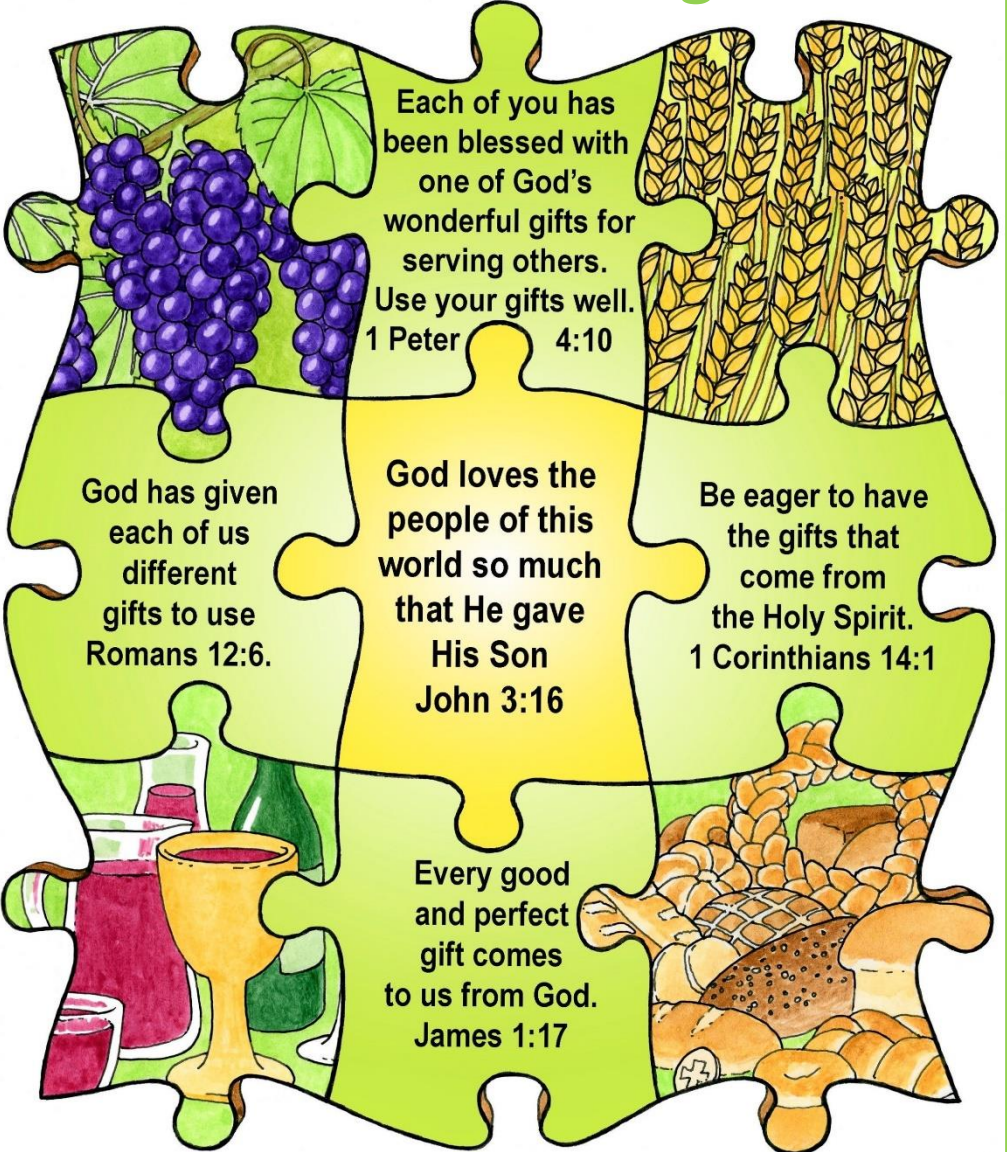




September
2022

Rushen Parish Magazine



Each of you has
been blessed with
one of God's
wonderful gifts for
serving others.
Use your gifts well.
1 Peter 4:10

God has given
each of us
different
gifts to use
Romans 12:6.

God loves the
people of this
world so much
that He gave
His Son
John 3:16

Be eager to have
the gifts that
come from
the Holy Spirit.
1 Corinthians 14:1

Every good
and perfect
gift comes
to us from God.
James 1:17

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From the Editor

In 2007 Pauline and I decided to leave the hustle and bustle of the UK and move to the much calmer lifestyle found here on the Isle of Man. It was an exciting prospect. Nevertheless we had one regret which was the leaving of the place where our son Nicholas is buried. We agonised about this for weeks before finally deciding to move. We knew that we would return to Kent at least once a year and on those occasions we could visit his grave. In addition to this we knew that our son Andrew, who lives in Kent, would go to his grave fairly regularly to ensure that it was not overgrown and that flowers could be left to grow around it.

We moved here in 2008 and were able to visit his grave as planned in the years that followed. That was until 2017 when the church, where he is buried, underwent a major restoration of its Norman tower which was crumbling and as such dangerous to churchgoers and visitors. The outcome was that scaffolding surrounded the tower and much of the west end of the church. The area was inaccessible as was Nicholas' grave. This situation continued until 2020 when Covid was prevalent and the year Pauline passed away. In fact it wasn't until the autumn of 2021, when the restoration of the tower and Covid beginning to be controlled, that there was an opportunity for me to visit the grave. I went in July of this year.

Unfortunately because of unforeseen circumstances such as having to move because of a change of employment, or wanting a quieter existence as we did, relatives end up being separated from the graves of their loved ones. For me it is a problem and one which I have wrestled with for some time. That is until my visit to Kent in July. I had prepared myself before visiting Nicholas' grave with bin bags, detergent, water, cloths and scissors to ensure it was clean and not overgrown. I was surprised to see that although surrounded by all sorts of weeds it was relatively easy to clear the grave and clean the tablet. One of the 'weeds' happened to be a poppy plant which previously would have given quite a show, but now presented itself full of poppy pods. Whilst these were still at an early stage and not yet ripe enough to shed their seeds, I decided to collect the pods and bring them home to ripen. They are now dry and ready to yield the seeds within them. My plan is now to plant the seeds in the garden and hopefully watch them grow each year. If they do I will know that the plant from which they originated will also be growing next to my son's grave. It might be a tenuous link but it will be a constant reminder of the love we had for each other.

