministry at St Thomas's in Douglas.

Following the service, we enjoyed fellowship and a wonderful spread of home-made savouries and sweets at our faith lunch in the hall, with teas and coffees served by

(Continued on Page 9)



News from St Catherine's & Kirk Christ



Kirk Christ has had a fairly normal month with its regular 9.30am services. On 3rd October a joint parish harvest service was held at St Mary's church in Port St Mary. It was a lovely occasion with the congregations of our churches joining together. The service was followed by a faith lunch in the hall. The tables were filled with food and I would like to thank those who provided it, and those who served it.

The event was also filled with sadness as we had to say farewell to our curate Liz Hull. Liz has been a great servant to the parish both in ministry and pastoral care. We will miss her very much and we send our best wishes for her future ministry. It was on this occasion that we presented Liz with a gift of a painting of Kirk Christ Church.

On Saturday 9th October St Catherine's was the venue for a memorial service to William Milner who provided the land and the finance to build St Catherine's church in the year 1878. The service was arranged in partnership with Rushen Heritage Trust. It was attended by eighty people. The social committee served refreshments in the hall at the close of the service.

With best wishes to you all.

Gerry Callister

.....the lovely ladies from St Mary's. A big Thank you again to everybody who contributed in any way to this enjoyable Harvest Festival and for all the donated items (including a large contribution of tins from the congregation at St Peter's, Cregneash), which were gratefully received by the Southern Food Bank in Port Erin.

We have now started a new series of lessons about Joseph, and the children have so far enjoyed learning about Joseph's coat of many colours as well as his prophetic dreams, and how he ended up being sold as a slave to Egypt and ended up in prison, although he had done nothing wrong. We have talked about Joseph being Jacob's favourite son, and learnt that God does not have favourites – He loves each one of us the same! We also learnt that although bad things happened to Joseph, God always had a plan for him and things would turn out well in the end. We also discussed some situations in which we may need God to help us choose what is right, as Joseph did in Potiphar's house, and that we can always ask God to help us when we are tempted to choose the wrong thing. The children have loved watching some clips from the Joseph musical and singing along to the songs.

We will now have a short break for Half Term and are looking forward to meeting again in early November to learn more about Joseph and to prepare for our next all-age service at St Mary's.

Love and blessings from Claudia, Helen and Lukas

Sudoku November 2021

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

Iniquities

A keen young boy, attending his first Mass as an altar boy, was very attentive to everything the priest said. He was especially struck by the priest's prayer: "Lord, wash away my iniquities, and save me from sin!"

In the sacristy afterwards he humbly asked the priest where he should pour the water from the ablutions bowl: "Please father, where shall I put your iniquities?"

October Sudoku Solution

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

October Crossword Solution

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

St Margaret of Scotland 16th November



Some women have power, and some women are good. When a woman with power is also good, she can achieve an astonishing amount.

Margaret of Scotland has been called ‘The Pearl of Scotland’, but she began life in Hungary about 1045. She was born to the expatriate English prince Edward the Exile, and so was an English princess. The family returned to Wessex in 1057, when she was 13, and following the death of King Harold II at the Battle of Hastings in 1066, her brother Edgar Aetheling should have been King of England, but he was never crowned. Instead, the family fled north, to Scotland, where she was married to Malcolm III of Scotland by 1070. As a Scottish queen she went on to become mother of three kings of Scotland, and of a queen consort of England.

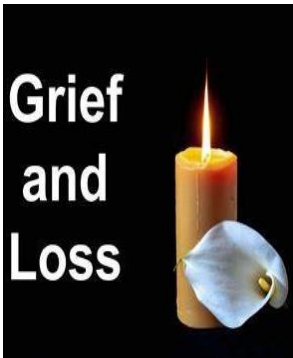
Margaret was a Christian, and became a good friend of Lanfranc, a future archbishop of Canterbury. Her biographer tells of how she read narratives from the Bible to her husband, thus helping to ‘civilise’ him. He was illiterate, but so admired her reading, that he had her books decorated with gold and silver. She was also credited with helping her youngest son, the future King David I of Scotland, towards becoming a just and holy ruler.

Margaret introduced the worship and practise of the Church of Rome into Scotland. She also wanted to help the many pilgrims travelling in Scotland, and so she established a ferry across the Firth of Forth, which is where the towns South Queensferry and North Queensferry got their names.

