



June  
2023

# Rushen Parish Magazine



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## *From the Editor*

Most of us have mobile phones and take great delight in taking photographs of our families, places, animals, flowers and countless other things. It's so easy, all you have to do is point your phone at the image you want to store, touch the appropriate application, and the photograph you have taken will join a mass of others taken over months, and possibly years. You can even delete the photos you don't like, or edit them to make them look even better. Very often, during conversations, the phone will be used to show recent images to friends and family members. On my phone I have hundreds of pictures of my great granddaughter who was born last September. However, it wasn't always like this as many of us know.

My first camera was a Kodak Brownie 127. A very basic box camera which took black and white photographs. You had to put a roll of film into it and it would take a fixed number of images. The used film was taken to the chemists and after a few days you could collect the images taken. Of course you had to put up with the results of your photography and if some of the images were blurred, or showed your finger in front of the lens, there was no way back. As the years passed by cameras became more sophisticated, images appeared in colour, and you could even take movies on an 8mm camera. None of that applies today though, because we have the mobile phone, computers, iPads and a range of technological devices that will do everything you want.

At home I have four box files full of old photographs. There must be hundreds, if not thousands. They are a reminder of our family life together and of all the holidays we have taken. Most of them depict happy times, but some from times not so good. They are an aide-mémoire, or an historical account of the Bowman family, and I can physically hold each photo in my hand and remember.

Just after Pauline died I collected a number of photographs of her and put them as background images on my iWatch. Now, every time I look at it I see a different image of her. I had one of these photographs made into an 80cm x 80cm fabric image, and this is now situated on the wall facing the stair well as I go down the stairs. I really treasure it because not only is it a wonderful reminder of her for me, but it enables me to share my evening prayers with her, something we always did throughout our marriage, and which I have continued every night with the fabric image before going to bed. We always finished our prayers with the evening collect, *'Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee O Lord, and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night, for the love of thy only Son Jesus Christ.'* Amen. Sometimes technology is the best thing since sliced bread!

**David**



## Trinity Sunday, celebrating our God who is Three Persons

Trying to explain the doctrine of the Trinity has kept many a theologian busy down the centuries. One helpful picture is to imagine the sun shining in the sky. The sun itself – way out there in space, and unapproachable in its fiery majesty – is the Father. The light that flows from it, which gives us life and illuminates all our lives, is the Son. The heat that flows from it, and which gives us all the energy to move and grow, is the Holy Spirit. You cannot have the

sun without its light and its heat. The light and the heat are from the sun, are *of* the sun, and yet are also distinct in themselves, with their own roles to play.

The Bible makes clear that God is One God, who is disclosed in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and Holy Spirit. For example:

Deuteronomy 6:4: 'Hear O Israel, The Lord our God, the Lord is one.'

Isaiah 45:22: 'Turn to me and be saved... for I am God, and there is no other.'

Genesis 1:1-2: 'In the beginning God created.... and the Spirit of God was hovering...'

Judges 14:6: 'The Spirit of the Lord came upon him in power...'

John 1:1-3: 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.'

Luke 24:49 manages to squeeze the whole Trinity into one sentence. Jesus tells His disciples: 'I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power (the Holy Spirit) from on high.'

In other words, the sun eternally gives off light and heat, and whenever we turn to its brilliant light, we find that warmth and life are there as well.

### Parish Pump

#### Without the Trinity, there is no Christianity

The Trinity is easier to say than to explain. Christians believe in one God, made up of three equal Persons. It is fundamental to the Nicene Creed, which sets out the definitive doctrine of the Trinity for more than two billion Christians worldwide, including all Roman Catholics, Eastern Orthodox, Anglicans, Lutherans, Presbyterians and Reformed Christians.

The theologian Ian Paul, writing on the Book of Revelation, points out that chapter five has a wonderful depiction of the Trinity in action. He writes: "...another figure appears in the drama, the lion who looks like a lamb. ... Here is the one who fulfils the hopes of God's people Israel, as the promised anointed Davidic king who was to come. Here is one who is fierce and powerful enough to conquer their enemies, and tear them apart.

"And yet when John sees Him, He is like a weak and vulnerable lamb who has been slaughtered, just as the Passover lamb eaten by the people, the suffering servant who was 'wounded for our transgressions' and the lamb offered as an atoning sacrifice. He is the one who *was* slain, but *now* stands, and shares the throne with God, and with Him sends the Spirit to enact His will on earth. Here we have the most explicit (and perhaps the most complex) Trinitarian statement in the whole New Testament."

Revd Dr Ian Paul

## Ladies Working Party – St Mary's



The LWP are still holding their weekly meetings in St. Catherine's Church Hall, and we are thankful for the generosity of St. Catherine's for this facility, whilst understandably we are eagerly awaiting the completion of the reordering of St Mary's. Thank you Gerry for always ensuring that the hall is prepared and warm for us.

Our members continue to be faithful in offering weekly prayers for all members of our parish family who are in pain or suffering any other adversity in their lives. Also included in our prayers are family members and people in our wider community from other denominations, other faiths, or no faith because everyone can benefit from prayer. We are so happy and thankful to our Lord to have Margaret Moore back in our midst, she has been sorely missed for her contributions and prayers.

We continue to have a weekly reading, poem, scripture, or inspiring piece of writing, also each week discussing someone's favourite hymn, words and meaning and history. The sermon that was preached by Rev. John Gulland on 23<sup>rd</sup> April inspired a lively discussion on the importance of reading the Old Testament in order to fully understand The New, this then led into talking about the new versions of The Lord's Prayer and our personal preferences.

The Coronation of King Charles III, and all the events and celebrations around the event created business with many of us involved or participating in community events, baking, or serving and generally enjoying it all.