God provides so many answers to our problems. When I visited Kent in July I felt so guilty about the number of years that had elapsed since the last time I went to his graveside. Through prayer I have asked God many times to find a solution to what has been a huge weight on my conscience. Whilst the miles still exist between Nicholas and me I thank Him for an answer to my prayers, and I know that one day, maybe not next year, or for some time to come, poppies will grow in my garden bringing us closer together, and reminding me that nothing can take away the power of prayer and the love of God.

David

'England's Rose'



This month marks 25 years since the funeral of Princess Diana on 6th September 1997. Prince William has described how his mother's death was like an earthquake, the shockwaves taking time to sink in. When we remember the days leading up to the funeral, the whole nation seemed touched by her death. Over 32 million people watched the funeral on television. As we look back to this event, what is its continuing significance?

As those made in the image of God, we are called to reach out to show love to others. *'Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.'* (1 John 4:7). Princess Diana did this, especially the vulnerable in our society, remembering especially her work with AIDS sufferers and landmine victims. However, she was also a flawed individual, who fought various 'demons' in her own life and struggled with relationships. People identified with her humanity as *one like us*: fallible, weak yet more than good enough.

There is always something powerful about vulnerability in others; we can identify with them because, like us, they don't have it all together. God uses flawed people in His purposes, as we clearly see in the pages of the Bible: Abraham, Moses, David and Paul, to mention just a few!

Ironically, Mother Theresa died the day before Diana's funeral. Again, she was somebody who was much loved for her work among the poor. However, despite being declared a saint last year, she openly talked about the vulnerability of her faith. Mother Teresa revealed that she spent nearly 50 years without a tangible feeling of God's presence in her life! It's not easy to be a perfect saint!

'I think the biggest disease the world suffers from in this day and age is the disease of people feeling unloved.' (Princess Diana).

Canon Paul Hardingham

First day back

It was the first day of school. As the new Head made his rounds, he heard a terrible commotion coming from one of the classrooms. He rushed in and spotted one boy, taller than the others, who seemed to be making the most noise. He seized the lad, dragged him to the hall, and despite his protests, told him to wait there until he was excused. Returning to the classroom, the Head restored order and lectured the class about the importance of good behaviour. "Now," he said, "are there any questions?" One girl stood up timidly. "Please sir," she asked, "May we have our teacher back?"



Ladies Working Party – St Mary’s

A wonderful total of £620 was raised for the Southern Foodbank, and other charities, at our coffee morning on 1st July in Port St Mary Golf Pavilion and the Ladies Working Party would like to say a very big Thank You to everyone who helped to make this possible, particularly the team at PSM Golf Pavilion. We look forward to resuming our regular meetings, after the summer break, on Tuesday 13th September at 2.15pm in St Mary’s Church.

We were all greatly saddened to hear the news of the death of our good friend, Mary Maycox, a lady for whom we had the greatest love and respect for the brave way she coped with her illness. Her good humour never left her, despite challenging circumstances, and neither did her unshakeable belief in God. We send our love and sympathy to her husband Ron and to all her family. She will be missed by so many.

With very best wishes

Pat Thomson



‘Strength and Stay’ by Margaret Couper

*(The Queen: in praise of Prince Philip
“--- he has quite simply been my
strength and stay all these years:).*

1. “Strength and stay,” where does it lie?
In a partner, husband, friends.
Someone to rely upon,
Trust completely to the end,
Who then is your confidant –
On whom we can depend?

2. “Strength and stay,” when lost in life,
Can be difficult to bear;
There may abide emptiness;
A deep void, beyond compare.
What ‘er the situation - - -
God’s love is always there.

3. His “strength and stay” are promised,
On earth’s precarious way:
Belief is a condition
And firm faith to fight the fray;
As we connect with others - -
From day --- to day --- to day.

Psalm 73:26 N.I.V.
*“God is my strength of my heart - - -
forever.”*



Reflecting Faith: a special place for a special purpose



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

Last month I mentioned altar rails as being the visible barrier separating the Sanctuary where the Altar or Table is placed and the Chancel; where the choir may be seated. But there is more to the rails than simply separating these two areas in a church.

In the early days churches did not have such rails, but rather there was such a clear separation between the Chancel and the Nave that they were not required.

The Nave was used by the local community for many different community activities including the work of lawyers, accounts, indoor festivals and so on as well as people just meeting together as we would use our local community centres today. There would even be people sleeping in that part of the building overnight if they were homeless or travelling. Hence the need for a Chancel screen of some sort to keep out the running around children, their ball games, dogs etc etc.

Originally the altar would have been in the Chancel so the activity there could be seen by the people through the screen.

However, during the Restoration, many of the chancel screens that separated the whole of the chancel from the rest of the church had been removed or destroyed and this left the altar table 'open' to everyone and everything – including the dogs. Afterwards, altar tables were removed from the middle of the chancel and placed against the East wall of the church.

Archbishop Laud (1573-1645) 'invented' altar rails to help protect the sanctuary from dogs and keep it a special area accessible only to clergy and servers.

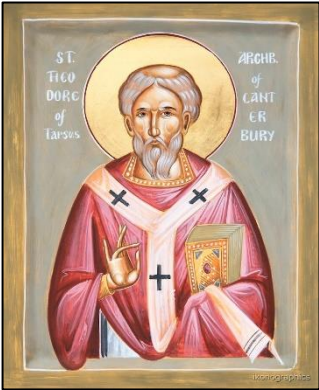
These days many churches are turning full circle and moving their altar to be nearer the people to the front of the Chancel. But this is because largely, the activities in the church building have significantly changed and dogs, in particular, are rarely loose in the building.

This month

Where would you place the altar table today in your church if it were moveable?

Would you have something surrounding it?

Would you continue to use the 'original' altar rail to receive the bread and wine?



