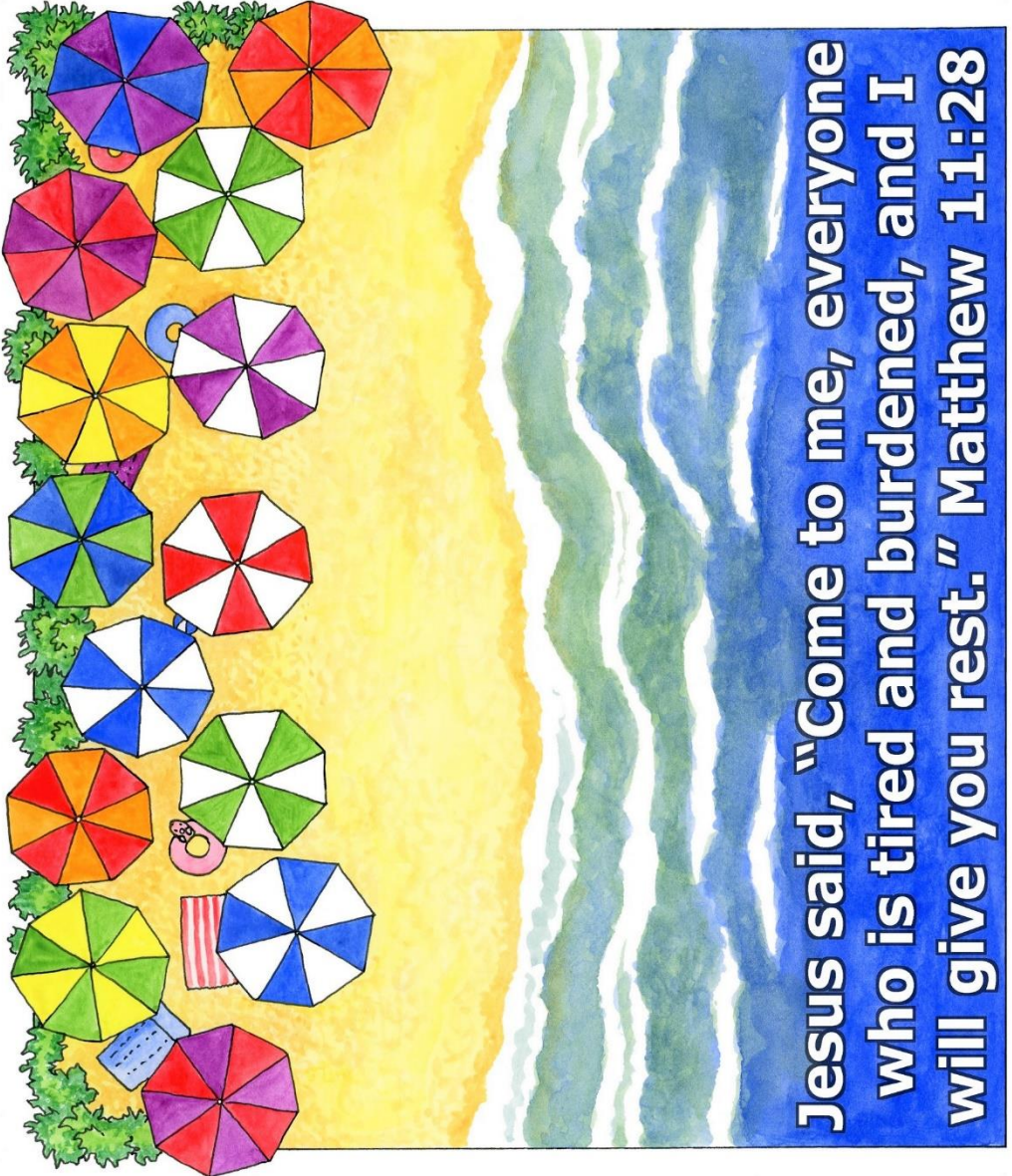




August
2023

Rushen Parish Magazine



Jesus said, "Come to me, everyone who is tired and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

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From the Editor

I would like to take this opportunity in thanking you all for your kind comments and cards regarding my recent operation. I really am humbled. The operation itself seems to have been successful although it's only a week since I left hospital, and I'm told it's likely to be six weeks before I can fully return to active duty!

Perhaps this is an ideal opportunity for me write about the dedication and care I received at Noble's Hospital. So many times I have heard negative comments about Manx Care and the care we all receive at its hands. The moment I arrived at the hospital which, believe it or not, was at 6.55am, I was taken to the area which was to be my space. The nursing team, from Scotland, tended to my needs, checked my blood pressure, temperature and oxygen levels. I wasn't allowed to drink anything, so having been told that I was second on the list I sat down and read a book. Meantime the surgeon, Mr Wright, and the anaesthetist came to see me. Perhaps the most important aspect was the big black arrow drawn on my leg, just to make sure they operated on the correct hip! I went to the theatre at 11am, arm in arm with one of the nurses. The anaesthetist prepared me and that's all I remember. I was back in recovery at 3pm in some pain but bearable. The rest of my stay consisted of physiotherapy and nursing care all of which was first class, although the former was somewhat painful! I was actually walking on my new hip before tea at 5.30pm. I left hospital sometime after 3pm on the next day. I am not intending to bore you with my experience, but I do want to express my sincere thanks to everyone involved in my care since I was first diagnosed.