Margaret performed many charitable works for the poor, and she interceded for the release of English exiles who had been forced into serfdom following the Norman conquest. She also began the restoration of Iona Abbey.

In private life, Margaret spent much of her time in prayer, using a cave on the banks of the Tower Burn in Dunfermline as a place of devotion and prayers. St Margaret’s Cave is still there today, covered beneath a municipal car park.

Margaret died in 1093, and in 1250 Pope Innocent IV canonised her. Her relics were dispersed after the Scottish Reformation, but at one time Mary, Queen of Scots, owned her head.



When someone you loved has died

*Editor: **Tony Horsfall** lost his wife last year to cancer. He is a former missionary in East Malaysia and former retreat leader based in West Yorkshire. This is part one of a two-part series.*

Since my wife passed away in July 2020, I have often been asked, "What are you learning from your grief journey?" Here are a few standout lessons:

1. That grief takes longer than you think to work itself through, and it can't be rushed. It is a journey you must take slowly.
2. That when you lose your spouse, you lose not only the person you loved, but the person who loved you. This second loss leaves a hole in your heart, making you very vulnerable to new relationships.
3. That you will need to re-discover your identity as God's deeply loved child in this season of your life, as if you had never known it before.
4. That God can be trusted to help you rebuild your life, but trust may not come easily. It is better to focus on God's trustworthiness than on your ability to trust, which may be shaky.
5. That your experience of grief and your response to loss is unique and personal, so don't compare your journey to that of others.
6. That good friends can make the journey so much easier. Be prepared to ask for help.
7. That you will be ambushed by grief. Some things will take you by surprise, especially the little things.
8. That the loss of a spouse will leave you feeling very lonely, even when you are surrounded by family and friends. This is not a weakness, just a sign of what you have lost.
9. That loneliness is not a mental illness, just a natural response to being bereaved, and it will get better.
10. That moving forward is not a sign that you didn't care, but that there is still a life to be lived and not wasted.

Concluded next month.

O Gallant Youth



Editor: Nigel Beeton writes: November is also the month of remembrance, made more poignant this year by the recent withdrawal from Afghanistan. Was it a waste? It's not for me to say, but the gallantry shown by our armed forces can never be a waste. We, like their families, are so proud of what they did in the name of freedom. I cannot think of a more appropriate poem than the one that I wrote in 2009 in response to the loss of our soldiers out there, O Gallant Youth:

Through long dark years our young have fought and died,
In Freedom's name our country's foes defied;
Now in Remembrance they are glorified,
O Gallant Youth, we owe so much to you.

Though they were young, when came their country's call,
Ready they were to stand up strong and tall.
They did not flinch when asked to give their all,
O Gallant Youth, we give our thanks for you.

*Rows of graves, with headstones white
Tributes to our gallant men,
From Sun's rise till it sets from sight
We'll always remember them.*

Though they know well how high the price before -
Legions of men and women lost in war -
Our young today are standing firm and sure!
O Gallant Youth, we are so proud of you!

*Desert sands, through wind or flame
Far flung seas, or skies of blue
Where you go in Freedom's name
We'll always think of you.*

Go, in our name, to duty or to fight,
Go, with our hopes into the darkest night;
The hand of God will lead into the light.
O Gallant Youth, we send our prayers with you!

Follow your fellow men from ages past
Stand side by side with them, sincere, steadfast
Fight for the right until you come at last
Home, Gallant Youth, to those that wait for you.





Afghanistan crisis: advice for parishes on helping refugees

The Church of England has published a ‘toolkit’ of resources for parishes seeking to help refugees and asylum seekers from Afghanistan in the wake of the Taliban takeover of the country.

The material, available online, brings together links and information on how churches can welcome people arriving from Afghanistan through giving, longer-term practical support such as community sponsorship, prayer and advocacy.

Staff in the Church of England’s national Mission and Public Affairs team say they have been overwhelmed with messages from churches and individuals concerned by the situation in Afghanistan and asking what they can do to help.

The toolkit includes a range of prayer and theological resources from the Church of England and other sources alongside details of an array of charities and NGOs also working to support refugees and asylum seekers.

It also includes a simple explanation of the two main resettlement schemes and the asylum system and offers suggestions on how Christians can speak out on behalf of those unable to do so.