Talking of baking, on 9<sup>th</sup> May we double celebrated with Gloria both her big birthday and the Naming Ceremony of her great-grandson Zevi, thanks for the lovely cakes Gloria!

We have begun deliberations on our next charity fund-raiser which will take place in September – watch this space.

In conclusion, we were all very pleased to know that St. Mary's now have a full complement of PCC representatives and wish all the members of P.C.C. every blessing as they serve Rushen Parish during the year ahead.

**Rev. Ginny Viner**

### ***Man and wife***

*With Bible in hand, I read to my Sunday school class: "For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife." Okay," I said, "from this Scripture, what do we learn is important in marriage?"*

*A voice at the back blurted: "Cleavage!"*

## Spiritual Disciplines: Simplicity



*'Clutter is not just the stuff on your floor. It's anything that stands between you and the life you want to be living.'* (Peter Walsh).

The spiritual discipline of **simplicity** is about living more simply and ensuring that possessions don't end up possessing us! Jesus expresses the heart of simplicity in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 6:19-34). He emphasises trusting God, not worrying about material things but *'seeking first his kingdom and his righteousness,'* (Matthew 6:33).

*'The Christian Discipline of simplicity is an inward reality that results in an outward life-style. Both the inward and the outward aspects of simplicity are essential.'* (Richard Foster).

What happens in our hearts impacts the way we live our lives. But what does this look like in practice? Richard Foster lists a number of outward expressions of simplicity in his book ***Celebration of Discipline***. These include:

- Buy things for their usefulness rather their status value eg cars, clothes.
- Reject anything that is addictive to us eg drinks, TV, social media.
- Develop the habit of giving things away to others who need them.
- Don't get caught up with buying the latest electronic gadget.
- Develop a deeper appreciation of creation.

How can we simplify our life?

Step 1: Find something that needs simplifying, eg decluttering the house or limiting the time consuming TV or social media. It's about stopping whatever prevents us from making the kingdom of God our top priority.

Step 2: Take time to reflect and write down how we will embrace simplicity in that area eg. stop using the phone one hour before bed and keeping it outside the bedroom.

Step 3: Ask someone to keep us accountable!

*'Always remember the essence of Christian holiness is simplicity and purity: one design, one desire: entire devotion to God.'* (John Wesley)

**Canon Paul Hardingham**

### ***This next one...***

*A local DJ was introducing a record at our annual church fete/parish party. "This next one," he said, "is for Charlotte, a choir member, who is a hundred and eleven! Hey, Charlotte, congratulations on a ripe old age!" There was a short pause and then the DJ said in a somewhat more subdued voice, "I'm sorry, I got it wrong. This next one is for Charlotte, who is ill."*

## St Mary's Sunday School



Following the Easter holiday break, we started the summer term with a session on 'walking by faith not by sight,' based on John 20:24-29, in which Jesus appears to 'doubting Thomas' and allows him to see and touch Jesus's wounds, so that he may also believe that Jesus is truly risen from the dead.

We started our session with a true/false quiz on some interesting facts which are hard to believe if you haven't seen them, eg that crocodiles can't stick out their tongues, that camels have 3 sets of eyelids, that a polar bear has black skin but a tiger has stripy skin, and that an ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain. I then asked the children if they believed my claim that I could walk through a piece of paper, which they didn't, but I demonstrated to them that I could (by carefully cutting the paper so it would open up a big hole in the middle for me to walk through)!

Having watched a video of the story about 'doubting Thomas,' we wondered if we would have believed in the resurrection without having seen Jesus again with our own eyes and what it means to 'walk by faith, not by sight.' As none of us were alive when Jesus was on the earth, we all have to believe and trust without being able to physically see Jesus, which can be quite a challenge. But we can experience Jesus's presence with us, his wonderful love and the amazing peace he gives us when we ask for it. To remind us to always 'walk by faith,' we made special flip-flops for us to wear!

Our May all-age service was led by our vicar Joe and focused on the promise of the Holy Spirit for all believers. Joe started his talk by asking the children and grown-ups where the best hiding places might be in the church, if we were to play a game of hide-and-seek (apparently there is a cupboard up in the gallery!). He then used a story about 2 angels discussing where God should best hide to explain that God chose to hide/live in our hearts, through our faith in Jesus and in the form of the Holy Spirit, who is closer than our breath. To illustrate this, Joe asked 2 volunteers to blow up balloons with a balloon pump (Thomas won!). The Holy Spirit is like the air in the balloon: we can't see it, but we can see its effect on the balloon, so we know it is there; and when we let the air out again, we may hear a sound and we can see the effect of the escaping air. Similarly, through our words and actions, we can spread the gospel of love, and others may see the effect of the Holy Spirit on their lives, too, as it spills over from our lives.

The Sunday School contributed to the service by reading the 2 lessons (many thanks to Laura and Thomas), leading the congregation in singing the Port St Mary Beach Mission song 'Follow Me' (accompanied by Lukas on the mandolin) and by reading prayers of intercession. Well done, everybody!

We are now looking forward to completing our series of lessons on Joshua with the fall of the walls of Jericho as well as Messy Church at the end of the month (Pentecost). While we will very much miss our annual Pentecost celebration with BBQ at St Mary's, we are hoping to have a big celebration when all the building work is finished and the church will reopen.

May the Holy Spirit fill us all afresh this Pentecost!

**Love and Blessings, Claudia**



## News from St Catherine's & Kirk Christ



The Joint Parish Coronation Service on the Sunday following the Coronation of King Charles III, Lord of Man, was well attended, and everyone appeared to be in a very happy frame of mind, having enjoyed the celebrations on the previous day. On behalf of the parish I would like to thank Pam and Staley Clucas for the display of memorabilia which was on show in Kirk Christ in the days leading up to the Coronation. Our second joint service was held on 28<sup>th</sup> May at the start of TT fortnight. It is hoped that some of the TT visitors will join us in worship during that period.