It is so easy to criticise when you have to wait for a long time to be treated. Later in this magazine there is an article about Florence Nightingale, the pioneer of the nursing care we all receive. I know I moaned about the pain I was in, and having to sit down to relieve it, but I didn't really think about all the steps taken to get me on to the operating table. The letters, the consultations, the x-rays, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, my doctor and countless other people who have interacted to make it happen. Then there's the professionals, the surgeon, who I must say must be sick and tired of replacing hips, and the anaesthetist who is there to ensure that my health was as it should be. Then there's the cost. From beginning to end I would suggest it amounts to thousands, and I still have a few more hoops to go through. It cost me nothing!

Why do we always complain when things are not as we would like them to be? I'm just grateful that I'm hopefully on the road to recovery. For those of you who are just starting on your journey to recovery I hope that when it's done and dusted, you, like me, will be so grateful for the National Health Service and its aim to treat as many medical problems that it can, for everyone. Whilst Manx Care may have its critics it still aims to treat us all and charge us nothing.

David

**Port St Mary
Beach Mission
August 2023**

Once again the sound of singing,
Rings out clear o'er Chapel Bay,
As the annual Beach Mission;
Gets boisterously underway.

Laughter; fun and rhythmic chorus;
(In the exhilarating air),
Make the parables of Jesus
An uplifting, joyous affair.

Puzzles, quizzes, mimes and drama,
Help keen, young minds to understand,
All about the Saviour's goodness
Out there upon the summer sand.

We're so grateful for the workers,
Receptive hearts And minds to sway;
Volunteering thought, time, talent,
In an appealing, happy way.

God Bless the Scripture Union,
In all the work its seeks to do.
Thank you for the years of service,
You've guided this Beach Mission through!

*"Tell me the old, old story
Of Jesus & His love"
Golden Bells – for C.S.S.M - 1925*



**Church of England
awards £16.3 million
for mission including
outreach to young**

Apprentice youth workers, youth ministers, children and family workers, as well as chaplaincy aimed at students in further education, are to be funded as part of major awards to dioceses recently announced by the Church of England.

A total of £16.3 million has been awarded by the Strategic Mission and Ministry Investment Board to five programmes. The money will support parishes and clergy as they spread the Christian faith and increase the Church of England's engagement with young people.

The plans reflect the Church of England's goal of doubling the number of children and young active disciples in the Church of England by 2030. The aim is that churches more fully reflect the age and diversity of their communities.



St Mary's Ladies Working Party



July was a busy and mostly joyful month for the LWP. At our first meeting of the month we began in earnest to plan for our involvement in the Rushen Flower Festival. Although this year we did not make a floral contribution, we played our part in hosting and baking. We were delighted both to see the beautiful arrangements made by the very talented flower arrangers, and with the abundance of goodwill and laughter enjoyed over an abundance of cups of tea and cookies.

Barbara Qualtrough's family requested donations to Alder Hey in place of flowers at her funeral, Lesley has arranged for a donation from LWP.

We welcomed Nita back, looking rested and tanned from her holiday in Barbados and we celebrated the big 80 with Peta.

Margaret read to us from the story of the miraculous catch of fish, in Luke's Gospel, and asked us "Are you willing to go where Jesus tells you to go and drop your nets there?" she showed us how, for her, the story highlights the task of being inclusive in spreading the good news.

We were all so saddened to hear of the sudden passing of Gerrie Hornsby a much-loved friend of many of our group and valued member of Kirk Christ congregation.

Rev. Joe was our guest at this meeting and so he led us in our intercessions, praying for Gerrie's family as well as those needing prayers in our Parish Family. After prayers Rev Joe gave us an update on the re-ordering of St Mary's. Despite several mishaps and delays we now have a possible date possible date of 6th August – we had it from the horse's mouth, as they say, very exciting.

At our meetings we have discussed: St Thomas Church 'Flower Tower' of over 3000 blooms crocheted by members of the church and community, the poem 'The Pulley' by George Herbert, our Parish Administrator's resignation, the success of the Rushen Flower Festival, the logistics of the move back into St Mary's and how gracious the folk at Kirk Christ have been, and the Christian song "So Will I" which the music group at St Catherine's have been singing so beautifullyto name a few, we talk a lot!

Peta read to us from her Friendship Book at our very last meeting before our summer break, and also told us of her family's birthday gift to her, she will be experiencing first hand feeding the meercats at the wildlife park, watch your fingers Peta those cute little fellows can bite! A BIG thankyou to David, for the tickets which will soon be available for our next Coffee Morning, which will be held at St. Catherine's Church Hall on Friday 15th September. Proceeds will be donated to Crossroads Young Carers and other LWP charities. The next LWP meeting will be held on Tuesday 29th August @ St Mary's

Rev Ginny Viner



Parish of Rushen new Burial Ground is Consecrated

The rather damp Consecration party having completed our circumnavigation of the new burial ground. Harry Dawson was also there but as he was taking the photo isn't pictured!

Howard (representing the Vicar General) read the Instrument of Consecration. Bishop Peter consecrated the four corners of the ground by marking the ground with the sign of the cross with his staff, Harry took the commemorative photo as above, and we all retired to the vestry to sign and witness the signing of a dry copy of the documents, and then to the vicarage for coffee and fruit cake.

So we now officially have a new burial ground which we can start using, with enough plots for a couple of hundred years.

Peter Hayhurst

A.S.A.P.

Have you ever considered the abbreviation A.S.A.P. (As Soon As Possible)? Generally, it brings even more hurry and stress into our lives. Yet there is another way to think of A.S.A.P, a way which might help us deal with those difficult times in our daily lives.

When there's work to do, and deadlines to meet, and your colleagues are rushing around, here's what you can do to help: A.S.A.P. – *Always Say a Prayer*. When your worries mount up and you don't know how you are ever going to cope with what is coming at you: A.S.A.P. – *Always Say a Prayer*.