In a foreword to the toolkit, the Bishop of Durham, Paul Butler, the Church of England’s Lead Bishop for Refugees and Asylum, said: “The challenge for the whole nation is to welcome these families and help them build new lives here in the United Kingdom.

“Alongside this is the reality that there are thousands of Afghan citizens already here and stuck in the asylum system awaiting a response to their claim.

“God’s call on God’s people has always been to welcome the stranger and help provide for them. So here is a fresh opportunity to live out this calling.

“It is not a quick short-term response that is most needed but a willingness to befriend families and support them for the long haul.

The Church of England is a longstanding supporter of refugee programmes. The material is available online at:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/community-action/toolkit-supporting-afghan-refugees>

All in the month of November



150 years ago, on 10th Nov 1871, Welsh journalist and explorer Henry Morton Stanley located the missing missionary and explorer Dr David Livingstone near Lake Tanganyika in present-day Tanzania. He might or might not have greeted him with the words: “Doctor Livingstone, I presume?”

125 years ago, on 16th Nov 1896, Oswald Mosley, British fascist politician, was born. Imprisoned for three years in 1940 for founding the British Union of Fascists.

100 years ago, on 11th Nov 1921, Remembrance poppies were sold for the first time in British and Commonwealth countries to commemorate military personnel who died in war. In the UK they are sold by the Royal British Legion to raise funds for current and former members of the British Armed Forces. Around 30 million poppies are sold each year.

90 years ago, on 30th Nov 1931, the Crystal Palace in London was destroyed by fire.

80 years ago, on 13th Nov 1941, the British aircraft carrier HMS Ark Royal was torpedoed by a German submarine in the Mediterranean Sea near Gibraltar. It sank the following day.

65 years ago, on 5th Nov 1956, Premium Bonds went on sale in the UK. They were designed to encourage people to save, and they offered cash prizes instead of interest.

50 years ago, on 14th Nov 1971, NASA’s Mariner 9 spacecraft (launched that May) reached Mars. It was the first spacecraft to orbit another planet. Mars was engulfed in a planet-wide dust storm at the time, but 85% of the surface was eventually imaged. Mariner 9 was deactivated in October 1972.

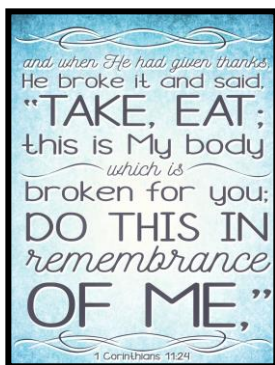
40 years ago, on 12th Nov 1981, the US Space Shuttle Columbia was launched on its second flight into space, becoming the world’s first reusable manned spacecraft.

30 years ago, on 5th Nov 1991, Robert Maxwell, Czech-born British newspaper publisher, media proprietor and politician, was found dead at sea off Tenerife. Following his death, he was found to have fraudulently misappropriated the Mirror Group’s pension fund. **Also on 18th Nov 1991**, the Church of England envoy Terry Waite and American educator Thomas Sutherland were released by Islamic Jihad in Lebanon after being held hostage since January 1987 and June 1985 respectively.

25 years ago, on 30th Nov 1996, England officially returned the Stone of Scone to Scotland after 700 years. It was the coronation stone of the Scottish and (later) English and British monarchs. Scotland agreed to loan the Stone to Westminster Abbey for future coronations.

20 years ago, from 12th to 13th Nov 2001, the Afghanistan's ruling Taliban abandoned the capital without a fight, as a coalition of US/NATO and Northern Alliance forces entered the city. **Also on 29th Nov 2001**, George Harrison, British rock guitarist, singer and songwriter with the Beatles, died.

15 years ago, on 13th Nov 2006, Google acquired the video-sharing site YouTube.



Reflected Faith Series: The Bread We Share

Last month we thought about the bread we share at the Communion table and what we do with any that is left over.

Christian beliefs and thoughts about the consecrated bread range from it being a reminder to us of the love that Jesus showed for each of us by and through His death too, at the consecration the bread becomes the literal flesh of Christ that we are invited to consume.

Wherever the church and the people are on that spectrum, the priest is always careful about the way the bread is handled. As we noted last month, this includes which container it is placed in to convey it after the service to those unable to attend.

But what happens to any small pieces that may have been broken, like crumbs, upon the altar?

Although the altar is covered with a white cloth, there is another smaller cloth placed on top of it onto which the bread and wine, in their respective containers, are placed.

