

Rushen Parish Magazine

April 2019



He is Risen

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A Letter from Liz



As we continue on our journey through Lent and on into Holy Week, we recall the foundation of our faith – that God loved the world so much that He came as one of us to save us. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, took on our humanity and experienced life and death as we do and identified with us in human suffering. He acted as priest for us, offering a sacrifice to God on our behalf and also took upon himself the role of sacrifice for our sins. What incredible love. And yet the story does not end there. Jesus Christ rose from the dead on that first Easter Sunday and appeared to his followers, proving to them once and for all that death after this life is not the end – that we too are promised his resurrection life. We celebrate this mystery once again and thank God for his love, for his salvation, for his coming alongside us and showing that he identifies with us in the darkest of times; and that even after the darkest of times we have the hope and promise of eternal life with Him and each other.

How appropriate that we celebrate this mystery of new life in Christ as the sunlight and lengthening days and warmth of spring brings new life in creation all around us.

And yet as we look at spring we see that the regular patterns that we have known for decades are gradually changing as our climate patterns change. Remembering our selfish wilful behaviour and lack of respect towards our earth that has led to this; we look to God's renewal for the whole of creation and recognise in the words of Teresa Avila that we are God's hands and feet here. We have a responsibility and duty to take seriously the needs of the world around us, to care for the poor and the oppressed, but to extend that care to all of creation as we seek guidance from God's Holy Spirit about what we personally might be called to do as the body of Christ individually and corporately to repent of our greed and carelessness and seek to correct the damage caused to the environment that impacts most severely on those least able to deal with the impact of rising sea levels and changing weather patterns, of droughts and famines. Let us take seriously the difference we can make, as we recall that in the 90's there was concern about the hole in the ozone layer and gradually consumer pressure and governmental legislation removed harmful chemicals and allowed the hole in the ozone layer to repair itself. Wishing you every blessing this Easter

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Liz'.



Easter Morning – The Other Mary

As the traditional Easter story is rehearsed again this month, you may notice that there is one name that frequently occurs. It is that of the ‘other’ Mary – not the mother of Jesus, but Mary of Magdalene, who stood by her at the cross and became the first human being actually to meet the risen Christ.

That’s quite a record for a woman who, the Gospels tell us, had been delivered by Jesus from ‘seven devils’ – New Testament language for some dark and horrible affliction of body, mind or spirit. As a result, her devotion to Him was total and her grief at His death overwhelming.

In church history Mary Magdalene became the ‘fallen woman’ a harlot who was rescued and forgiven by Jesus but there is no evidence to prove she was a ‘fallen woman’ but the contrast is sublime, Mary the virgin mother, the symbol of purity. Mary Magdalene, the scarlet woman who was saved and forgiven, the symbol of redemption. Surely, we all fall somewhere between those two extremes.

The dark cloud from which she was delivered may have been sexual, we are not told. What we do know is that the two Marys stood together at the cross, the Blessed Virgin and the woman rescued from who knows what darkness and despair.

The second great moment for her was as unexpected as it was momentous. She had gone with other women to the tomb of Jesus and found it empty. An angelic figure told them that Jesus was not there, He had risen – and the others drifted off. But Mary stayed, reluctant to leave it like that. She became aware of a man nearby, whom she took to be the gardener. She explained to Him that the body of ‘her Lord’ had been taken away and she didn’t know where to find Him.

The man simply said her name ‘Mary’ and she instantly realised it was Jesus. She made to hug Him, but He told her not to touch Him because his resurrection was not yet complete. She was, however, to go to the male disciples and tell them she had met Him. She did – but they couldn’t believe her.

Her words – ‘I have seen the Lord’ – echo down the centuries, the very beating heart of the Christian gospel.

Canon David Winter





Ladies Working Party – St Mary's

This month one of our long serving members passed away, suddenly, but in the company of her loving and much-loved husband and son. Wyn McFarlane was a valued member of the LWP from 1988, serving as a hardworking and much appreciated treasurer for 27 years, until her recent retirement. Graham and Nigel have asked that their grateful thanks be extended to all those who have expressed sympathy, attended

the funeral on 8th March in a full St Mary's Church, and to the LWP and PSM WI who together provided the excellent refreshments afterwards in the hall. The funeral was conducted by Rev Joe Heaton, with Father Leo and Monsignor Pat also taking part in the service and committal, with hymn singing well led by our choir and with Nigel giving a wonderful tribute to his mum. We shall all miss her.