God knows how stressful our lives can be, and He wants to ease our cares. In the Bible He promises to respond to our calls for help. So – call Him! A.S.A.P.!

St Mary's Sunday School



In early July, we met to prepare and practise for our Sunday School Anniversary service with the theme of 'Rest,' based on the gospel reading from Matthew 11:28 "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." We started our session by seeing how heavy a weight we were each able to carry, by piling books on outstretched arms, with very impressive results, even from the youngest of our children! They must have all had their Weetabix that morning! We then watched a short

video which explained how we can all help to carry each other's burdens and how Jesus wants us to bring our burdens to Him and to give us peace instead. We had a chat about what kind of burdens we may be carrying (eg guilt, shame, worry or fear) and the importance of bringing all our 'baggage' to Jesus and letting Him exchange our heavy burdens for His light ones. We also practised a new song for the anniversary service and enjoyed making a large collage with photos from this year's Sunday School sessions.

Our joyful anniversary service was led by the Rev Ginny Viner, in the beautiful setting of our Flower Festival with wonderful displays all around us, including the Sunday Schools' display on 'Joseph and his Dreamcoat.' Ginny's talk was partly focusing on a poem by George Herbert entitled 'The Pulley,' which talks about God pouring out many blessings on humankind (eg wisdom, strength, riches, beauty) but keeping the blessing of 'rest' back (at the bottom of the 'glass of blessings'), so that people will always need to come to Jesus to receive their rest from Him. (The children helped by holding up signs for each of the blessings.)

During the confession part of the service, each member of the congregation was encouraged to reflect on their own burdens, while holding a pebble in their hand, and at the end of the service, we each brought these 'burdens' to the front, laying them down at the feet of Jesus and receiving His peace. The Sunday School also illustrated that part of the gospel reading, as Cameron was making his way up the aisle with a backpack, picking up one burden (large wooden brick) after another, until he was so weighed down he could hardly walk any more. When he came to meet Jesus (Megan), Jesus exchanged the heavy backpack for a much lighter one, giving Cameron great relief!

The Sunday School children also led the congregation in singing "I've got peace like a river" with actions (accompanied on the organ by Steve Daykin), led the prayers of intercession, and Thomas and Cameron read the two lessons from Matthew's gospel. Before the prize giving, the children showed the congregation our Sunday School collage and shared what they had enjoyed the most. The children then received their well-deserved prizes from Ginny.

To finish off our year, we had a wonderful Sunday School Picnic at Rushen Abbey. As well as going round the museum to learn about the various uses of the site over time and especially about the lives of the Cistercian monks, the children had great fun trying out the various games and activities on offer. We also had a special treat, as there was a lady doing a weaving demonstration in the foyer, and the children could have a go at weaving themselves! We are now having our summer holiday break, but we are hoping to see those who are staying on Island at Port St Mary Beach Mission! We are also very much looking forward to worshipping at St Mary's Church again after the summer break.

Wishing you all a very blessed and restful summer

Claudia

Be still and know...

"Be still and know that I am God" Psalm 46:10

Have you ever thought of taking some time out of daily life, to simply 'be still' with God? To hear His voice, enjoy His presence, and perhaps receive His direction for your future? When one lady was told that her friend was "taking some time out to 'be still' and listen to God", she responded with curiosity: "What does His voice sound like?"

For many Christians, the response would be this: "His voice for me is always calming, always reassuring, it always makes me feel overwhelmingly loved. It always gives me a sense of peace, which is deeper than any pain and stronger than any fear. No wonder the Scriptures talk of a 'peace that passes all understanding!'"

God speaks to us individually, through His Word, the Bible. And sometimes, when we are outside, He can also speak to us through His beautiful world.

The blue sky says; "Always Look Up", the Sun says; "Shine," the birds say; "Sing", the trees say; "be fruitful", the flowers say; "consider the Lilies", The open road ahead says; "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel". The gentle rustle of the wind in the trees says; "Though you can't see My face, you can hear Me, see reflections of Me, feel Me, touch Me and know me through all I create, if you just take the time to be still!"

Smart worms

Earth flew in all directions as the crimson-faced would-be golfer attempted to strike the ball. "Goodness," he finally blurted to his caddie, "the worms around here will think there's been an earthquake."

"Never mind," said the caddie, "they are pretty smart – by now they will be hiding beneath the ball for safety."

Sudoku August 2023

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

Baptism

A minister was officiating at the baptism of the youngest son of a Duke and asked for what the baby's name would be. The answer came: "His name is George Edward David Anthony Carrington-Smyth de Winters Cunningham Digby Cecil Barrington...." "One minute please," interrupted the minister, "I'll go fetch another bucket of water!"

July Sudoku Solution

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

July Crossword Solution

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

Florence Nightingale Nurse, Social reformer



If you have a strong sense of calling from God, then you will well understand Florence Nightingale. At the age of 16 she felt God was calling her to some great lifework, and so she determined to avoid marriage, and thus be available to obey Him.

Florence had been born in Italy in 1820, while her parents were travelling - hence her name. But she grew up at Lea Hurst in Derbyshire. Her parents were

Unitarian, but Florence later joined the Anglican Church.

Florence had a strong sense of God's personal presence in her life, and in 1844, when she was 24, Florence came to believe that her calling was to nurse the sick. In 1849 she set off to study nursing in the hospitals of Europe.

It was on 12th May, 1850 that she wrote in her diary: 'Today I am 30 – the age Christ began His mission. Now no more childish things. No more love. No more marriage. Now Lord let me think only of Thy will, what Thou wilt me to do.'

Later that same year she went to train in the hospital of Alexandria in Egypt, and then the Lutheran Deaconess Institute at Kaiserwerth in Germany. In 1853 she returned to England, and was appointed superintendent of the Hospital for Invalid Gentlewomen in London.