The bread is usually on a plate or bowl-shaped dish called a paten, with 'extra' bread kept on a side table – the Credence Table – in case more is needed to be consecrated.

The smaller white cloth is called a Corporal and is typically 12 inches (30cms) square. The name comes from the Latin *corpus* meaning body, and this is folded in three in both directions (then sometimes starched) and ironed in such a way that when it is opened onto the altar all the folds are 'downward' so it forms a 'bowl' shape to catch those crumbs.

After the Communion is shared, the cloth is then folded back upon itself and later taken outside the building and shaken to allow any crumbs to return to nature.

From the Registers

Funerals September 2021:

3 rd September	(Ted) Edward Clague	RBG	Methodist Burial
10 th September	Christopher H M Cowley	Kirk Christ	Crematorium
14 th September	Rosemary P Adams	Kirk Christ/RBG	Ashes
14 th September	Raymond K Blackburn	RBG	Burial
16 th September	John B Corlett	Kirk Christ	Crematorium
24 th September	Eunice Johnstone	RBG	Ashes

(RBG Rushen Burial Ground)

Wedding September 2021:

17th September David Peter Thomas & Charlotte Jane Clark Evans Kirk Christ 2.30pm

Baptism September 2021:

5th September Hugo Anthony Simpson St Catherine's 11am

One out of Ten

A Sunday School class was studying the Ten Commandments. The teacher asked if anyone could recite one from memory. Susie raised her hand, stood tall, and quoted, "Thou shall not take the covers off thy neighbour's wife."

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



Our October meeting having been postponed due to Covid concerns, and acting on Gerry's suggestion that his talk, scheduled for November, be moved to an alternative date, we will be able to hear Mr Michael Manning on Monday 8th November at 2pm in St Catherine's Hall, when we shall learn about Graih's work with the homeless on the island. As always, guests are very welcome.

The second edition of the membership magazine, Connected, has been delivered by post from Mary Sumner House. As well as news and views, this publication contains two inserts: one is a prayer diary to support 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence and Abuse, from 25th Nov - 10th Dec, and the other contains advice on safeguarding. (MU is against all forms of violence and abuse as is made clear in the magazine.)

Future dates: Mothers' Union Advent Service on Tuesday 7th December at 7pm in St Thomas's.

Our Branch Christmas Party on 13th December at 2pm in St Catherine's Hall.

With love and very best wishes to all

Pat Thomson

1st November: The first martyrs – the 'seed' of the Christian Church

The first martyrs of Rome are recorded in the old Roman Martyrology, which states that:

'At Rome, the birthday is celebrated of very many martyrs, who under the Emperor Nero were falsely charged with the burning of the city and by him were ordered to be slain by various kinds of cruel death; some were covered with the skin of wild beasts, and cast to the dogs to be torn asunder; others were crucified, and then when daylight failed used as torches to illuminate the night. All these were disciples of the apostles and the first fruits of the martyrs whom the Holy Roman Church sent to their Lord before the apostles' death.'

Ketchup

A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup to come out of the bottle. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her four-year old daughter to answer it.

"It's the minister, Mum," the child said to her mother. Then she told her caller: "Mummy can't come to the phone right now. She's hitting the bottle."

God in the Arts

*Editor: The **Revd Michael Burgess** continues his series on God in the Arts with El Greco's 'The Saviour'.*

'All you who pass this way, look and see'



The philosopher Wittgenstein gave the following advice to people visiting an art gallery or exhibition: never try to rush through all the paintings on show, but instead choose just one painting. Sit in front of it for twenty minutes. Then get up and leave the art gallery. It is difficult advice to take to heart because we feel we want to get our money's worth from an exhibition, especially if we have paid an entrance charge. Once in the gallery we then feel so overawed by the number of paintings on show and the pressure of the crowd that we go quickly from one canvas to the next.

The rushing around at a gallery is part and parcel of the way we meet each day. We rush out of habit, and we rush because everyone else is rushing. Our world seems set in the fast lane. Carl Honoré in his book 'In Praise of Slow' tells how, as a busy journalist, he experienced a flashback to a time in his youth when life was unhurried. He reflects, with regret, that it was a better life then.