One of Wyn's last acts was to make a donation to The Leprosy Mission, and this was given to Mr Paul Moores who came to our well supported open afternoon on 26th February to update us on the incredible work of this mission. Last year the focus was on Niger, this year Nepal where the poor infrastructure of the country makes access to some of the more remote villages very difficult. Swift diagnosis is necessary to prevent disability, and the charity is seeking funds with which to reach out to "the hidden ones", funds (including those raised in the IOM) which will be doubled by the UK government. Anandaban Hospital is a research hospital for leprosy and not only treats those suffering from leprosy and resulting disabilities, but also those injured in recent earthquakes. Having listened spellbound to Paul's inspiring talk, we can only hope that we raised a significant sum from our stamps, coin collections, bring and buy stall and the Leprosy Mission stall to make a real contribution. We look forward to hearing from Paul.

Winifred Quayle's son Robert also came to see us on 26th February, which would have been her 92nd birthday, bringing cakes for us all to enjoy. We appreciated his kind gift very much. Also, on Monday 18th March, we took delivery of the extra 10 chairs we had ordered. Thank you, Jude, for organising this.

After Easter, we shall be preparing for our coffee morning on 10th May, to raise money for The Friends of Chernobyl's Children, a charity which we have supported for some time, and which each summer brings children from Belarus to the island to benefit from fresh air, good food, medical and dental checks, and a fair amount of fun. As always, we shall also be hosting a lunch for the children and their leaders, in the hall, early in August.

With love and best wishes from all the ladies to everyone, particularly those who are in poor health, in hospital, recovering from operations and awaiting results.

Pat Thomson



Signs & Symbols: Holy oil, and even more holy oil

*Editor: The **Rev Dr Jo White** continues her series on 'Why do they do that?' which looks at things that happen in churches which may seem mysterious. This series will run until December.*

Oils and creams loom large in the Bible just as they do in our world today. We use healing creams for all sorts of ailments, and moisturising lotions to soothe, but also often for the pure sensual pleasure that they give us. What can be better than your favourite

hand cream after time spent gardening?

Oils in church are just the same. Set aside for specific works: for healing, encouraging at times of change and uncertainty, and for the special purposes of people, places and objects.

The Holy Oils are blessed (and one is consecrated) each year, usually on Maundy Thursday in Holy Week. This is done by the Bishop at a special annual service in every cathedral with all the clergy in the Diocese. It's an amazingly colourful and meaningful service which if you ever have the opportunity to attend do go.

These oils are then distributed to every parish priest for use in their area. At the end of a year they are poured into the earth and replaced with the new year's Holy Oils.

If you are facing challenges and change in any area of your life, why not talk with your priest and ask them for some of this holy oil – these are meant for you and me, for all of us.

A Letter from Mike and Gill Porter

Both Gill and I would like to thank you for your prayers, cards and good wishes during the last two months.

It has been quite an eventful and not a very pleasant two months, but hopefully, we are now through the worst and look forward to joining you all at church in the near future.

I would like to especially thank John Binns, Adrian Shorthouse and Charles Crossley for taking on so many extra organ duties. Also my thanks go to the Music Group at St Catherine's for their extra contributions, the choir at St Mary's for maintaining the standards in weekly services, plus a funeral and a wedding, and to Joe for all his support.

The Parish must be unique, both on and off the Island, in its ability to continue providing music for all the major services when the Director of Music (who normally plays approximately twelve services a month) is absent.

I am hoping to start playing for some services in April, but this will probably be limited to only one per Sunday.

Again my thanks – you are never far from my thoughts.