Theodore of Tarsus Archbishop of Canterbury in troubled times

Theodore had several things in common with Justin Welby: despite living in troubled times, and in the aftermath of a severe national plague, he made extensive tours of his archbishopric, spoke at many Synods, and worked tirelessly to unite the bickering factions of the Church in England.

But, unlike Justin Welby, Theodore did not start off as English. He was a Greek living quietly in a Roman monastery when in 664, after Archbishop Deusdedit died, the Pope began looking for a new Archbishop of Canterbury. Theodore was recommended as a good candidate, even though he was not even ordained at the time.

The Pope moved quickly: Theodore was ordained deacon, and four months later (when his hair had grown long enough) he was ordained priest and immediately consecrated bishop. Then he was sent, with some companions, off to Canterbury to be Archbishop. It was a very long journey, but Theodore used the weeks on the road well: by the time he arrived in Canterbury he could at least speak English.

Theodore arrived in Britain in May 669, and soon set about strengthening the leadership of the Church through appointing more bishops, improving administration and order, and setting up a yearly meeting for the whole church.

His main challenge was settling the areas with Celtic tradition, and bringing them gently but firmly into the Roman Church. He wisely allowed a blending of Roman and Celtic traditions, which went well, and which began to give a common and unique identity to the church in Britain.

Theodore's legacy was immense: he is regarded as being the principal force behind the common Church in Britain. He was a gifted theologian and teacher, teaching science, astronomy, law, Latin and Greek. Above all, Theodore was an astute church politician and a visionary leader. Little wonder he is credited with having overseen one of the most fruitful periods of the church in Britain.

Parish Pump

Back to school

Young James finished his summer holidays and went back to school. Two days later his teacher phoned his mother to tell her that James was misbehaving. "Wait a minute!" protested his mum. "I had him here for weeks and I never once called YOU when he misbehaved!"



News from St Catherine's & Kirk Christ



The weather during August has been beautiful which has been superb for the two weddings held at Kirk Christ. The couples and their guests commented on how delightful the church is. The summer concerts have continued at St Catherine's and attendances on the whole have been fairly good. Soup Inn during August had its highest attendance ever when a coach driver turned up with a party of forty. Altogether we served over seventy customers. The helpers in the kitchen, and those serving the meals coped very well with the extra work they hadn't really prepared for! The coach party really enjoyed themselves and were served soup, a dessert and a drink of coffee/tea. On leaving they thanked us for our hospitality and left some generous donations for the parish. Soup Inn in September has had to be cancelled as Rushen Heritage Trust have hired the hall for an exhibition for the month. It will return on 6th October. Another change will be that 'Messy Church' will not be able to use the hall in September.

With every good wish to you all.

Gerry Callister

Prayer for September

Father, September is a month of new starts for many. We pray for all starting school, university or college, or moving into a new class or job.

We pray for the new Prime Minister to prove to a person of integrity, dedicated to working for the good of all.

We especially ask you to help those struggling with the rising cost of living who don't know how they are going to make ends meet.

Have mercy on this nation, Lord and bring us back to Your ways.

Thank You for Jesus and that through trusting in Him we can know You, as Father and God of truth, mercy and compassion.

Thank You that You never give up on us. You will help us if we turn to You.

In Jesus name

Amen

Sudoku September 2022

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

When all else fails

My colleague and I delivered a large refrigerator to the local priest's home. With difficulty we had managed to get the fridge into the porch, but then struggled for over 20 minutes to make the 90-degree turn through the narrow door. The priest, seeing our difficulty, asked what we usually did when confronted with such a situation. Rubbing some badly skinned knuckles, I replied, "Well, Father, at this point we usually start swearing."

"That's fine, gentlemen," Father replied, "just allow me time to move out of earshot, so you can continue your work."

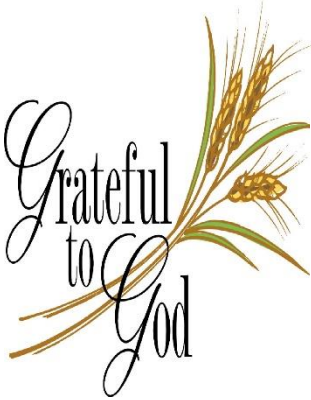
Sudoku Solution August

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

Crossword Solution August

S		S	S	C	S	M		F					
P	R	I	N	C	E	O	F	P	E	A	C	E	
R		N		O		M		U		T		E	
I	N	F		U	N	M	A	R	R	I	E	D	
N		U		R		I				N		O	
G	U	L	A	G		T	R	E	A	S	O	N	
	R					E			R			W	
I	N	A	I	D	O	F		A	R	E	N	A	
N		T						R	S		M	D	
C	A	L	V	I	N	I	S	T		P	A	D	
O		A		N		E		I		I		I	
M	O	S	E	S	A	N	D	A	A	R	O	N	
E		T		T				D		N		E	G

Being Grateful



World Gratitude Day (yes, it really does exist!) is on 21st September.

It may not be widely observed this year, for these have not been easy times in which to feel grateful. Coronavirus turned our lives upside down, and now we have the war in Ukraine, and the alarming rise in the cost of living. Add to that the heatwaves, the wildfires, and the widespread drought of this past summer, and what is there to be particularly thankful *about*?

To put it another way, how, as Christians, can we be grateful during disasters? Should we even *try* to be grateful? The letters of St Paul give us some pointers.

First of all, he says that we are not to be terrified when bad things happen. Instead, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” Then, “let the peace of God rule in our hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful” (Colossians 3:15)

Again, in 1 Thessalonians 5:18 Paul urges: “In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” It is not that we should thank God for losing our jobs or other disasters; it is rather that we need to keep our eye on the bigger picture, and never forget what God has blessed us with in Jesus Christ.

Giving thanksgiving to God is a sure sign of the fruit of His Spirit in our lives. In fact, a thankless attitude is abnormal for a Christian! It goes against everything that is in our new life. No wonder that the New Testament continually calls us back to thankfulness.

And there is good reason for this. Romans 8:28 assures us: “We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to his purpose.” So even when things are bad, Paul assures us that we can be sure that God has not abandoned us, but instead will stand by us through the hard times.