If we do want to take Wittgenstein's advice seriously and find ourselves in the National Gallery in Edinburgh, we could do no better than choose to sit in front of this month's painting: El Greco's 'The Saviour.' El Greco was born in 1541 in Crete. From Greece he travelled to Venice and Rome and finally to Toledo in Spain where he died in 1614.

His art is a fusion of eastern and western traditions, given extra fervour by the Counter-Reformation and resulting in a unique style of painting. His canvases are peopled by elongated figures who seem always to be straining upwards, just as the Counter-Reformation was exhorting the faithful to set their sights on heaven as they made their journey through life.

In his early years in Crete El Greco trained as an icon painter, and that is much in evidence in 'The Saviour.' It shows a half-length figure of Christ – he was to paint a fuller figure later. This Christ like an icon is looking out at us, with his right hand raised to bless us and this world, while the left hand holds that same world in His care. We can see in the eyes an inner strength, but also the poignant sadness of longing for this is a Saviour who has come through suffering and death to bring us new life.

As we look and see, we find here in El Greco's work a Christ-calmed steadiness amid the spinning world of rush and busyness. The nearer we draw to this Jesus, the slower we will find ourselves spinning. The duties and responsibilities that demand so much from us take their place in the wider perspective of the Saviour's grace and love. Then we can begin to experience that peace which the world cannot offer, but which Christ can bring.

The first step in that process is to stop and look. The Curé d'Ars, a parish priest in France in the early 19th century, told how he noticed an old man sitting at the back of his church every day. He didn't seem to be doing anything, just sitting there in the same place at the same time, looking towards the Blessed Sacrament on the High Altar. Eventually the young priest became suspicious. He asked the man what he was doing. 'I'm praying,' came the reply. 'Yes, but what exactly is it you do?' enquired the priest. 'Well, I look at Him and He looks at me.'

Children's Page

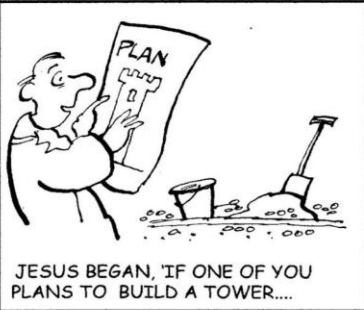
The tale of the Tower Builder



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS

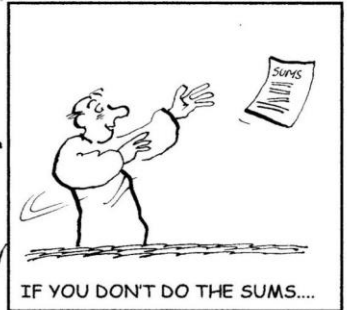


ON ONE OCCASION JESUS EXPLAINED HOW IT WOULDN'T ALWAYS BE EASY TO FOLLOW HIM.



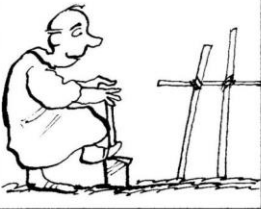
JESUS BEGAN, IF ONE OF YOU PLANS TO BUILD A TOWER....

...YOU'LL FIRST NEED TO WORK HOW MUCH IT WILL COST.



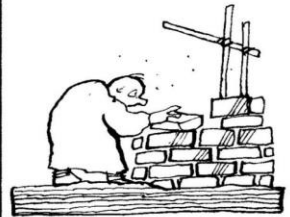
IF YOU DON'T DO THE SUMS....

...YOU MIGHT MAKE A START,

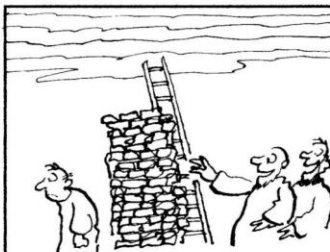


...WORK VERY HARD ON THE FOUNDATIONS.

...THEN START TO LAY THE BRICKS...



...BUT SUDDENLY RUN OUT OF MONEY!!

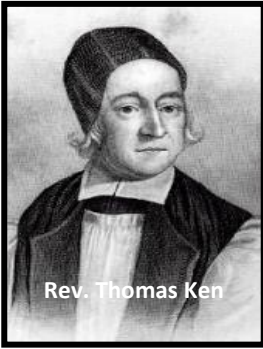


THEN PEOPLE WILL LAUGH AT YOU!