Love and best wishes

Mike and Gill

St Mary's Junior Church



On 24th February our lesson was based on the feeding of the 5,000. We learnt about our wants and needs. The children knew what they need and came up with some good ideas, such as family and friends, as well as the more obvious – food, water etc. They also thought it would be difficult in today's society to do without some “wants” such as mobile phones and computers. We imagined ourselves back in the crowd in the time of Jesus, following

Him and listening to His teaching. We finally sat down on a picnic rug and opened our picnic basket as He fed the 5,000.

On 3rd March we talked about the season of Lent and the temptation of Christ. We prepared for our All Age service – a Jesus Rap and selected prayers. During the session we had a bowl of sweets on the table to see if we could resist the temptation of eating one. The children made shields and played a game where they threw paper balls at each other and used their shields for protection. God is our shield against temptation. We finished the session by eating pancakes with a variety of toppings. The children each took home a tube of jelly beans, when empty, they will save some money in them towards our Lent giving.

Our All Age service on 10th March was led by Wendy. Being the first Sunday in Lent it focussed on the temptation of Christ. The children did their “Jesus Rap” and led the prayers. Claudia read the first lesson Romans 10 vs 8b-13 and Wendy dramatised the Gospel reading very effectively through “Godly Play”. She reconstructed the scene with a “sandy desert”, a model of a temple and stones that looked like bread. As we had covered the passage the previous week the children were mesmerised to see it “acted out”.

On March 17th we talked about Jesus being the Good Shepherd. Just as a shepherd takes care of his sheep Jesus cares for each one of us and protects us. He guides us through life helping us to make the right decisions and helps us to avoid temptation.

At the time of writing we are in the second half of March with the Spring equinox this week – hopefully warmer weather will be on the way. Looking forward to our Mothering Sunday service at Kirk Christ on the 31st. Let's hope everyone remembers to move their clocks forward by an hour!!

With love from St. Mary's Junior Church

Carole Coole



News from St Catherine's & Kirk Christ



There have been a number of organisations which have agreed to decorate the church windows at Kirk Christ for the Island Flower Festival taking place from 30th June 2019 until 6th July 2019. A blank rota is to be made available, in due course, which will be placed at the back of our four churches for members of our congregations to offer to steward, and support in various ways.

St Catherine's Church hosted the 'World Day of Prayer' on 1st March. This service was very well supported. A number of those who attended have commented on how wonderful the service was, and especially so the music within it.

The monthly Soup Inn and Messy Church event was well attended in March. Similarly the Lenten Lunches, being held jointly with our friends from the Methodist Church, have been very well supported.

Gerry Callister



Such fun was had at Messy Church last month. Our Theme was Gideon and our activities had links to being brave and confident and following God in spite of reservations of our own strength. Children loved

having a go at 'threshing the Weetabix', finding words to make a bible verse (they also enjoyed the sweetie reward at the end of this one!) Paint splattering posters of encouragement and attempting to make a 'tuneful' horn call on some interesting instruments as Gideon and his troops once did.