At St Catherine's, on the day of the Coronation. A street party was held in Church Road where many gathered to watch the event on the large T.V. screen, and enjoy the party atmosphere. The parish provided tea, coffee and soft drinks, along with cake supplied by our kind parishioners. From what I can gather the refreshments were appreciated by those attending the event.

Many families visited the church hall to see its new suspended ceiling, as well as calling into the church. Hopefully some of them will be motivated to join us at our Sunday services, or to come along to Messy Church.

**Gerry Callister**

### ***Summer Concerts – St Catherine's Church – July 2023***

<i>6<sup>th</sup> July 2023</i>	<i>Meadowside Choral Society</i>	<i>7.45pm</i>
<i>13<sup>th</sup> July 2023</i>	<i>Onchan Silver Band</i>	<i>7.45pm</i>
<i>20<sup>th</sup> July 2023</i>	<i>QEll High School Wind Band</i>	<i>7.45pm</i>
<i>27<sup>th</sup> July 2023</i>	<i>Lon Vane Ladies Choir</i>	<i>7.45pm</i>
<i>Admission Free</i>	<i>Retiring Collection</i>	
	<i>Refreshments</i>	

### **Find and replace?**

A minister whom I know of uses a standard liturgy for funerals. To personalise each service, he enters a 'find and replace' command. The computer then finds the name of the deceased from the previous funeral and replaces it with the name of the deceased for the upcoming one.

Not long ago, the minister told the computer to find the name 'Mary' and replace it with 'Edna'. The next morning, the funeral was going smoothly until the congregation intoned the Apostles' Creed. "Jesus Christ," they read from the pre-printed programme, "born of the Virgin Edna..."



**Sudoku June 2023**

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

***Reasons for marriage***

*Studying our wedding photos, my six-year-old asked, "Did you marry Dad because he was a vicar?"*

*"Not at all," I replied.*

*"Did you marry him because he was good-looking?"*

*"No, not that either," I replied.*

*"Did you marry him for his money?"*

*"Definitely not," I laughed. "He didn't have any."*

*"So," he concluded sadly, "you just felt sorry for him."*



**Sudoku Solution May**

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

**Crossword Solution May 2023**

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



## Reflecting Faith – The Lectern (Part 2)

*Editor: The Revd Dr Jo White continues her series.*

Why not have a good look at the lectern in your church, to see what it was made from and if it has a particular design.

There seem to be two distinct styles for lecterns, either a 'simple' plain book holder or one in the shape of a bird. Both styles are usually made from either wood or

or gilt metal (brass).

The bird is an eagle - often holding the world in its talons. The intention being that the eagle is known as the most powerful bird, which can fly the highest and longest without pausing and so can take the Word of God - the Bible that it holds - to all the places in the world.

There are 44 mentions of eagles in the Bible, but just two to include here:

In Exodus after the Israelites have left Egypt and crossed the Red Sea they camp in the wilderness, where they are not surprisingly worried about what will happen next. Shall we say 'there's a bit of grumbling and groaning' going on?

So God calls to Moses with words to encourage them, *'The Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself.'* (Ex 19: 3- 5)

And the second is one to uplift us all when we are in need of support:

Isaiah in chapter 40 is trying to describe how awesome and powerful God is and concludes that even our youth will grow weary in comparison. However, *'those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.'* (Is 40: 30 – 31)

So perhaps as we hear the words of the Bible passage read to us from that symbolic figure we are reminded to both trust in the Lord and to gain inner strength.

*This month*

As you hear the Bible passage(s) read from the lectern during this coming month, listen not just to the words themselves but reflect on their intention to encourage you.

## What makes June so special?



June is the month of light – the month of the summer solstice, when millions of people in northernmost Europe stay out late to enjoy the sight of the midnight sun. To have light and glory where there is usually darkness is something we celebrate, we welcome.

In John 9 Jesus said: “I am the light of the world.” He wasn’t comparing Himself to the summer solstice, but preaching at a Jewish occasion which celebrated light every bit as much. It was the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7:14), which was a celebration not only of God’s provision of water, but also of the light of God’s presence with the Israelites in the wilderness.

During the Feast of Tabernacles there was a joyful celebration. The priests would light four huge lamps in the Court of Women. The flames would reach as high as the temple walls and would provide a light that could be seen all throughout Jerusalem. Men of deep piety would dance throughout the night for the entire week of celebrating. A choir, accompanied by an orchestra of instruments, would sing psalms like Psalm 27, which declare “The Lord is my light and my salvation.”

At the height of this grand celebration, the Lord Jesus had the temerity to stand and say that HE was the light that was foreshadowed by the light for the Israelites in the wilderness.

The Jewish leaders were furious, and tried to stone Him to death. Jesus did not fight back, He simply illustrated His claim to be the Light of the World by immediately giving sight to a man born blind. (John 9).

In the 20 centuries since then, the Word of God, when it is proclaimed, has drawn people out of the darkness and into the light of Jesus. The Word is, as the psalmist said, “a lamp to my feet and a light for my path” (Psalm 119:105). David said, “In your light we see light” (Psalm 36:9b). Today, by the light of the Word of God, we can see Jesus as He is: truly the Light of the World.

### Revd Dr Roger Roberts



*Two photographs showing some of the work being undertaken by St Mary’s Sunday School. The project was called ‘Walk by Faith’*



## Maundy Thursday



The picture shows Katherine Cannell (nee Kewley) with her husband Alan at York Minster on Maundy Thursday after receiving Maundy Money from King Charles III.