The early church, whenever they gathered, gave thanks together. Whenever we meet for fellowship with believers, it is good to include a time of giving thanks.

But even when we are on our own, each day we can make time to be “singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.” (Ephesians 5:18). We can be “giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Ephesians 5:20)



Captain Allen Gardiner founder of SAMS

Captain Allen Gardiner is a saint for anyone who refuses to give up on their calling. For this courageous and indomitable man founded what became the South American Mission Society, though he sacrificed his own life in the process.

Gardiner had not started out to be a missionary. Born in 1794, he had left Berkshire to embark on a naval career which took him to Cape Town, Ceylon, India, Malaysia and China. But the death of his first wife in 1834 caused him to turn back to Christianity. He left the navy and became a missionary.

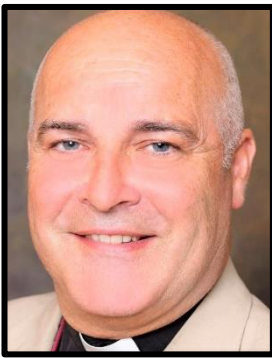
With his second wife, Elizabeth, Allen Gardiner felt called to South America. But from 1838 onwards he faced implacable opposition from the authorities there, both secular and religious. His efforts to evangelise among the Chilean Mapuches - which included a family journey of 1,000 miles overland by pack mule from Buenos Aires to Santiago and Concepción - met with hostility. So, in 1842 he settled on the Falklands, and tried to reach the Patagonian Indians. By 1844 he had founded the Patagonian Mission, because no other British Christian society felt able to take on responsibility for his work.

Next, Gardiner reached out to the Bolivian Indians of the Gran Chaco. But again, he was repulsed. So, he then decided on a bold attempt to evangelise the Indians of Tierra del Fuego.

He tried to raise the funds for a 120-ton schooner, which would have provided him with a secure base near Picton Island. But in the end, he could only manage two 26-foot launches, the *Pioneer* and *Speedwell*. Nevertheless, in December 1850 Gardiner and six other men sailed to Picton Island. But again, nothing went well. Fierce weather, Indian hostility, a series of errors and logistical problems led to disease and finally disaster. By March 1851 the group had had to flee for their lives. They sailed eastwards to Spaniard Harbour, a bay at the mouth of Cooks River. Here they waited in vain for fresh stores to arrive, and by September all six men had died of starvation.

Gardiner's journal, water-damaged but readable, was found in his hand the following year by the crew of HMS Dido, and includes the plea to God, "Let not this mission fail", and this prayer:

"Grant O Lord, that we may be instrumental in commencing this great and blessed work; but should Thou see fit in Thy providence to hedge up our way, and that we should even languish and die here, I beseech Thee to raise up others and to send forth labourers into this harvest..."



General Synod Presidential Address by the Archbishop of York

Here is an edited version of Stephen Cottrell's recent speech...

Following Jesus isn't easy.

In the public square our words will often be misunderstood, misinterpreted and misquoted. People will think we're woke, naïve, misguided, too left wing too right wing, too liberal or too conservative. We will be applauded for taking a moral stand, and pilloried for getting involved in politics. At the same time. On the same issue. But, knowing very well that we will sometimes get it wrong, what we are trying to be, is faithful to Jesus.

In personal witness we will sometimes meet scorn, apathy, even hostility. That which means most to us, will be considered trivial, laughable and neanderthal by some. But when we do share the gospel, we will find ourselves standing on the holy ground of other people's stories - and their pain - and often we won't have the words to say, such as when we're ministering to those whose lives are cut short, or when taking the funeral of a child.

Our hearts will be pierced, and like Mary standing at the foot of the cross, our witness will be a silent vigil and a determination to abide.

We will carry a towel, not a flag. We will issue an invitation, not a summons. We will, wherever possible, roll away stones.

In overseeing and resourcing the church for ministry, a responsibility that we all share, we will have to make painful and difficult decisions. In facing up to mistakes, we will be humbled, especially by our failings to safeguard the Church or to root out racism or even just to communicate well, and show kindness to each other, in these things, we will be pierced and broken.

Yet the sight of the Most High gladdens and sustains us. For me, that is around the table of the Lord and in the daily slog and diet of prayer and the comfort of scripture.

And for all of us, laity, priests and bishops, the whole people of God, we must, as our first priority and the first call upon our lives, pay attention to those sources of replenishing grace that are given us in word and worship, in sacrament and fellowship, enabling us to persevere, to get better, to make amends, to love one another.

So this is what I say to myself each day: Stephen, know your need of God; know that you need resources outside yourself; don't believe your own publicity; own up to your mistakes; don't think you're in charge or this is your church. It isn't. And seek out those places of prayerful contemplation and replenishing where you will know God's love for you.



Enter all the angels, led by Michael

What is an angel? Easy, people think: a shining figure with glorious wings, who appears from time to time to do some mighty work for God or bring a very special message from him.

Well, that's right in one sense (apart from the wings, which owe more to stained glass windows than the Bible). But the fact that not all 'angels' in the Bible are 'glorious' or 'shining' should make us hesitate to categorise them in this spectacular way. After all, the three apparently ordinary men who visited Abraham and Sarah to tell them that she would have a son even though she was long past child-bearing age had none of those outward embellishments. Nevertheless, Abraham recognised them as divine messengers.

The Bible is full of angels, from the early chapters of Genesis to the last chapter of Revelation, and often they had a key role in crucial events. It seems, from just two instances, that Michael was their leader, an 'archangel'. In many stained glass windows he's seen with a sword, because in a vision in Revelation he led the angelic host who fought and defeated Satan and his army.

In the Gospels, an angel of the Lord appeared to Zechariah in the Temple, to tell him that his elderly wife was to have a son, the forerunner of the Messiah, John the Baptist. An angel, Gabriel, appeared to Mary to tell her that she would be the mother of the Messiah, the Son of God. An angel appeared 'in a dream' to Joseph, the village carpenter in Nazareth, to tell him to go ahead and marry his fiancé, Mary, and later - also in a dream - warned him not to go back to Bethlehem. A 'young man', whom we take to have been an angel, was sitting in the empty tomb on Easter morning, waiting to tell the startled women that Jesus wasn't there - He had risen (Mark 16:5).