Then the following year, 1854, war broke out in the Crimea. Florence contacted friends in high places, and soon got permission to take 38 nurses to serve at the military hospitals at Scutari in Turkey, and later Balaklava in the Crimea. These hospitals were dreadful places, but with better nursing and better sanitation, the mortality rate among the sick and wounded men soon fell dramatically.

When, by night, Florence took to patrolling the hospital wards, carrying a dim lamp, the legend of 'the Lady with the Lamp' was born.

After the Crimean war, Florence returned to England determined to establish the first professional nurse training scheme in the country. She found a base at St Thomas' Hospital in London, and through her efforts the stature of nursing gradually rose to become that of a respected medical profession.

But Florence had been working too long and too hard, and now her own health broke down, and she became an invalid. But she was not forgotten, and the honours rolled in. In 1907 she became the first woman to receive the Order of Merit. Florence died in London on 13th August 1910, aged 90, and was buried in St Margaret's, East Wellow, Hampshire. Her tombstone says simply: F.N. 1820 – 1910.

John Bunyan the writer of *Pilgrim's Progress*



John Bunyan is remembered on 30th August every year (Editor)

After the Bible, John Bunyan's wonderful Christian allegory, the *Pilgrim's Progress*, is one of the most celebrated and widely-read books in the English language. It has been translated into more than 100 languages around the world and keeps its place as a Christian classic.

Names of people and places from its pages have been commonplace wherever English is spoken. We need only recall Mr Great-Heart, Mr Valiant-for-Truth, Giant Despair, Madame Bubble, the Slough of Despond, Vanity Fair, the Delectable Mountains, the Hill Difficulty and the Celestial City.

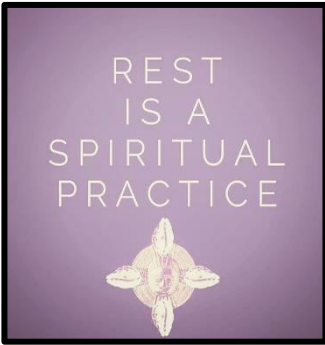
Bunyan was born on 28 November 1628, at Elstow, near Bedford, England, of a poor family. He had little formal education and his father taught him to be a metal worker. His first wife died young. His second wife, Elizabeth, helped him considerably with his blossoming literary career. His conversion was the result of reading the Bible, and the witness of local Christians. From that time the Bible became the great inspiration of his life. He wrote more than 50 books on Christianity. A Baptist by conviction, he had little time for the Established Church.

Bunyan became a popular preacher, but because of his opposition to the Established Church and because he did not have a Church of England preaching licence, he was imprisoned in 1661. It was in prison that he wrote *Pilgrim's Progress*. It was not only Bunyan's greatest book, but was destined to become one of the most popular Christian books in the world.

Pilgrim's Progress is an allegory, using the names of people and places from the Bible to teach spiritual lessons. The vivid and unforgettable imagery in the *Pilgrim's Progress* covers the whole Christian gospel from sin and condemnation all the way through faith, repentance, grace, justification, sanctification, and perseverance to heaven itself.

Bunyan died on 31st August 1688. His portrayal of the death of Mr Valiant For Truth is Bunyan at his allegorical best. This brave old soldier of Jesus Christ had received his summons to 'go home.' Calling his friends together he says, "My sword I give to him who shall succeed me in my pilgrimage ... My marks and scars I carry with me, to be a witness for me, that I have fought His battles, Who will now be my rewarder." ... So he passed over, and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side...'

Spiritual Disciplines: Rest



Canon Paul Hardingham continues his Spiritual Disciplines journey (Editor)

'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.' (Matthew 11:28).

Today, the spiritual discipline of *rest* is a challenging one. We are pressured to cram more and more activities into fewer hours. This has been described as '*hurry sickness*' and is an enemy of our spiritual life. August is a month for resting, and so is a good time to look at this discipline.

God instituted the discipline of rest in the creation of the world. He created everything in six days and rested on the seventh (Gen 2:3). He instituted the Sabbath, a weekly day of rest (Lev 23:3). However, it is helpful to draw a distinction between *busyness* and being *hurried*. Busyness is an outward condition, while hurry is about our inner state, resulting from too many competing priorities. Jesus was often busy but never hurried! What questions should we be asking about getting more rest?

Balancing Rest and Work:

What is a helpful rhythm of work and rest in our lives? How can we take seriously the Sabbath principle of having one day a week to rest and not work? How might we use our time differently eg taking a long walk or having an unhurried conversation with a friend?

Using Our Leisure Time Creatively:

When we actually take a break we often end up simply watching TV, surfing the net, shopping unnecessarily or eating when we are not hungry! Can we choose leisure activities that really refresh us? It's not a case of more leisure time, but using the time we have more creatively.

'The solution to an over busy life is not more time. It's to slow down and simplify our lives around what really matters.' (The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry: John Mark Comer).

Best position for effective prayer

Three ministers sat discussing the best positions for prayer while a telephone repairman worked nearby. "Kneeling is definitely best," claimed one minister. "No," another contended. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven." The third insisted, "You're both wrong," the third insisted. "The most effective prayer position is lying prostrate, face down on the floor." The repairman could contain himself no longer. "Sorry," he blurted out, "but the best praying I ever did was hanging upside down from a telephone pole."



Reflecting faith – the Pulpit pt. 2

When you last heard a sermon given from a pulpit, what was your reaction? Whilst pulpits can of themselves be beautiful and stately, intricately carved and decorated, they can also be places of separateness. Rather than ending up helping the congregation to hear and see the preacher better, they can sometimes become a block to doing just that.