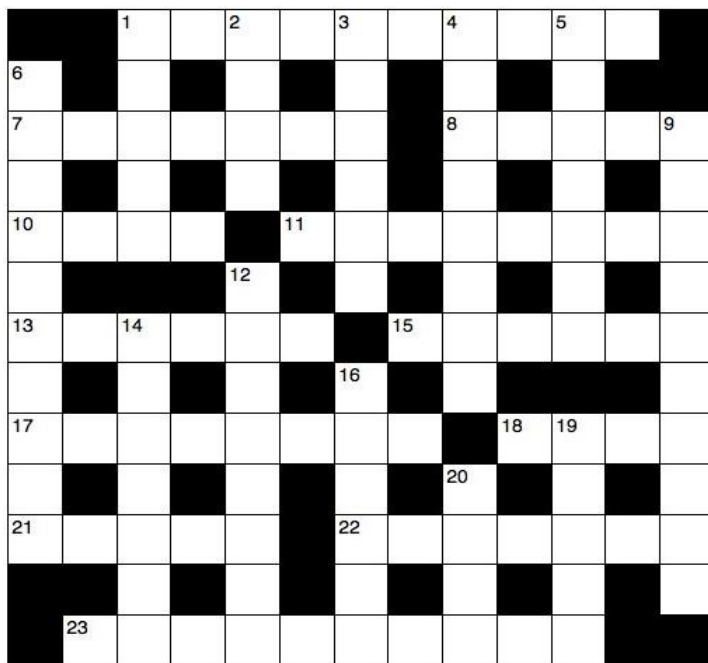
Jenny Stewart

Alternative Sunday Evening services at Kirk Christ

The service on 10th March was lovely. Rev Joe took us on a journey...our own Christian lifetime journey. We thought about the high and not so high points of that journey and about how our faith had grown. It was a calm, prayerful service with well-chosen hymns and prayers to support the teaching. I found it very encouraging to have time to reflect, pray and worship with others. Perhaps you would enjoy these services too. Look out for the next one in the Rushen News and do try to come along.

Margaret Galloway (Reader)

April Crossword



Across

- 1 'You are a chosen people, a royal —' (1 Peter 2:9) (10)
 7 Exact copy (Joshua 22:28) (7)
 8 Jesus' first words to Jairus's daughter, 'My child, — —' (Luke 8:54) (3,2)
 10 Idol made by the Israelites while Moses was on Mount Sinai (Exodus 32:4) (4)
 11 Role allotted to Joseph in Egypt (Genesis 42:6) (8)
 13 'Lord, when did we — — hungry and feed you?' (Matthew 25:37) (3,3)
 15 'Though seeing, they do — —; though hearing, they do not hear or understand' (Matthew 13:13) (3,3)
 17 Happening (1 Kings 21:1) (8)
 18 'Whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the — of Christ' (Philippians 3:7) (4)
 21 National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (1,1,1,1,1)
 22 Stamp on (Amos 2:7) (7)
 23 Liable to rot (1 Corinthians 15:42) (10)

Down

- 1 Of the pope (5)
 2 'The earth is the Lord's, and everything — —' (Psalm 24:1) (2,2)
 3 Hebrew word for the kind of peace that Jesus promised (6)
 4 Member of a 16th-century Protestant reform movement in France (8)
 5 Sing out (anag.) (7)
 6 Ceremonial column of people on the move (1 Samuel 10:5) (10)
 9 One of the things love always does (1 Corinthians 13:7) (10)
 12 Esther's cousin who foiled a plot to assassinate King Xerxes (Esther 2:7, 22) (8)
 14 See cape (anag.) (7)
 16 'No one can — them out of my hand' (John 10:28) (6)
 19 Often mistakenly identified as the fruit that led to the first sin (Joel 1:12) (5)
 20 'He was led like a — to the slaughter' (Isaiah 53:7) (4)

March Crossword Solution

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

I received another 20 solutions for the February competition which was excellent. Unfortunately 4 of them arrived after the closing date. The £5 prize was won by Jean Taylor. One of the nurses at Noble's Hospital kindly chose the number 8 which coincided with the number on the entry. Jean received her prize in St Mary's Church on Sunday 10th March.

Easter prayer of thanks

Gracious, loving Father, thank you for the wonderful reality of Jesus' resurrection on that first Easter Day. Thank you that, because Jesus is alive, life has meaning and purpose.

When we don't understand why some things happen, when life is difficult, when we are struggling through pain and loss, help us to know your risen presence and love in our lives. Help us to choose to trust you. Help us always to be thankful for your amazing Easter gift of life and hope. In Jesus name,

Amen

March Sudoku Solutions

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

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



The vicar had assured the verger that the clock repairers had promised to come as soon as possible



Why Easter will never go away

How do you make sense of the Resurrection? Dead men don't rise, so why believe that this particular dead man did rise? - Parish Pump

At the end of St Luke's Gospel we read that: "they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement" (Luke 24.4). This is highly significant. The Gospels do not show us a group of disciples who were in a receptive frame of mind. After the crucifixion, they were in hiding, frightened and scattered. Then suddenly, they came out of hiding and were totally different; excited, joyful. By Pentecost they

were confident, with one firm message: "You crucified Jesus, but God raised him up!"