Katherine was brought up in Port Erin and was married at St Catherine's Church in 1968 but has lived 'across' since such time although regularly returns to visit family and friends

She had been nominated by the Bishop of Bath and Wells for her work in the Diocese of Bath & Wells and the Parish of St George's, Wembdon, Somerset, having had numerous roles over the past 40 years.

She is presently Lay Dean Sedgemoor Deanery, a member of the Diocesan and Deanery Synods and the Vacancy in See Committee for appointing a bishop and has previously served on the Bishop's Council. Current Parish roles include being a member of the PCC, flower arranger and organiser of a popular monthly Teatime for Senior Citizens. In previous roles she has acted as a Church Warden and Secretary of the PCC.

On being asked about the experience Katherine said 'It was truly an amazing service. Very humbling and such a privilege.'

**Michal Kewley**

## Pentecostal Praise

People of Praise,  
Alleluia!

Rejoice in your strength and stay;  
The Holy Spirit is with us –  
Victorious o'er the fray.

People of Praise,  
Alleluia!

Lift up your voices today;  
Be aware of the mighty power,  
And in silence, watch and pray.

People of Praise,  
Alleluia!

Church people, triumphant be!  
May Christ's resurrected spirit,  
Be there for the World to see.

People of Praise,  
Alleluia!

Fruits of His presence display.  
Transformed by the Holy Spirit,  
Love in your actions; convey.

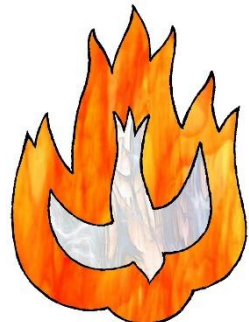
People of Praise,  
Alleluia!

With joy in our hearts we sing,  
Sharing this wonderful present,  
From Jesus the servant King.

*"I am among you as one who serves"*

*Luke 22:27 NRSV*

**Margaret Couper**



## Finding the right Key



Ever since early times it has always been necessary for something to be locked up. Keys, in all kinds of shapes and sizes, have been needed to protect valuable commodities from thieves. Also, when people had to be punished or protected from others, they were confined in prisons with suitable locks and keys.

Apparently, the oldest discovered keys, made of wood, were found in ancient Nineveh – the city visited by the prophet Jonah. They are some 6,000 years old. Later, the Romans invented more sophisticated locks and keys made of metal.

At the time of Jesus, the Jews needed access to the Kingdom of Heaven, and He came to open it up to them. Jesus spoke to the disciple Peter and said He was going to give him the ‘keys’ of the Kingdom. (Matthew 16:18-19) Peter would unlock priceless Gospel truths. These keys were given to a trusted servant to open the doors of faith to all who wanted to hear.

Later, Paul described Jesus as an important key. The apostle was concerned that people in Colossae were in danger of following false doctrines and philosophies. Paul knew that all understanding and perception about God was found in Jesus. Only Jesus had the key to all concealed spiritual treasures. Paul wanted people to know Jesus, who would open the door to all they needed to know about their relationship with Him and their purpose in the world.

Sometimes we can lose a key. May we never lose hold of Jesus who is *our* key to life today and for evermore!

*He (Jesus) is the key that opens all the hidden treasures of God’s wisdom and knowledge.*  
(Col 2.3)

**Lester Amann**

### ***United Society Partners in World Mission***

*Thank you for making the Open Weekend so enjoyable. I am so grateful as without your support it would not have happened.*

*We were able to bank £1,068 to U.S.P.G., especially for its Ukraine Appeal where their agents are on the ground helping the refugees in Warsaw, Budapest and Romania.*

***Elizabeth Sheen***

*(Read more about the work of the U.S.P.G on page 15)*

## All in the month of June



**400 years ago, on 19<sup>th</sup> June 1623**, Blaise Pascal was born. This French mathematician, physicist, inventor, theologian, and philosopher invented one of the first mechanical calculators.

**300 years ago, on 16<sup>th</sup> June 1723**, Adam Smith was born. The 'Father of Economics', this Scottish economist and philosopher is best known for his book *The Wealth of Nations*, the first modern work on economics.

**175 years ago, on 7<sup>th</sup> June 1848**, Paul Gauguin, French post-impressionist artist, was born.

**125 years ago, on 9<sup>th</sup> June 1898**, Britain leased Hong Kong from China for 99 years, and it became a British Crown Colony. It was transferred back to China in 1997.

**75 years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> June 1948**, the ship HMT Empire Windrush docked in London, bringing the first large group of immigrants from the West Indies to the UK. **Also from 24<sup>th</sup> June 1948 to 12<sup>th</sup> May 1949** the Berlin Blockade and Airlift took place. The Soviet Union began a rail, road and canal blockade of Berlin, cutting off all routes between West Germany and West Berlin. The Allies launched a massive airlift – over 200,000 flights – to take in nearly 9,000 tons of supplies each day.

**70 years ago, on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1953**, the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II at Westminster Abbey took place. It was the first event where the British TV audience (20 million) was greater than the radio audience (12 million).

**65 years ago, on 9<sup>th</sup> June 1958**, London's Gatwick Airport was officially opened.

**50 years ago, on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1973**, elections were held for the Northern Ireland Assembly. It began operating on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1974, but collapsed in May. It was re-established in 1998 but collapsed again in 2017. It was re-established in January 2020, but collapsed in February 2022. The seventh Assembly met in May 2022, but has not been able to meet since, as the DUP refuses to assent to the election of a speaker as part of a protest against working under a Sinn Fein first minister.