Without going into every biblical reference to angels, those should be sufficient to show that the word covers an enormous diversity of experience. So the Letter to the Hebrews speaks of those who practice hospitality as sometimes 'entertaining angels unawares'. Sometimes people recognised angels for who they were, and sometimes they didn't. Angels, quite simply, are God's agents or emissaries, messengers and ministers of His will. Sometimes they are human; sometimes they seem to be spiritual beings.

Perhaps we could even say that *anyone*, in any situation, who is at that moment God's 'messenger' to us, or serves us graciously, is an 'angel'. So, when we say, 'Oh, be an angel and pop up to the chemist for my prescription', we may be nearer the heart of the matter than we think!

Canon David Winter

All in the month of September



1900 years ago, from 13th September 122 to 128, Hadrian's Wall was built in northern England. It ran for 80 miles from coast to coast and marked the northern limit of the Roman Empire. The Roman Emperor, Hadrian, wanted to separate the Romans from 'the barbarians.'

200 years ago, on 11th September 1822, the Catholic Church admitted that the 16th century astronomer Galileo Galilei might have been right about the Earth orbiting the Sun. The

College of Cardinals reversed the Church's condemnation of his ideas. Galileo had spent the last nine years of his life under house arrest for publishing his work on the subject. He died in 1642.

100 years ago, on 13th September 1922, the highest temperature ever recorded in the world was reported to be 57.7 Centigrade (136 Fahrenheit) in Al'Aziziyah in Libya. (Unofficial record)

90 years ago, on 23rd September 1932, Saudi Arabia was founded when the Kingdoms of Hejaz and Najd were unified.

80 years ago, on 10th September 1942, the British Royal Air Force launched a massive air raid over Dusseldorf Germany.

70 years ago, on 6th September 1952, the Farnborough Air Show crash took place in Hampshire. A de Havilland fighter jet broke apart and fell into the crowd, killing 31 people. Stringent safety measures were introduced to ensure it could never happen again.

65 years ago, on 2nd September 1957, the Everly Brothers best-known song 'Wake up Little Susie' was released.

50 years ago, on 5th September 1972, Palestinian terrorists invaded the Olympic Village in Munich, West Germany during the 1972 Olympic Games and took 11 members of the Israeli team hostage. All the hostages were killed, as well as five of the eight terrorists and a German police officer, when a rescue attempt failed.

40 years ago, on 14th September 1982, Princess Grace of Monaco, formerly the American film and TV actress Grace Kelly, died in a car crash, aged 52.

30 years ago, on 7th September 1992, the radio station Classic FM began broadcasting in the UK. **Also on 16th September 1992**, the Black Wednesday sterling crisis took place. The UK crashed out of the European Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM), raised interest rates from 10% to 15% and spent billions of pounds buying up sterling that was being frantically disposed of on international markets.

25 years ago, on 5th September 1997, Mother Teresa, Macedonian-born/Albanian India nun and humanitarian died. She founded the Missionaries of Charity and was winner of the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize. She was beatified in October 2003. **Also on 9th September 1997**, Sinn Fein formally renounced violence and committed itself to resolving the troubles of Northern Ireland through peaceful means. This eventually led to the Good Friday Agreement in April 1998. **Also on 11th September 1997**, the people of Scotland voted in a referendum to establish their own parliament. (Opened 1st July 1999.) **Also on 18th September 1997**, that the people of Wales voted in a referendum to create the National Assembly for Wales, with devolved powers from Westminster. (Opened May 1999.) **Also on 29th September 1997**, that British scientists announced that they had established a link between BSE (mad cow disease) and the human brain disease vCJD.



Remembering Mother Teresa, 25 years on

Some 25 years ago, on 5th September 1997, Mother Teresa died. She was an Albanian nun who was born Anjezë Gonxhe Bojaxhiu in what is now Skopje, North Macedonia, and spent most of her life in India, founding and running the Missionaries of Charity. She was winner of the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize.

Mother Teresa, who took Indian citizenship, received several honours. She was beatified in 2003 and canonised on 4th September 2016. The anniversary of her death is her feast day. At the time of her death, the Missionaries of Charity had over 4000 sisters. By 2020, it had grown to 5167.

Anjezë became convinced she should live a religious life by the age of 12. She left home six years later to join the Sisters of Loreto in Dublin. She saw neither her mother nor her sister again. By 1929 she was in India, beginning her novitiate in Darjeeling, in the Himalayas. She took the name of Teresa after Thérèse de Lisieux, the patron saint of missionaries.

She then moved to Calcutta, where for 20 years she was a teacher and head teacher. She became concerned for “the poorest of the poor” and in 1952 opened her first hospice – an abandoned Hindu temple – with help from Calcutta officials and from a group of young women assistants. The aim was to help people die “a beautiful death” with dignity, whatever their faith.

Mother Teresa, who was fluent in five languages, was widely admired but also came in for criticism, partly for her views on abortion and contraception. She said: "By blood, I am Albanian. By citizenship, an Indian. By faith, I am a Catholic nun. As to my calling, I belong to the world. As to my heart, I belong entirely to the Heart of Jesus."

From the Registers

Funerals July 2022:

1 st July	Stephen M Creer	Service	Kirk Christ & Burial RBG
2 nd July	Italco DeMartin		Ashes only RBG
6 th July	Roma Ware	Service	St Cath's. & Crematorium
7 th July	Walter N Leece		Ashes only RBG

(RBG Rushen Burial Ground)

Weddings July 2022:

2 nd July	Brendan R Coleman & Chelsea J Crossley	2pm	Kirk Christ
23 rd July	Mark T Kinvig & Hayley E Faragher	3pm	Kirk Christ
30 th July	Michael R Boyle & Holly Saxon	3pm	St Mary's

Baptism July 2022:

10 th July	Skye Adelaide Amelia Newing	9.30am	Kirk Christ
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Money Problems

There is a story of a pastor who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: "I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building programme. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets."