How did they know this? Because of direct personal experience. Some of them had visited the tomb of Jesus: it was empty. Others claimed to have seen and touched the risen Lord. Were they hallucinating? People can hallucinate in groups – when taking drugs, for example. But, of course each one will see a different hallucination. But the disciples all saw the same thing. Or rather, the same person. Jesus.

Were they lying? Jesus had died a humiliating death as a criminal. Perhaps they wanted to rescue His good name. So did they pretend they had seen Him?

This theory has a big problem. Their preaching led them into trouble with the authorities. They were beaten and imprisoned and some of them killed. People will die for ideas and causes which they believe in passionately. But not for things they have made up. We might suffer for our convictions, we will not suffer for our inventions.

What about the 'swoon' theory? That Jesus didn't die on the cross, despite terrible wounds. He recovered in the tomb, and then escaped. The disciples nursed Him back to health. But Roman soldiers knew when a man was dead; and there was the guard on the tomb. Also, the events which followed simply don't fit. If the disciples had been hiding Jesus, they would have kept very low-key, and out of the way, so that the authorities did not come after Him again.

Besides, to preach that God had raised Jesus from the dead – which is exactly what they did preach – would have been a lie. Beatings and threat of death would soon have loosened their tongues. Inventions crumble under pressure; convictions hold fast.

Another reason for believing in the Resurrection is this: Jesus' continuing impact. Thousands and soon millions of people in every generation since have shared an inescapable sense of being 'accompanied' through life. Though unseen, they identify this presence as the Risen Lord.

Sometimes this experience of meeting Jesus is gentle and fitful. Sometimes it is dramatic and life-changing. This reminds us that the resurrection of Jesus is not just an interesting historical puzzle. It is a vital, present day reality. It brings wonderful comfort, assuring us of the central Christian truths: death is dead; Jesus is alive; God is love.

This central notion was captured, most movingly, by the great Albert Schweitzer: 'He came to those men who knew Him not. He speaks to us the same word: "Follow thou me", and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfil for our time. He commands. And to those who obey Him, whether they be wise or simple, He will reveal Himself in the toils, the conflicts, the suffering which they shall pass through in His fellowship, and, as ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience who He is.' Have a joyful – and a challenging – Easter.

Apple trees and other April delights

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An Apple a Day



Apples in Late Summer

If you are lucky enough to have a garden, or even a courtyard, you'll have room for a tree. Or more than one. And if you are trying to decide on a species, why not go for something that gives you fruit? Apple is the most popular type of fruit tree, and not without good reason. These trees are easy to grow, easy to please and they reward you with luscious pickings. You might not get the best from them if you plant and then abandon your apple, but this is indeed what happens to many without long lasting problems.

If there's just one service you can offer your apple tree at this time of year, it's to remove weeds or grass from around the base of the trunk, apply a liquid feed, then apply mulch around in order to keep in the moisture. Most fruit trees benefit from extra potassium as this promotes healthy bud and fruit development. A general fertiliser is always appreciated as the additional nitrogen aids growth. Ideally you would remember to feed your tree regularly, but once is better than never.

There's no mystery about plant food. It's made of three main components: nitrogen (N), which encourages good growth; phosphorus (P), which helps the root development and potassium (K) which promotes good fruit and flowers. So it follows that feed aimed at fruiting and flowering plants has a heavier bias towards potassium.

Pruning apple trees

The pruning of apple trees isn't too daunting either. Many are left to their own devices and they still produce fruit. But they also tend to grow into rather a tangled mass and the lack of air flow can affect the quality of the apples. If you regularly prune your tree right from the start, you'll encourage a shape that will make it easier for picking and appreciating.

For apples, pruning in late winter is probably the best time as the trees will burst into spring growth with zest and vigour. Just cut out the weak and crossing branches so that your tree can put its energy into the very best branches that are left. Growth will gradually slow down as the year progresses and during the winter you are able to see the skeletal shape which will help you decide which branches to prune. The aim of a successful prune is to achieve an open 'goblet' shape with a sturdy framework of perhaps about five branches.