**40 years ago, from 16<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> June**, Pope John Paul II visited his native Poland. He held a private meeting with Lech Walesa, the founder of the banned trade union Solidarity. Walesa became President of Poland in 1990.

**30 years ago, on 19<sup>th</sup> June 1993**, Sir William Golding, British Novelist and winner of the 1983 Nobel Prize in Literature, died. Best known for his novel 'The Lord of the Flies'.

**25 years ago, on 11<sup>th</sup> June 1998**, the UN declared an official famine in Sudan. About 250,000 people were saved by international aid, but up to 100,000 died in South Sudan. A ceasefire in the Second Sudanese Civil War was signed on 15<sup>th</sup> July but collapsed in April 1999.

**20 years ago, on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2003**, the Wikimedia Foundation was founded in Florida. The non-profit charitable organisation operates several websites, including Wikipedia



U.S.P.G. has played a significant role in worldwide Christian mission since its foundation in 1701. It has always had a global perspective. It has long established relationships with churches of the Anglican Communion and more recently, it has developed strong links to the United Churches around the world. It seeks to serve its partners in more than 50 countries, supporting them in their work in their own communities and contexts.

The world is battered by suffering, distress and disturbance: environmental degradation, turbulent global politics, gender injustice, the forced displacement of millions of people and the harassment and killing of indigenous peoples... the list goes on.

U.S.P.G. believes that in the face of these traumas, the churches of the Anglican Communion are called to be communities of resistance and hope. Such challenges cry out for words and actions that express love and solidarity and go beyond narrow self-interest and national boundaries. It works with its partners to help the Church demonstrate the healing power of Christ's love. It travels, listens, and brings church leaders together. Relationships of trust are formed so that everyone can learn from each other. Its role in today's world is to love global neighbours and to work for justice and peace.

Its passion for mission continues in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and it aims to rethink mission, energise the Church and champion justice. As with all charities it invites us to journey with it – to develop reciprocal, transforming relationships with brothers and sisters across the globe. U.S.P.G. is part of the global church. It works together to enable churches around the world to have an impact in their communities.

Like in rural Malawi where over half of girls do not stay at school or graduate. The Community Integrated Intervention Programme (supported by U.S.P.G.) was set up to address this issue. The programme looked at why girls might be dropping out of school and found that inadequate toilets, dormitories and classrooms were impacting girls ability to stay in school. So, the project set about building toilets, dormitories and classrooms. Amazingly the ten schools in the project have seen the girls dropout rate reduce from 52% to 19%.

The money raised at the recent Open Weekend will help communities around the world achieve this and so much more. It may be the last open weekend at the mill and therefore less chance to raise money for such a worthwhile cause. If you wish to know more do contact Elizabeth who will happily give you more information. Thank you

**U.S.P.G Website**

## From the Registers

### Funerals April/May 2023:

20 <sup>th</sup> April	Brian Thomas Kneen	2pm	Cremation	Crematorium
16 <sup>th</sup> May	Christine McAndry	2pm	Ashes Burial	RBG
20 <sup>th</sup> May	Graham McFarlane	2pm	Ashes Burial	RBG
24 <sup>th</sup> May	Paul George Taylor	12.30pm	St Catherine's	Crematorium

### Wedding April 2023:

29<sup>th</sup> April Tessa Hawley & Kyle Magee 1pm Kirk Christ

### Baptism March 2023:

30<sup>th</sup> March Sonny Rhys Bishop 3pm Kirk Christ

## Do It Yourself

*Our churchwarden has the courage, but not always the skills, to tackle any DIY job that needs doing around the church. For example, in the church shed are still pieces of the church lawn mower that she once tried to fix. So, our vicar wasn't surprised the day he found her in the vestry, attacking the vacuum cleaner with a screwdriver. "This thing won't cooperate," she complained.*

*The vicar thought for a moment: "Why don't you drag it out to the shed and show it what you did to the lawn mower?"*

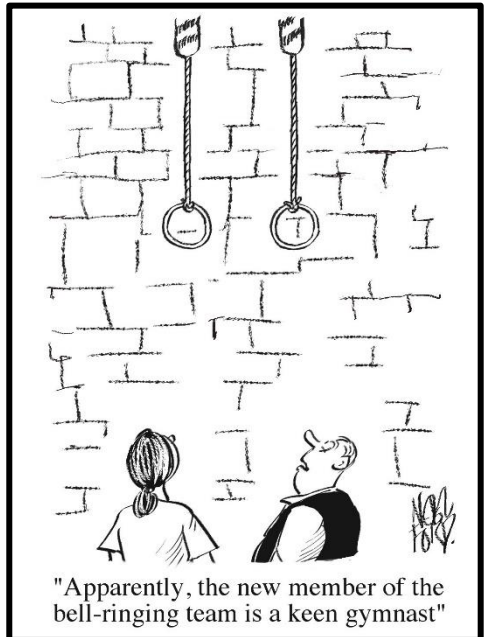
## Safeguarding

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](http://www.sodorandman.im/safeguarding_inclusion)





## Rushen Mothers' Union



The Mothers' Union met in St Catherine's Hall for the last meeting before our summer break.

Prayers were led by Mrs Jane Gunn before Lesley Scott welcomed our guest and new prospective member Mrs Ginny Viner. It is planned that Ginny will be enrolled into our membership at our Communion service in September.

A lively discussion followed on the future of Rushen Mothers' Union as so many branches have decreasing numbers. It was felt that we should continue to find interesting speakers and activities and invite the other MU branches to attend to increase our sense of community.

The Mothers' Union Diocese of Sodor and Man has asked all branches to complete a survey of the activity of members to help guide future plans and to promote MU activities of the Isle of Man.