And it is not just pulpits. There are other things that can diminish our paying attention to the sermon.

For one thing, in some churches the individual appearance of the minister may be distracting. This is one reason why robes and vestments are worn - to keep 'personality' out of worship; to enable people to concentrate on God, not the person up front.

Then again, there is the increased use of electronic devices in worship. Seeing the preacher preach from an 'electronic' tablet can take some getting used to.

Or what about flower arrangements at the pulpit? Some may be so spectacular that people hardly see or hear the preacher, in the midst of all those blooms.

But the good news is that the dominance of the pulpit can give authority to what is said from it. And as the preacher climbs into it, they can feel a renewed assurance and confidence that they are about to speak God's words and He is with them.

This month

See if you can hear a sermon preached *not* from a pulpit. Does it feel more or less important, connected and/or personal? What other things distract you from hearing and taking on board what the preacher is saying?

The Revd Dr Jo White

Teach us to pray

Lord, teach us to pray. Some of us are not skilled in the art of prayer. As we draw near to thee in thought, our spirits long for thy Spirit, and reach out for thee, longing to feel thee near. We know not how to express the deepest emotions that lie hidden in our hearts. ...We know that we are closest to thee when we have left behind the things that have held us captive so long.we pray that thou wilt give unto us only what we really need.give us the vision, the courage, that shall enlarge our horizons and stretch our faith to the adventure of seeking thy loving will for our lives.

Peter Marshall (a former chaplain to the US Senate, lived 1902 – 1949)

All in the Month of August



400 years ago, on 6th August 1623, Anne Hathaway died. She was William Shakespeare's wife.

125 years ago, on 23rd August 1898, the British Antarctic Expedition set off from London and became the first to spend winter on the Antarctic mainland and cross the Ross Ice Shelf. It was the first British expedition of the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration. The expedition returned to London in June 1900.

100 years ago, on 29th August 1923, Richard Attenborough, British film actor and director was born. Best known for his roles in *The Great Escape*, and *Jurassic Park*. He also directed films including *A Bridge Too Far*, *Cry Freedom* and *Gandhi*. Died 2014.

80 years ago, on 17th & 18th August 1943, the RAF bombed the Peenemunde V1/V2 rocket research centre in Germany, in the first air raid of Operation Crossbow. The raid caused 'severe damage'.

75 years ago, on 23rd August 1948, the World Council of Churches was founded in Amsterdam.

65 years ago, on 26th August 1958, Ralph Vaughan Williams, British composer, died. Among his famous compositions are: *The Lark Ascending*, *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis*, and *A Sea Symphony*. **Also on 29th August 1958**, Cliff Richard's first single *Move It* was released. It reached second place in the UK charts, and John Lennon would later call it "the first British rock record".

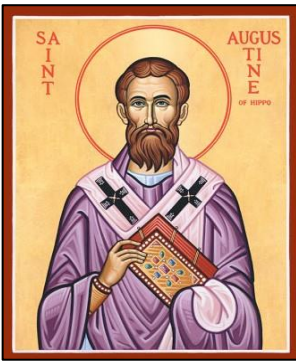
60 years ago, on 8th August 1963, the Great Train Robbery took place on the West Coast Main Line at Ledburn, Buckinghamshire. £2.6million was stolen in one of the UK's most infamous robberies. The bulk of the money was never recovered. **Also on 28th August 1963**, Dr Martin Luther King Jr, delivered his famous 'I Have a Dream' speech from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. The civil rights rally was attended by approximately 200,000 supporters.

25 years ago, on 15th August 1998, a car bomb in Omagh, Northern Ireland, killed 29 people and injured 370. It was the deadliest act of violence in the 30-year history of the Troubles.

20 years ago, on 11th August 2003, NATO took over the command of the international peacekeeping force in Kabul, Afghanistan. It was its first major operation outside of Europe.

15 years ago, on 1st & 2nd August 2008, the K2 Disaster took place. 11 mountaineers from several international expeditions died on K2, the world's second-highest mountain. Four others were injured. It was the worst single accident in K2's history.

10 years ago, on 31st August 2013, David Frost, British TV presenter and journalist, died. Best known for hosting the satirical series *That Was The Week That Was*, as well as *Breakfast with Frost*, and the game show, *Through the Keyhole*. Also known for his political interviews, including the Nixon interviews.



Augustine of Hippo The Christian for all seasons

After St Paul, who was the most influential Christian writer ever? Probably St Augustine of Hippo (354–430), whose feast-day is on 28th August. He lived and wrote in a time of social and spiritual chaos. The Roman Empire was collapsing, the world was about to slide into the Dark Ages and the Church was under serious threat from both heresies within and paganism without.

What St Augustine wrote at this time helped the Church both to avoid perversions of Christianity, and to stand strong and unafraid amongst the violent tumult of the times. His writings held sway over Christianity for the next 15 centuries or so, and still influence us heavily today.

Augustine was born at Tagaste, in modern Algeria. His father was a pagan, but his mother, Monica, was a Christian. After studying rhetoric at Carthage to become a lawyer, Augustine instead became a scholar-philosopher. He abandoned Christianity for Manichaeism, and lived with a mistress for 15 years. He moved to Rome and then Milan to teach rhetoric, but slowly grew disenchanted with Manichaeism.

After a long interior conflict, vividly described in his *'Confessions'*, Augustine was converted and baptised a Christian in 386-7. He returned to Africa in 388, and joined some friends in establishing a quasi-monastic life. He was ordained priest in 391, and four years later became coadjutor-bishop of Hippo. From 396 until his death in 430 he ruled the diocese alone.