Supplied by Margaret Moore

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, Voirrey Baugh (Tel. 832275)

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

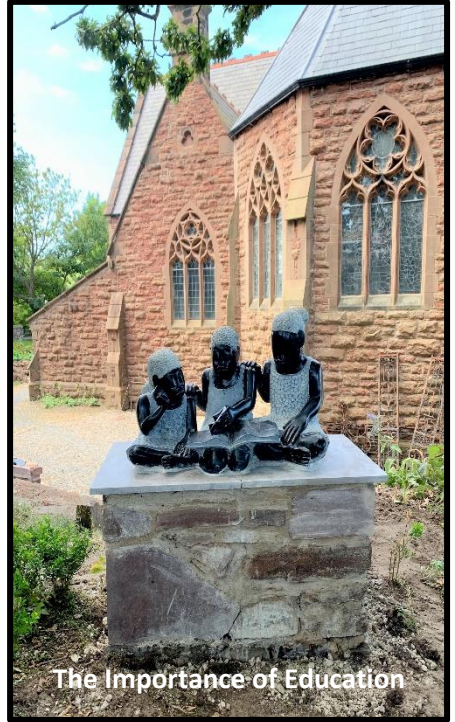


"Finally, we're still waiting for someone from last week's Parent & Toddler Group to come and claim this lost property..."

Rushen Mothers' Union

It was a lovely summer's evening for our drive to St Ninian's Church for our Founder's Day Service on 9th August, a well- attended service led by The Reverend Canon Jon Coldwell, with Mrs June Houghton, MU York Provincial President preaching. An especially warm welcome was extended to Mrs Houghton as Covid had prevented her attending our Lady Day Service in the cathedral in March, and good wishes were sent to Rev Jeanette Hamer, our Diocesan President, who was unable to share in leading this service, again due to Covid.

Each branch was issued with copies for members of the very interesting MU Summer 2022 Newsletter, featuring, amongst other items, Mrs Valerie Vaughan receiving her 70 years' service certificate, and The MU Platinum Prayer Book which includes two prayers from Mrs Jane Gunn and Mrs Margaret Couper; all three ladies being members of Rushen Branch! Mention was also made of a private visit in July from our World-Wide President Mrs Sheran Harper, who spent a day at the Cathedral, meeting with some Branch Leaders and past Presidents, learning about activities undertaken on the island, and unveiling a lovely statue entitled The Importance of Education, by Jonathan Mhondorihuma, of Zimbabwe, in the Cathedral grounds.



The Importance of Education

DIARY DATES

Pat Thomson

Trustees Meeting

30th August: 7pm, in Michael Parish church (TBC)

JMP South & West Corporate Communion

Wed 7th September: 7pm, in the Cathedral, Rev Ruth Walker to preside.

Rushen Branch Opening Communion Service,

Mon 12th September: 2pm, in Kirk Christ

Council Meeting,

Mon 12th September: 7pm, in St John's Parish church Hall, refreshments from 6.30pm

Rushen Branch Coffee Morning,

Fri 7th October: 10-11.30am, in St Catherine's Church Hall

S&W JMP committee meeting

8th November, 10am, in St John's Chapel.

MU Advent Service

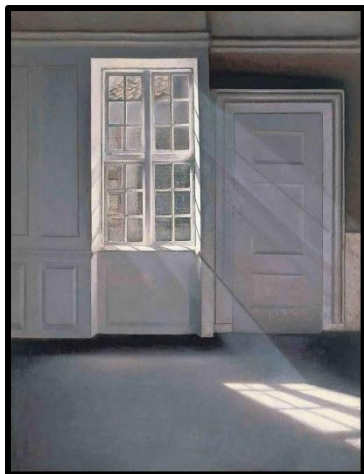
6th December: 7pm, in St John's Church

(Please do let me know if anyone needs a lift to any of the above, especially the Corporate Communion on 7th September, as this comes before our first Branch meeting on 12th)

God in the Arts

Editor: *The Rev Michael Burgess* continues his series on *God in the Arts* with a look at *'Dust Motes Dancing in Sunbeams'* by *Vilhelm Hammershøi*

'Tis the gift to be simple



Have you ever read a book by Robin Meyers, 'Morning Sun on a White Piano'? It is subtitled 'simple pleasures and the sacramental life.' Its theme is that we can easily pass life by, as we search for it. We shun the 'ordinary' and the simple in pursuit of more worthwhile endeavours because we equate the 'ordinary' with the mundane and unrewarding.

The Shaker melody 'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free' is the origin of the popular hymn 'The Lord of the Dance.' It says: Look closely at the simple things of life and find in them depth and divinity. The 17th century Dutch artist Vermeer created masterpieces out of the ordinary – a woman reading a letter or pouring water into a basin. Critics have described his work as 'the timeless contemplation of the ordinary.'

Over 200 years later, a Danish artist found his inspiration in that same world of the simple and the ordinary: Vilhelm Hammershøi. He lived a reclusive life in Copenhagen with his wife, painting only a few pictures a year. Hammershøi died of throat cancer in 1916 at only 52 years. The theme of most of his paintings is limited to the world of his apartment at different times of the day and night.

His painting, 'Dust Motes Dancing in Sunbeams,' was painted in 1900. We are shown quite simply an empty room with a wall, a window, a floor and a door. There is no handle on the door. All is stillness and peace. And all is shadow until the winter sun streams into the room, catching in its rays the dust and lighting up the floor. It is the miracle of sunlight bringing life into the stillness. An ordinary aspect of creation, but lighting up a room and bringing wonder in its wake. One critic has called it 'a hymn to an everyday marvel.'

In this and in all of his paintings, Hammershøi seems to be saying: Accept the simplicity of the present, find beauty there and live in that beauty. For him the grass is never greener in the next field – it is here and now in the world we have that we find beauty and meaning.

John Keble's hymn 'New ev'ry morning is the love' says that 'the trivial round, the common task will furnish all we need to ask.' The artist is echoing that truth on canvas, telling us that the ordinary and common things of everyday life can provide the backcloth against which we can live and act.