Our branch is very active as we have members who are involved with church support, roles and meetings as well as volunteering in many local charities such as hospice, foodbank and outreach initiatives. Jane said that she is unable to continue her work with the prison creche and asked if anyone else would consider the role, please contact Jane Gunn if you would like more information about this important role.

We then set to planning our programme for the coming year. We intend to have fun sessions for December and February and invite speakers from Housing Matters and Isle Listen as well as talks from Father Brydon and Cheryl Cousins. Jane will also instruct us in the art of 'chair yoga'. The programme will be published as soon as it is finalized, and thanks must go to David Bowman for volunteering to do this.

We had the pleasure of signing a birthday card for our home member Edyth Bridson who will be celebrating her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### Dates for the diary:

15 <sup>th</sup> June	Quiet evening Maughold. 6.00pm bring sandwiches
7 <sup>th</sup> August	Founders Day Service St Patrick's Church 7pm
5 <sup>th</sup> September	JMP Corporate Communion Kirk Michael Church. 2pm. Bring and Buy stall.
11 <sup>th</sup> September	Rushen Branch Communion, Kirk Christ 2pm
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	MU Annual Gathering, York
26 <sup>th</sup> September	Autumn Council Meeting 6.30
5 <sup>th</sup> December	Advent Service, St Catherine's Church 7pm

**Lesley Scott**



## God in the Arts

Editor: **Michael Burgess** continues his look at great works of Christian art with **'Christ at the Sea of Galilee' by Tintoretto**. It hangs in the National Gallery of Art in Washington DC.

### **'He gave us eyes to see them'**

In 1833 Mendelssohn composed two overtures inspired by the sea. 'Fingal's Cave' portrays the gentle roll of the waves and the call of the wind on the waters around Staffa. 'Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage' paints a sea journey when the fog lifts, the sky clears, the safety of land beckons, and the boat arrives in the harbour.

This month's painting shows us a very different picture of the sea. It is 'Christ at the Sea of Galilee' by Tintoretto. He was an Italian painter of the Renaissance period who worked in Venice until his death in 1594. All his paintings are marked by intensity and drama, whether it is the Last Supper, the Conversion of St Paul, or this canvas. Tintoretto worked so quickly and so single-mindedly that he was nicknamed 'Il Furioso.' And it is the fury of the sea that is captured here. Not the lazy waters of Venice or the calm seas of Mendelssohn's music. Now the sea and the sky above are in torment and revolt, and the world is dominated by the violence of this storm.

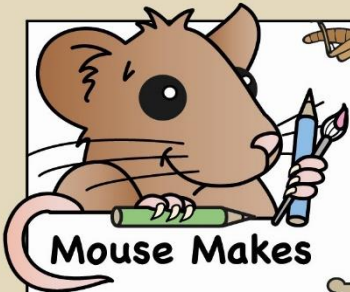
The Sea of Galilee is like that. One moment, the sky is clear and windless, the next, a gust can whip up the waters into anger. In Scripture the sea is always an element to fear. For the psalmist the sea contains creeping things innumerable and even monsters. For John in the book of Revelation, the sea ceases to exist when the new heaven and the new earth appear. The threat of that element is pervasive in this painting. The sail of the boat bends with the raging of the wind, and the vessel is tossed up and down – so near the shore, and yet so far. Above, the clouds frown.

But enfolding the scene are two signs of hope and life. To one side we see a tall tree in leaf and growing. At the other side is the tall figure of Jesus: a sign of safety and hope to the disciples, floundering in the boat. His feet are just vague outlines in the water, but His hand is firm as He beckons to His followers. Peter, brave and headstrong as ever, begins to climb out of the boat with no immediate sense of danger. This month of June ends with his feast day when we celebrate a saint who was so much like us. Wanting to follow Jesus, but finding himself weak; eager to serve, but unable to back words up with deeds. And yet, through all that, God's grace triumphed in Peter's life. We know that he will be saved here as he steps onto the wild water to reach Jesus.

This raging element is a parable of life with its storms and challenges for Peter and for all of us. Just as the sea threatens to swallow the boat and the disciples in it, so we know how the world threatens to swallow us up. Each of us, in our discipleship, faces concerns and challenges, anxieties about the present, even despair about the future. Tintoretto is saying to us from this canvas, Reach out and take hold of the sure hand of our Lord. That will be an anchor for you when the sea of life is calm and when the storm rages. 'Will your anchor hold?' asks the hymn, and we can reply:

*'We have an anchor that keeps the soul,  
Steadfast and sure while the billows roll;  
Fastened to the rock which cannot move,  
Grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love.'*

# Children's Page





## Mouse Makes

The Lord said to Moses,  
"Your brother Aaron shall tell Pharaoh  
to let the people of Israel go out of his land...  
The Egyptians shall know that I AM the Lord  
when I stretch out my hand against Egypt..."



As Pharaoh's heart was hardened against the  
Israelites, God sent ten plagues upon him...