Augustine had a brilliant mind, an ardent temperament and a gift for mystical insights. Soon his understanding of the Christian Revelation was pouring forth in his many voluminous writings.

So what did he write? Most famous is *'The Confessions'*, the sermons on the Gospel and Epistle of John, the *De Trinitate* and the *De Civitate Dei*. This last, *'The City of God'*, tackles the opposition between Christianity and the 'world' and represents the first Christian philosophy of history.

Many other works were undertaken in his efforts to tackle various heresies: Manichaeism, Pelagianism, or Donatism, and led to the development of his thought on Creation, Grace, the Sacraments and the Church.

Augustine's massive influence on Christianity has mainly been for the good. Few others have written with such depth on love, the Holy Trinity and the Psalms. (The preamble to the marriage service in the BCP is closely based on Augustine.) But his views on Predestination and some of his views on sex (that it is the channel for the transmission of Original Sin) have since been mainly ignored by the Church.

As bishop, Augustine fearlessly upheld order as the Roman Empire disintegrated around him. By the time of his death, the Vandals were at the very gates of Hippo.

Ecumenics of a crisis

During a recent gathering of local faith leaders, the church caught fire.

The Methodists gathered in the corner and prayed.

The Baptists cried, "Where is the water?"

The Anglicans formed a procession and marched out.

The Quakers silently praised God for the blessings that fire brings.

The Lutherans posted a notice on the door declaring the fire was evil.

The Roman Catholics passed the plate to cover the damage.

The Jews posted symbols on the door hoping the fire would pass over.

The Congregationalists shouted, "Every man for himself!"

The Fundamentalists proclaimed, "It's the vengeance of God!"

The Charismatics praised God for another falling of the Holy Spirit.

The Christian Scientists concluded that, actually, there was no fire.

The Presbyterians appointed a chairperson who was to appoint a committee, to look into the matter and submit a written report.

The secretary grabbed the fire extinguisher and put the fire out.

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:

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





Mary Sumner, founder of the Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union was founded in 1876. Since then, it has accomplished a staggering amount in that time, and nowadays numbers more than four million members, doing good work in 83 countries. That is a far cry from the modest circle of prayer for mothers who cared about family life, which is how it all began with a rector's wife, Mary Sumner.

Mary was born in late 1828 in Swinton, near Manchester. When she was four, her family moved to Herefordshire. Mary's father, Thomas Heywood, was a banker and historian. Her mother has been described as a woman of "faith, charm and sympathy" – qualities which Mary certainly inherited. Mrs Heywood also held informal 'mothers' meetings' at her home, to encourage local women. Those meetings may well have inspired Mary's later work.

Mary was educated at home, spoke three foreign languages, and sang well. While in her late teens, on a visit to Rome she met George Sumner, a son of the Bishop of Winchester. It was a well-connected family: George's uncle became Archbishop of Canterbury, and his second cousin was William Wilberforce. Mary and George married in July 1848, soon after his ordination. They moved to Old Alresford in 1851 and had three children: Margaret, Louise and George. Mary dedicated herself to raising her children and supporting her husband's ministry by providing music and Bible classes.

When in 1876 Mary's eldest daughter Margaret, gave birth, Mary was reminded how difficult she had found the burden of motherhood. Soon she decided to hold a meeting to which she invited the local women not only of her own class, but also all the village mothers. Her aim was to find out if women could be brought together to offer each other prayer and mutual support in their roles as wives and mothers. That meeting at Old Alresford Rectory was the inaugural meeting of the Mothers' Union.

For 11 years, the Mothers' Union was limited to Old Alresford. Then in 1885 the Bishop of Newcastle invited Mary to address the women churchgoers of the Portsmouth Church Congress, some 20 miles away. Mary gave a passionate speech about the poor state of national morality, and the vital need for women to use their vocation as mothers to change the nation for the better. A number of the women present went back to their parishes to found mothers' meetings on Sumner's pattern. Soon, the Mothers' Union spread to the dioceses of Ely, Exeter, Hereford, Lichfield and Newcastle.

By 1892, there were already 60,000 members in 28 dioceses, and by 1900 there were 169,000 members. By the time Mary died in 1921, she had seen MU cross the seas and become an international organisation of prayer and good purpose.

God in the Arts

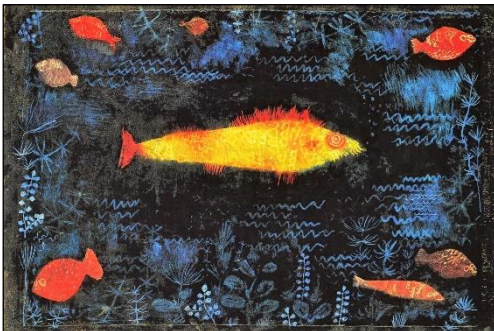
‘He gave us eyes to see them’: The Golden Fish by Paul Klee

A few years ago, I was sponsored by the Mothers’ Union in my diocese to go ‘swimming with sharks’ at the Blue Planet Aquarium near Chester. The prospect seemed daunting, but it proved to be a magical, memorable experience. When I went down into the water, it was like entering a new world – somehow both alien and attractive at the same time. Manta rays swam lazily by, and small fish gathered at my feet, inquisitive and waiting to be massaged by falling stones from my hand. The magic of that water-world is caught vividly in this month’s painting, ‘The Golden Fish’ by Paul Klee.

Paul Klee was a Swiss painter who lived in Germany until he was expelled in 1933. He died seven years later, but in his lifetime produced some 9000 works of art, each one displaying inventiveness and versatility. ‘The Golden Fish,’ painted in 1925, portrays a unique creature gliding serenely through its underwater kingdom. The gold scales, the red fins and the powerful eye provide a sharp contrast to the deep blue sea where other smaller fish are swimming to the edges of the canvas.