TOWER TO BE CANCELLED BUILT HERE

WE NEED TO REALISE THAT ALTHOUGH FOLLOWING JESUS IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO, IT'S ALSO A GREAT CHALLENGE.

The Story Behind the Hymn



Rev. Thomas Ken

*Praise
God, from
whom all
blessings
flow*

*Praise God From Whom
All Blessings Flow*



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

Praise God the Father who's the source;
Praise God the Son who is the course;
Praise God the Spirit who's the flow;
Praise God, our portion here below!



The doxology of acclaim to the Holy Trinity was composed by the Rev. Thomas Ken, whom King Charles II once made a cleric to his sister, Mary, Princess of Orange.

Rev Ken was so courageous in his preaching at court that the king often said on the way to chapel: "I must go and hear Ken tell me my faults." The king afterward made him Bishop of Bath and Wells.

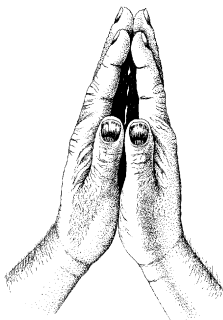
Bishop McCabe said that while the prisoners of the Union Army during the Civil War were incarcerated in Libby Prison, day after day they saw comrades passing away and their numbers increased by living recruits.

One night, about ten o'clock, through the darkness they heard the tramp of feet that soon stopped before the prison door until arrangements could be made inside. In the company was a young Baptist minister, whose heart almost fainted when he looked in those cold walls and thought of the suffering inside.

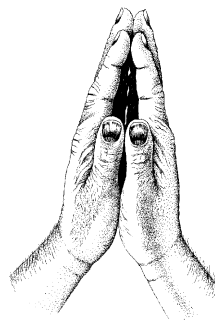
Tired and weary, he sat down, put his face in his hands, and wept. Just then a lone voice sang out from an upper window, "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow"; a dozen joined in the second line, more than a score in the third line, and the words "Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost" were sung by nearly all the prisoners. As the song died away on the still night, the young man arose and sang:

"Prisons would palaces prove,
If Jesus would dwell with me there."

Rushen Parish Prayer Diary



*Help me to live each day, quietly, easily,
To lean on your great strength
Trustfully, restfully,
To await the unfolding of Your will
Patiently, joyously,
To face tomorrow
Confidently, courageously Amen*



November 2021

This is your invitation to pray day by day for:

- 1st All saints, known or unknown, now in heaven
- 2nd People we have known and loved, but no longer see
- 3rd Christians around the world
- 4th Those who intercede at our services throughout the parish
- 5th Safety for all those involved in firework and bonfire celebrations
- 6th The Ladies Working Party and the work it does for the parish
- 7th The work of the British Legion in preparation for Remembrance Sunday
- 8th Older people who need warmth as winter approaches
- 9th The refugees seeking better opportunities for themselves
- 10th Babies born today and the families into which they are born
- 11th The Armistice which is remembered today
- 12th The work of charities both at home and overseas
- 13th Those who died in two world wars and subsequent conflicts to give us freedom
- 14th Our congregations throughout Rushen meeting in fellowship and faith each Sunday
- 15th Couples who are preparing for marriage at some point in the future
- 16th The PCC meeting taking place in St Catherine's Church Hall this evening
- 17th Those who are ill, or in hospital, and the people who look after them
- 18th Fishermen who risk their lives to provide us with food to eat
- 19th Those continuing to suffer the effects of Covid 19, or are still receiving treatment
- 20th Preparations for Christmas in shops and other retail outlets
- 21st Christ the King – the last Sunday of the church year
- 22nd People in prison seeking to improve their lives
- 23rd Preparations throughout the parish for our Christmas services
- 24th The importance of the Bible as a teaching aid for all Christians
- 25th People who are suffering hardship through loss of earnings
- 26th Children who are affected when families break up
- 27th Those recovering from operations, or medical procedures, at Noble's Hospital
- 28th Our PCC Treasurer, Stephen Curtis, for maintaining the parish finances
- 29th Voluntary helpers in schools who give their time to help the children
- 30th Saint Andrew, Patron Saint of Scotland, and brother of St Peter the Apostle