1


 **Water turns to Blood**  
Which water turned  
to blood?  
 **Read - Exodus 7:19**





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



6  
 **A Break out of Boils**  
What did Moses throw into  
the air before boils appeared  
on people and animals?  
 **Read - Exodus 9:10**



2

**A Swarm of Frogs**  
In which  
places were the  
frogs found?  
 **Read - Exodus 8:3-4**



7  
 **A Rain of Hail**  
What also rained  
down with the hail?  
Where did it not hail?  
 **Read - Exodus 9:24-26**


3

 **A Plague of Gnats**  
When Aaron struck his  
staff on the ground  
what became Gnats?  
 **Read - Exodus 8:16-17**


 8  
**A Swarm of Locusts**  
Where did the wind  
come from that brought  
the locusts to the land?  
 **Read - Exodus 10:13**

4


 **Swarms of Flies**  
In which land were the  
flies not be found?  
 **Read - Exodus 8:22**

 9  
**Darkness over the Land**  
How many days did  
it remain dark?  
**Read - Exodus 10:21-22**

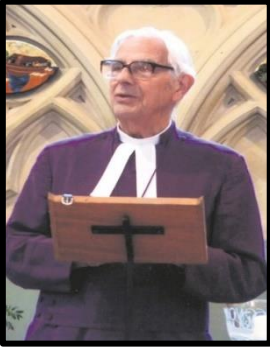
5

**Death of Animals**  
Which animals that belonged  
to the Egyptians died?  
 **Read - Exodus 9:2**

GOD • PLAGUES • MOSES • AARON  
WATER • BLOOD • STAFF • RIVER • NILE • FISH  
FROGS • SWARM • GNATS • DUST • FLIES  
GROUND • DEATH • ANIMALS • SOOT  
BOILS • PEOPLE • HAIL • THUNDER • FIRE  
MAN • BEAST • LOCUSTS • WIND • LAND  
DARKNESS • FIRSTBORN • MIDNIGHT

10  
**Death of the Firstborn**  
At what time would the  
firstborn in the land die?  
 **Read - Exodus 11:4-6**

## The Story Behind the Hymn



*To date I have only repeated one hymn. I make no excuse for repeating another this month. The reason will be apparent at the end of the article. I last covered this hymn in June 2016. (Editor)*

### ‘Lord for the Years’

This well-loved hymn was written in 1967 by the Revd Timothy Dudley Smith, who later became Bishop of Thetford. He later confessed: “I wrote it on a train when I was very pressed for time. I’m thankful if something I write gets picked up, but I suspect anyone who does something in a rush later regrets that they didn’t find time to apply the sandpaper a bit more!”

Dudley Smith had been asked to write a hymn for the centenary service of the Children’s Special Service Mission, now Scripture Union, in St Paul’s Cathedral. His commission was to write words that could be fitted to Jean Sibelius’s *Finlandia*, as it was to be accompanied by an orchestra with this tune in their repertoire. And so – ‘Lord for the years’ was written.

Dudley Smith need not have worried about lack of time – his lyrics were a ‘hit’ in the cathedral on the day, and went on to become so well-loved that George Carey chose the hymn to be sung at his consecration as Bishop of Bath and Wells, and then again later, in 1991, at his consecration as Archbishop in Canterbury Cathedral.

The hymn continued to be widely sung and loved, until in 2002 Timothy Dudley Smith was asked to write an extra verse for it so that it could even be sung around the time of the Queen’s Golden Jubilee.

Many of the words in the hymn were true for the Queen herself. She did indeed thank God ‘for the years your love has kept and guided, urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way’...

The ‘extra’ verse, added for the Queen, can now become our prayer and hope for King Charles.

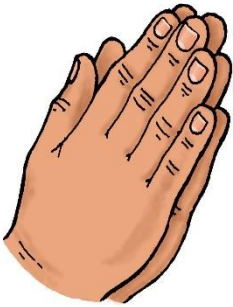
Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,  
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,  
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:  
Lord for the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us-  
self on the cross, and Christ upon the throne,  
past put behind us, for the future take us:  
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,  
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,  
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:  
Lord of the word, receive your people’s praise.

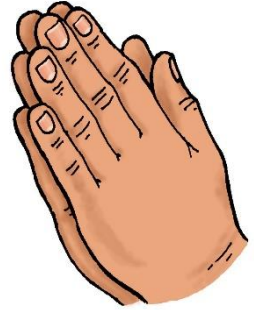
*Lord for our hopes, the dreams of all our living,  
Christ and his kingdom one united aim,  
Rulers and peoples bound in high thanksgiving,  
Lord of our hopes, our trust is in your Name.*

*(Three of the original five verses plus the one written for the Late Queen Elizabeth 2)*



## Rushen Parish Prayer Diary

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



### June 2023

#### ***This is your invitation to pray day by day for:***

- 1<sup>st</sup> The country of Ukraine and the people who have been displaced because of war
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Our families, friends, and neighbours, and those we know living far away from us
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Technology and how it has helps to keep families communicating with each other
- 4<sup>th</sup> All who seek to relieve hunger and suffering
- 5<sup>th</sup> The TT and the safety of those taking part, and the work of the marshals on race days
- 6<sup>th</sup> The works of agencies such as the Samaritans and Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7<sup>th</sup> People who are homeless, poor, and starving and in need of help
- 8<sup>th</sup> Everyone living in Port Erin and Port St Mary
- 9<sup>th</sup> All volunteers prepared to work with young people as they grow up
- 10<sup>th</sup> The police on the Isle of Man and the work they do to maintain law and order
- 11<sup>th</sup> Those in financial difficulty because of the rising costs of energy
- 12<sup>th</sup> Doctors, nurses and all people helping to look after people who are ill
- 13<sup>th</sup> The work of the Church Army
- 14<sup>th</sup> Children having to take examinations and the preparations leading up to them
- 15<sup>th</sup> Those who minister within the Southern Mission Partnership
- 16<sup>th</sup> The five PCC committees working to enhance God's work within the Parish of Rushen
- 17<sup>th</sup> Those responsible for maintaining the highways on the island
- 18<sup>th</sup> Our Government and its responsibilities in keeping law and order on the island
- 19<sup>th</sup> Being gracious and loving in our relationships with each other
- 20<sup>th</sup> The excitement of booking annual holidays and the preparations made for them
- 21<sup>st</sup> Places in the world where lives have been lost and communities destroyed
- 22<sup>nd</sup> People who are lonely and rarely see or talk to anyone
- 23<sup>rd</sup> For good weather so that everyone can get out and enjoy our wonderful island
- 24<sup>th</sup> Young single mothers having to bring up their children in difficult circumstances
- 25<sup>th</sup> Guidance for leaders in industry and commerce
- 26<sup>th</sup> Those who look after the environment within the parish
- 27<sup>th</sup> The Isle of Man Foodbank and the help it gives to families short of money and food
- 28<sup>th</sup> Those living daily with domestic violence and the people who try to help them
- 29<sup>th</sup> All who work in dangerous and poor conditions
- 30<sup>th</sup> Volunteers prepared to work with young people as they grow up