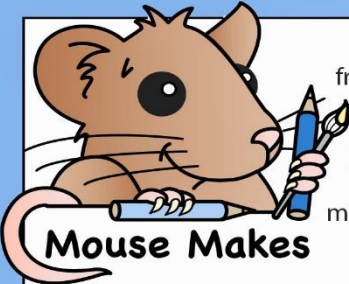
Is the artist showing us that secret, mysterious world that lies beneath the surface of the water, or is it simply an aquarium in his own house? Whichever it is, he is introducing us to a world that we, who live on the solid land beneath our feet, take for granted. Seven-tenths of our world is water, and our planet is really one gigantic aquarium. We can travel to the coasts of our island and see the great sea stretching out before us. It may bring to mind sandcastles and summer holidays, or a boat trip when the choppy waves made us feel queasy, or the memory of pirate stories about galleons and treasure, or the squawk of seagulls over our heads. Here in this painting, Paul Klee is telling us something of the nobility and wonder of this primeval element.

The opening pages of Scripture introduce us to the great waters of Creation, when the wind of God swept over the face of the deep, and separated the seas from the dry land. On the fifth day God said, ‘Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures,’ and God saw that it was good. Rupert Brooke in his poem, ‘Heaven,’ imagines that world of fishes and sea creatures pondering what is beyond this element of water, just as we on land ponder the future of our world.



Poet and painter invite us to ponder the majestic glory of this element of sea and ocean which is part of God’s good creation. In ‘The Golden Fish’ we glimpse something of the wonder of life it contains and find ourselves echoing the psalmist in Psalm 104: ‘Here is the immeasurable sea in which move creatures beyond number. Countless are the things thou hast made, O Lord. Thou hast made all by thy wisdom.’

Children's Page



After Jesus miraculously fed 5,000+ people from two fish and five loaves, he sent his disciples off in a boat across the Sea of Galilee before going up a mountain by himself. Later in the night, as the boat was being blown and buffeted by the wind, Jesus came miraculously walking on the water towards them...

Read the story in: *Matthew 14:22-27, Mark 6:45-56 or John 6:16-21*

What did Jesus do when he went up on the mountain?

_____ *Matthew 14:23*

What was the boat struggling against?

The _____ and the _____ *Matthew 14:24*



What did Jesus say to his disciples?
Do not be _____

Matthew 14:27



What did the disciples think Jesus was when they saw him walking on the sea?

A _____ *Matthew 14:26*

Who walked out on the water to Jesus?

Matthew 14:29

What did Jesus say to Peter?

Oh you of little _____ why do you _____ *Matthew 14:31*

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

JESUS • DISCIPLES • BOAT • OTHER SIDE • CROWDS • MOUNTAIN • EVENING • ALONE • LAND • NIGHT • SEA WALKING • TERRIFIED • FEAR • COME • WATER • SINK • SAVE • INTO • CEASED • WORSHIPED • SON OF GOD

The Story Behind the Song



Here I am to worship

Light of the world,
You stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

*Here I am to worship;
Here I am to bow down;
Here I am to say that
You're my God.
You're altogether lovely,
Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.*

King of all days, oh, so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above,
Humbly You came
To the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor.

*Here I am to worship;
Here I am to bow down;
Here I am to say that
You're my God.
You're altogether lovely,
Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.*

I'll never know
How much it cost
To see my sin
Upon that cross.
*(repeat 3 more times
With the last verse fading)*

Tim Hughes is an extraordinary individual. God has blessed his submissive spirit and carried him to great heights as a worship leader, teacher, singer and author. His song is becoming very popular and is sung in churches and worship centres. Hughes was born into a pastor's home in High Wycombe, a small town just outside of London. His parents, John and Annie Hughes, made sure that Tim and his two younger brothers had opportunities to learn music.

Tim, in an interview said, "It was also during my 16th year that the leader at my dad's church asked me to get involved in the music ministry, playing guitar and singing background vocals. As I grew older, I began to lead worship occasionally in the church services. Then the minister moved to another location, and I took over the being in charge of a large portion of the worship in church."

Tim was asked about the writing of his famous song, "Here I Am to Worship." He explained that he began to read several scriptures but seemed to concentrate on Philippians, chapter 2 - about Christ's humility and how he took upon himself the attitude of a servant and how he humbled himself and became obedient unto death on a cross. He was challenged with the wonder of who God really is and his sacrifice for us."

He sat down in his room and began worshipping him as a response to those thoughts. It was then that the initial inspiration of the song came. It began, 'Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness ... and on and on until I had two verses finished.

About six months later, he thought of the verses again and said to himself that he needed to finish the song. He began flipping through ideas of melodies and lyrics that he had written and came across a melody that he had written before. It sounded quite simple, yet felt it accompanied his verses perfectly. He wanted the chorus to be a response to the Lord's amazing sacrifice."