When we are young, that backcloth stretches out to embrace the wider world and time: it is full of potential and promise. As we grow older, that world shrinks to our home, our church, our town. If illness comes, our world may be bedroom or the hospital ward. In that smaller world life can seem trivial and ordinary. But wherever we are, Hammershøi invites us to pause, to ponder and to find there beauty and light which will bring us 'daily nearer God.'

Children's Page

The Hired Workers



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS - WE CALL THEM PARABLES.

ONE WAS ABOUT PEOPLE WAITING TO BE HIRED TO DO SOME WORK.



A HOUSEHOLDER HIRED A GROUP OF WORKERS FROM THE MARKET PLACE, FIRST THING IN THE MORNING. HE AGREED UPON A FAIR WAGE.

A BIT LATER ON THE HOUSEHOLDER RETURNED TO THE MARKET PLACE AND HIRED SOME MORE WORKERS.

HE RETURNED SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE DAY, EACH TIME HIRING MORE WORKERS. HE EVEN HIRED SOME PEOPLE JUST AS THE SUN WAS SETTING!

WHEN THE DAY WAS OVER THE HOUSEHOLDER BEGAN TO PAY THE WORKERS, STARTING WITH THOSE WHO HAD ONLY JUST ARRIVED. HE PAID EVERYONE THE SAME.

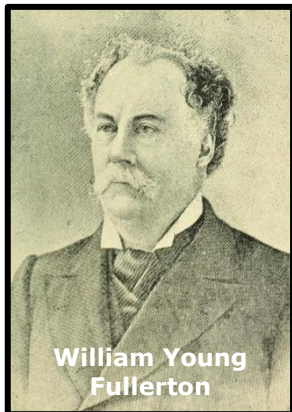
THIS UPSET THOSE WHO HAD WORKED ALL DAY. THEY THOUGHT THEY SHOULD GET MORE.

BUT THEY WERE BEING PAID WHAT THEY HAD AGREED AT THE START OF THE DAY.

JESUS CONCLUDED "SO THOSE WHO ARE LAST WILL BE FIRST, AND THOSE WHO ARE FIRST WILL BE LAST" - IT'S A HARD PARABLE!

see Matthew 20:1-16

The Story Behind the Hymn



I Cannot Tell

I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship,
Should set his love upon the sons of men,
Or why, as shepherd,
He should seek the wand'ers,
To bring them back, they know not how or when.
But this I know, that he was born of Mary,
When Bethl'hem's manger was his only home,
And that he lived at Nazareth and laboured and
So the saviour, saviour of the world, is come.

I cannot tell how silently he suffered,
As with his peace he graced this place of tears,
Or how his heart upon the cross was broken,
The crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted,
And stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear,
And lifts the burden from the heavy laden,
For yet the saviour, saviour of the world, is here.

I cannot tell how he will win the
Nations, how he will claim his earthly heritage,
How satisfy the needs and aspirations
Of east and west, of sinner and of sage.
But this I know,
All flesh shall see his glory,
And he shall reap the harvest he has sown,
And some glad day his sun will shine in splendour
When he the saviour, saviour of the world, is known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,
When, at his bidding, every storm is stilled,
Or who can say how great the jubilation
When all the hearts of men with love are filled.
But this I know,
The skies will thrill with rapture,
And myriad, myriad human voices sing,
And earth to heaven, and heaven to earth, will
answer,
"At last the saviour, saviour of the world, is King."

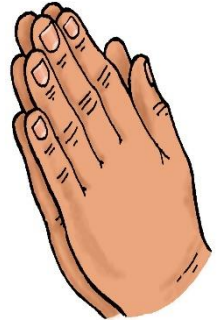
William Young Fullerton was born on 8th March 1857 in Belfast, Ireland, and was a true Irishman. When young, on a Sunday he decided to start a Christian life. To do so, he decided he would stop sinning, read his Bible, pray, and repent, hopefully with weeping. He felt things were going well on Monday and Tuesday, but by Wednesday, he was making some serious failures. Thursday and Friday were even worse. So he decided to restart the Christian life on Sunday, knowing where he failed, and endeavouring to make sure he carefully guarded himself from failing again. Things went well on this second attempt, and he shed many tears, some of them being hidden tears. He felt his repentance was deep and sincere. But on Sunday, he heard a new visiting pastor that proclaimed that all that had to be done was to accept the gift of God and express thanksgiving for it. That afternoon, the young man thanked God for the gift of the Christian life and quit trying to work his way into becoming saved.

He went on to become a powerful evangelist and pastor. He was a student of C.H. Spurgeon, and later assisted in preparing Spurgeon's sermon manuscripts for publication. He also wrote several biographies including ones on C.H. Spurgeon, his pastor and teacher; his friend, F.B. Meyer; and John Bunyan. He wrote several hymns as well. He was tall and had an air of authority. He was very approachable and kind. He spoke at the Keswick Conferences in 1908, and took a prominent part in them in 1913 and afterwards. He would stand to speak with a small Bible in his hand, and turn from passage to passage, explaining and expounding in a very personal and fascinating way. He died at Bedford Park, Middlesex, England in August 1932 at the age of 75.

Rushen Parish Prayer Diary



Heavenly Father look in love on our friends and neighbours. Keep them from harm; bless them in all good things; give them your gifts of kindness and gentleness. Enfold our whole community, friends and strangers, in the peace that only you can give. And give us the wisdom to see your image in the eyes of everyone we meet, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.