Services November 2021

3 rd November	2pm	Play & Praise St Catherine's Church Hall
7 th November (3 Before Advent)	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)
14 th November (Remembrance)	10.45am	Kirk Christ Remembrance Service
	10.55am	St Catherine's/St Mary's Remembrance (*)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (Remembrance)
21 st November (Christ the King)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's All-Age Service (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
28 th November (Advent 1)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (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 December	2pm	Play & Praise St Catherine's Church Hall
5 th December (Advent 2)	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)
	4pm	St Catherine's Christingle Service
12 th December (Advent 3)	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 Evening Prayer (BCP)

(*) At St Catherine's Church

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

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

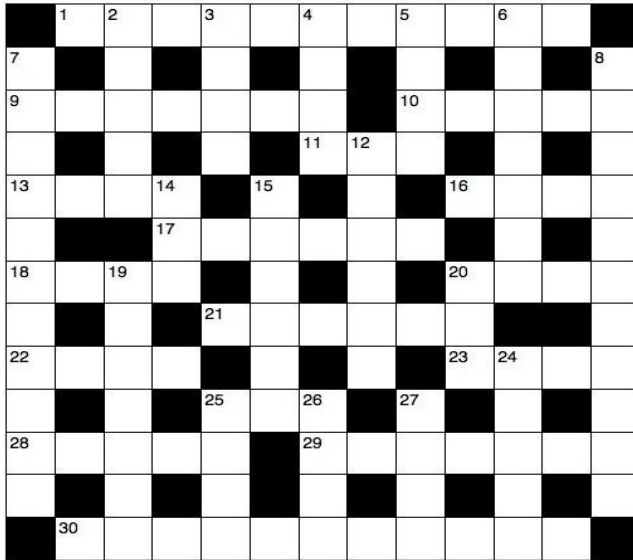
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Mr M D Porter, 10 Fairway Drive, Rowany, Port Erin 832143

Churchyard Enquiries:

Please contact	Mr Harry Dawson:	478050/835770
	or Mr G Callister:	474924/834627

Crossword November 2021



Across

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 In David's battle with the Arameans, 700 of these were killed (2 Samuel 10:18) (11)</p> <p>9 'No — , impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the kingdom of God' (Ephesians 5:5) (7)</p> <p>10 City on the banks of the River Nile (5)</p> <p>11 Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1)</p> <p>13 Taverns (4)</p> <p>16 'Be on your guard; stand — in the faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13) (4)</p> <p>17 'He will not always — , nor will he harbour his anger forever' (Psalm 103:9) (6)</p> <p>18 and 27 Down Where the magi came from and what guided them (Matthew 2:1–2) (4,4)</p> <p>20 Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4)</p> <p>21 She married Esau when he was 40 years old (Genesis 26:34) (6)</p> <p>22 A great-grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:7) (4)</p> <p>23 Title accorded to certain Roman Catholic clerics (abbrev.) (4)</p> <p>25 'My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it a — of robbers' (Luke 19:46) (3)</p> <p>28 Annie (anag.) (5)</p> <p>29 Plead with (Zechariah 7:2) (7)</p> <p>30 Tenth foundation of the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:20) (11)</p> | <p>2house in heaven, not built by — hands' (2 Corinthians 5:1) (5)</p> <p>3 Uncommon excellence (Proverbs 20:15) (4)</p> <p>4 'You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine — have been poured upon me' (Psalm 92:10) (4)</p> <p>5 — Homo ('Behold the Man') (4)</p> <p>6 'He has given proof of this to all men by — him from the dead' (Acts 17:31) (7)</p> <p>7 'Our — is in heaven' (Philippians 3:20) (11)</p> <p>8 'This is a day you are to — ' (Exodus 12:14) (11)</p> <p>12 Assault (Psalm 17:9) (6)</p> <p>14 'Jesus found a young donkey and — upon it' (John 12:14) (3)</p> <p>15 Liverpool dialect (6)</p> <p>19 'Remember the — day by keeping it holy' (Exodus 20:8) (7)</p> <p>20 Nineteenth-century German physicist after whom the unit of electrical resistance is named (3)</p> <p>24 Nazirites were not allowed to eat this part of a grape (Numbers 6:4) (5)</p> <p>25 'If anyone would come after me, he must — himself and take up his cross and follow me' (Mark 8:34) (4)</p> <p>26 Evil Roman emperor from AD54 to 68, responsible for condemning hundreds of Christians to cruel deaths (4)</p> |
|--|---|

Down

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <p>2 'We have a building from God, an eternal.....</p> | <p>27 See 18 Across</p> |
|---|--------------------------------|