Rushen Parish Prayer Diary



Dear Lord, we give you thanks for the month of August. As each day of the month dawns, we thank you for bringing us out of the shadow of night and into the light of morning. We also thank you for the joy of spending each day in your service, so that when the evening comes, we can once more give you the thanks that you deserve, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen

August 2023

This is your invitation to pray day by day for:

- 1st Those still suffering the after-effects of the global pandemic
- 2nd The work of aid agencies throughout the world
- 3rd Families in debt, unable to find a solution, and in despair
- 4th Those who work in financial institutions
- 5th Peace throughout the world
- 6th The beauty of God's creation found on the Isle of Man and throughout the world
- 7th Joe and his ministry in the Parish of Rushen
- 8th All sportsmen and women who enjoy partaking in sport rather than winning
- 9th The new Archdeacon of Sodor & Man and the tasks she has to perform
- 10th All grandparents and their grandchildren
- 11th The Mothers' Union and its tireless work throughout the Isle of Man
- 12th All Christians to serve Jesus faithfully and to behave like He did throughout His life
- 13th The Salvation Army and its work with the homeless
- 14th Those receiving treatment in hospital
- 15th All parents and their children
- 16th Authors and the books they write which give such enjoyment to their readers
- 17th One parent families and the work of agencies which help them
- 18th The people who kindly buy and arrange flowers in our four churches
- 19th The coastguards who ensure the safety of all who venture on our beaches
- 20th The Royal Family and all it does for everyone living in the Commonwealth
- 21st Farmers preparing their crops for harvest time
- 22nd Teachers preparing for the new term in September
- 23rd The Southern Mission Partnership and its work in integrating parishes in the south
- 24th The work of the National Royal Lifeboat Institution in saving lives
- 25th The beauty of music in all of its forms
- 26th Those who entertain through the media of radio and television
- 27th The work of doctors and nurses throughout the world
- 28th Children preparing for the new term ahead
- 29th The work of the National Health Service here on the island and in the UK
- 30th The disabled and the work of those who try to help them
- 31st The continued success of Messy Church and for those who help to run it

Services August/September

6th August <i>(Trinity 9)</i>	11am	St Mary's Joint Holy Communion (CW)
13th August <i>(Trinity 10)</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 Holy Communion (BCP)
20th August <i>(Trinity 11)</i>	9.30am 11am 11am 3pm 3.15pm	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW) St Mary's Holy Communion (CW) St Catherine's All-Age Service (CW) St Mary's Baptism St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
27th August <i>(Trinity 12)</i>	11am	Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)
3rd September <i>(Trinity 13)</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)
10th September <i>(Trinity 14)</i>	9.30am 11am 11am 3.15pm	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW) St Mary's All-Age Service (CW) St Catherine's Holy Communion St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
17th September <i>(Trinity 15)</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 Evening Prayer (BCP)
24th September <i>(Trinity 16)</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....

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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

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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.

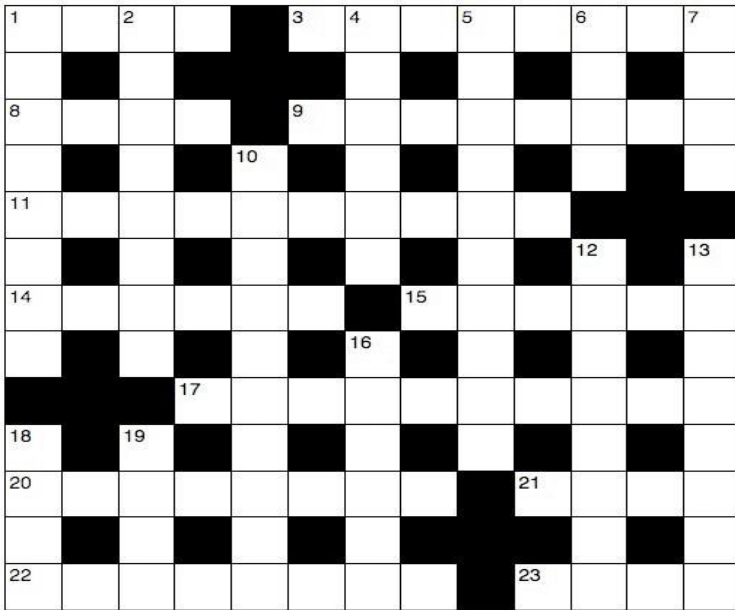
Parish Director of Music:

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 August 2023



Across

- 1 and 3** Two of the disciples who witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus (Luke 9:28) (4,3,5)
- 3** See 1 Across
- 8** 'Let us draw — to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith' (Hebrews 10:22) (4)
- 9** O Simon is (anag.) (8)
- 11** Form of government under the direct rule of God or his agents (10)
- 14** How Jesus found his disciples when he returned to them after praying in Gethsemane (Luke 22:45) (6)
- 15** In The Pilgrim's Progress, the name of the meadow into which Christian strayed, which led to Doubting Castle (2-4)
- 17** Glad sin rat (anag.) (10)
- 20** Spinal column (Leviticus 3:9) (8)
- 21** Valley of the Balsam Tree with a reputation of being a waterless place (Psalm 84:6) (4)
- 22** 'The oracle of Balaam son of Beor, the oracle of one — — sees clearly' (Numbers 24:3) (5,3)
- 23** Adam and Eve's third son (Genesis 4:25) (4)

Down

- 1** David's great friend (1 Samuel 20:17) (8)

- 2** 'The Lord... will bring me safely to his — kingdom' (2 Timothy 4:18) (8)
- 4** 'I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. I ate no choice food; — — or wine touched my lips' (Daniel 10:3) (2,4)
- 5** Seeking to vindicate (Job 32:2) (10)
- 6** Female servant (Isaiah 24:2) (4)
- 7** 'For Christ died for — once for all' (1 Peter 3:18) (4)
- 10** 'Offering spiritual sacrifices — to God through Jesus Christ' (1 Peter 2:5) (10)
- 12** Jesus said that some people had renounced this 'because of the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew 19:12) (8)
- 13** One of the three men thrown into the furnace for refusing to worship Nebuchadnezzar's golden image (Daniel 3:20) (8)
- 16** 'You have — of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry' (Luke 12:19) (6)
- 18** 'There before me was a white horse! Its rider held — — , and he was given a crown' (Revelation 6:2) (1,3)
- 19** Equipment to Charity Hospitals Overseas (1,1,1,1)