Amen

September 2022

This is your invitation to pray day by day for:

- 1st Children preparing for the new term at school
- 2nd All who work with children during court proceedings
- 3rd Children in third world countries who need medical help in order to survive
- 4th The United Nations and peace-keeping forces
- 5th All who are confused in a world of multi-choice
- 6th That world leaders may set good examples
- 7th All who work in dangerous or hostile environments
- 8th Children taken into care and those left at risk
- 9th All whose sight and hearing are failing
- 10th God's presence in our homes
- 11th All missionaries both at home and abroad
- 12th The Pope and fellow Christians in the Roman Catholic Church
- 13th The fellowship experienced in our four churches
- 14th Integrity and fair dealing in world trade
- 15th The work of charitable organisations in helping those in need
- 16th Local singers and musicians
- 17th Our churchwardens and members of the PCC
- 18th The work of the Children's Society
- 19th People we know who are ill, or in pain, and are awaiting treatment
- 20th The PCC Meeting being held in St Catherine's Church Hall this evening at 7pm
- 21st Members of St Mary's Church Choir and Michael Porter, their choirmaster
- 22nd Those still suffering from the effects of coronavirus
- 23rd People who receive Holy Communion at home because they are housebound
- 24th Those responsible for opening and closing our four churches each day.
- 25th For the selfless adults and children who have raised funds for charities this year
- 26th Funeral directors and the work they do in helping the bereaved
- 27th Peace throughout the world, especially in Ukraine
- 28th Those who are finding life difficult because of the cost of living crisis.
- 29th Children of the parish who want to know more about Jesus and His work
- 30th Good harvests so that the hungry, because of famine, can be fed

Services September/October 2022

4 th September <i>(Trinity 12)</i>	9.30am 11am 11am 3.15pm	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW) St Mary's Holy Communion (CW) St Catherine's Morning Prayer CW) St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
11 th September <i>(Trinity 13)</i>	9.30am 11am 11am 3.15pm	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW) St Mary's All-Age Service + Baptism (CW) St Catherine's Holy Communion CW) St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
18 th September <i>(Trinity 14)</i>	9.30am 11am 11am 3.15pm	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer + Baptism (CW) St Mary's Holy Communion (CW) St Catherine's All-Age Service (CW) St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
25 th September <i>(Trinity 15)</i>	11am	Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)
2 nd October <i>(Trinity 16)</i>	9.30am 11am 11am 3.15pm	Kirk Christ Harvest Morning Prayer (CW) St Mary's All-Age Harvest Service (CW) St Catherine's Harvest Morning Prayer CW) St Peter's Harvest Evening Prayer (BCP)
5 th October	2.15pm	Play & Praise (St Catherine's Hall)
9 th October <i>(Trinity 17)</i>	9.30am 11am 11am 3.15pm	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW) St Mary's Morning Prayer (CW) St Catherine's Holy Communion CW) St Peter's Evening Prayer + Baptism (BCP)
16 th October <i>(Trinity 18)</i>	9.30am 11am 11am 3.15pm	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW) St Mary's Holy Communion (CW) St Catherine's All-Age Service (CW) St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
23 rd October <i>(Trinity 19)</i>	11am	Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)

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

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(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

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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.

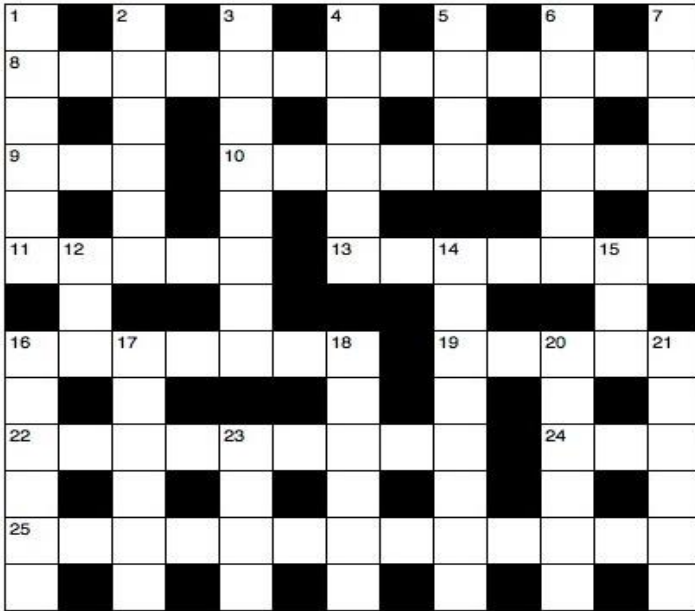
Parish Director of Music:

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 September 2022



Across

- 8** Where the Ark of the Covenant was kept for 20 years (1 Samuel 7:1) (7,6)
- 9** One of the parts of the body on which blood and oil were put in the ritual cleansing from infectious skin diseases (Leviticus 14:14-17) (3)
- 10** Uncomfortable (3,2,4)
- 11** 'Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have — ' (Malachi 1:3) (5)
- 13** Where Paul said farewell to the elders of the church in Ephesus (Acts 20:17) (7)
- 16** 'Jesus bent down and — to write on the ground with his finger' (John 8:6) (7)
- 19** Prophet from Moresheth (Jeremiah 26:18) (5)
- 22** Comes between Exodus and Numbers (9)
- 24** **and 2 Down** 'Then Elkanah went home to Ramah, but the boy ministered before the Lord under — the — ' (1 Samuel 2:11) (3,6)
- 25** There was no room for them in the inn (Luke 2:7) (4,3,6)

Down

- 1** Rough drawing (2 Kings 16:10) (6)
- 2** See 24 Across
- 3** Underground literature (including Christian books) circulated in the Soviet Union (8)

- 4** Lo, mash (anag.) (6)
- 5** The Bible's shortest verse: 'Jesus — ' (John 11:35) (4)
- 6** 'Can a mother forget the baby at her — and have no compassion on the child she has borne?' (Isaiah 49:15) (6)
- 7** Can be seen in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (6)
- 12** 'Send me, therefore, a man... experienced in the — of engraving, to work in Judah and Jerusalem' (2 Chronicles 2:7) (3)
- 14** Second city of Cyprus (8)
- 15** United Nations Association (1,1,1)
- 16** One of the women who first heard that Jesus had risen from the dead (Mark 16:1) (6)
- 17** Braved (anag.) (6)
- 18** — of Evangelism, outreach initiative in the 1990s (6)
- 20** 'Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and — in their own sight' (Isaiah 5:21) (6)
- 21** 'Neither — nor depth... will be able to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (6)
- 23** What Jesus shed in 5 Down (4)