## Services June 2023

28 <sup>th</sup> May <i>(Pentecost)</i>	10am	Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)
4 <sup>th</sup> June <i>(Trinity Sunday)</i>	10am 11am 3.15pm	Kirk Christ/St Mary's Holy Communion (CW) St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW) St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
11 <sup>th</sup> June <i>(Trinity 1)</i>	10am 11am 3.15pm	Kirk Christ/St Mary's All-Age Service St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW) St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
18 <sup>th</sup> June <i>(Trinity 2)</i>	10am 11am 3.15pm	Kirk Christ/St Mary's Holy Communion (CW) St Catherine's All-Age Service (CW) St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
25 <sup>th</sup> June <i>(Trinity 3)</i>	10am	Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)
2 <sup>nd</sup> July <i>(Trinity 4)</i>	10am 11am 3.15pm	Kirk Christ/St Mary's Holy Communion (CW) St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW) St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)

## Parish of Rushen

To Book a  
Table

Contact  
Gerry  
474924



Tables of 4 – 6  
Come and  
enjoy an  
evening of fun  
St Catherine's  
Church Hall

Commences at 7pm on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023

£10 per person

Includes a Fish/Sausage & Chips Supper

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

**St Mary's Sunday School Leader:**

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

**St Mary's Ladies Working Party**

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

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

**St Mary's Hall Bookings:**

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

**St Catherine's Hall Bookings:**

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

**Web Site/E-mail:**

[www.rushenparish.org.uk](http://www.rushenparish.org.uk)

[rushenparishorg@gmail.com](mailto:rushenparishorg@gmail.com)

**Magazine Editor**

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

*e-mail:* dbow43@manx.net

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

**Parish Director of Music:**

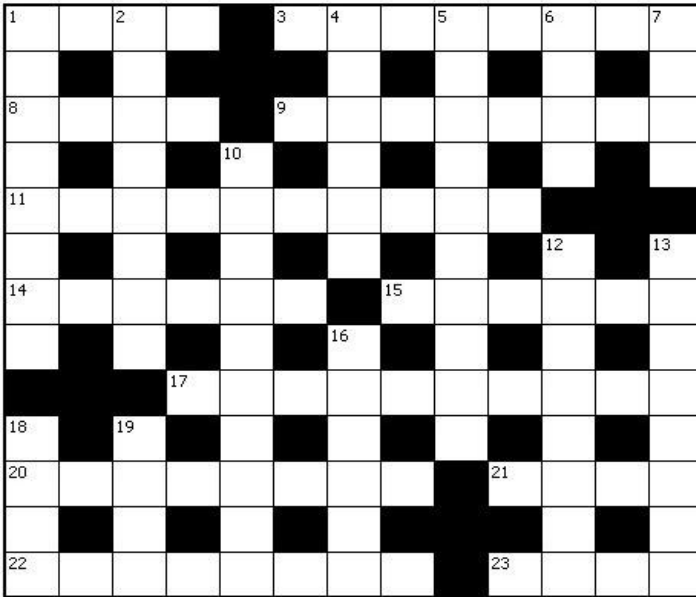
Mr M D Porter, 10 Fairway Drive, Rowany, Port Erin 832143

**Churchyard Enquiries:**

Please contact Mr Harry Dawson: 478050/835770

or Mr G Callister: 474924/834627

# Crossword June 2023



**Across**

- 1** See 23 Across
- 3** Where the thief on the cross was told he would be, with Jesus (Luke 23:43) (8)
- 8** Invalid (4)
- 9** Blasphemed (Ezekiel 36:20) (8)
- 11** Adhering to the letter of the law rather than its spirit (Philippians 3:6) (10)
- 14** Shut (Ecclesiastes 12:4) (6)
- 15** 'This is how it will be with anyone who — up things for himself but is not rich towards God' (Luke 12:21) (6)
- 17** Mary on Isis (anag.) (10)
- 20** Agreement (Hebrews 9:15) (8)
- 21** Native of, say, Bangkok (4)
- 22** Deaf fort (anag.) (5-3)
- 23** **and 1 Across** 'The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of — to work it and take — of it' (Genesis 2:15) (4,4)

**Down**

- 1** Struggle between opposing forces (Habakkuk 1:3) (8)

**2**

- James defined this as 'looking after orphans and widows in their distress and keeping oneself from being polluted by the world' (James 1:27) (8)
- 4** 'The one I kiss is the man; — him' (Matthew 26:48) (6)
- 5** 'Be joyful in hope, patient in — , faithful in prayer' (Romans 12:12) (10)
- 6** St Columba's burial place (4)
- 7** Swirling current of water (4)
- 10** Loyalty (Isaiah 19:18) (10)
- 12** 'God was pleased through the foolishness of what was — , to save those who believe' (1Corinthians 1:21) (8)
- 13** Camp where the angel of the Lord slew 185,000 men one night (2 Kings 19:35) (8)
- 16** 'There is still — — — Jonathan; he is crippled in both feet' (2 Samuel 9:3) (1,3,2)
- 18** David Livingstone was one (4)
- 19** Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (1,1,1,1)