In order to minimise the production of multiple thin, whippy 'water shoots', the general idea is to thin out your tree here and there but not just at the top. If you only prune the top branches, all the new growth will come from here. Spread your pruning cuts around and throughout the entire canopy, aiming to let the light and air into the centre. Be selective, shortening branches here and there and taking out overcrowded stems completely.

If, however, you have inherited an apple tree that is too large, pruning in the late spring and summer might be better. Why? You can reduce its size by up to 25 per cent without causing it to produce vigorous growth afterwards. You will be pruning off apple-bearing branches, but ultimately it will help the overall shape.

Finally, a word about disease. If you notice branches that are obviously affected with fungus or any other disease, prune it out as soon as possible. Remember to dispose of these branches by burning, if possible, and disinfect your pruning tools straight away.

Enjoy home-grown apples this year!

Plants Ltd is an on-line supplier of garden plants, house plants, garden equipment, furniture and gifts for all seasons www.perfectplants.co.uk

Kentraugh Mill

National Mills Weekend is the second weekend in May. Kentraugh Mill will be open on Saturday 11th May from 10am – 5pm., and Sunday 12th May from 11am – 5pm.

The Mill is the first building up the road from the Shore Hotel. Gansey. Guided tours will be given of the Mill, Chapel Garden and the Mill Dam.

Refreshments are available. No charge is made, but donations are invited for The United Society, Partners in Gospel. This is an ancient building and the machinery will be running. Visitors come at their own risk.

Enquiries to Elizabeth and John Sheen (832406)



All in the month of April

300 years ago, on 25th April 1719, Daniel Defoe's novel Robinson Crusoe was published.

125 years ago, on 16th April 1894, Manchester City Football Club was founded. It was a reorganisation of a church team that was established in 1880, initially as St Mark's (West Gorton), and, from 1887, Ardwick Association Football Club.

100 years ago, on 11th April 1919, the International Labour Organisation was founded as part of the Treaty of Versailles that ended WW1. It later became part of the United Nations. Its first act was to establish an 8-hour working day and maximum 48-hour working week.

90 years ago, on 14th April 1929, the first Monaco Grand Prix was held in Monte Carlo.

80 years ago, on 1st April 1939, the Spanish Civil War ended. General Franco's government was officially recognised.

70 years ago, on 4th April 1949, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) was founded.

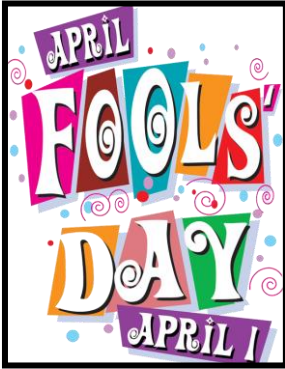
50 years ago, on 22nd April 1969, British sailor Sir Robin Knox-Johnston became the first person to circumnavigate the globe non-stop and single-handed.

40 years ago, on 1st April 1979, Iran was proclaimed an Islamic Republic.

30 years ago, on 14th April 1989, the Hillsborough Disaster took place in Sheffield. 96 Liverpool FC fans were killed in a crush during the F A C Cup semi-final football match against Nottingham Forest.

25 years ago, on 6th April 1994, the Rwandan genocide began when a plane carrying Rwandan president Juvenal Habyarimana and Burundian president Cyprien Ntaryamira was shot down by extremists. Civil war broke out the following day. An estimated 1 million people were massacred during the next 100 days. **Also 25 years ago, on 27th April 1994**, post-apartheid multiracial elections were held in South Africa, with 18 million blacks eligible to vote for the first time. Nelson Mandela was elected president and took office on 10th May.

20 years ago, on 5th April 1999, Libya handed over to the United Nations two suspects in the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie. They were taken to the Netherlands to face trial. Abdelbaset al-Megrahi was found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment and later released. Died May 2012. The other suspect was acquitted. **Also 20 years ago, on 26th April 1999**, Jill Dando, TV presenter, newsreader, journalist and former Crimewatch reporter was shot dead on the doorstep of her home in London. It is still a mystery who killed her.



1 April - Fooling Around

I was about six when I began to enjoy April Fool's Day. My older brother was very clever at appropriate hoaxes, not only deceiving me but also mum and dad. On the whole my childish efforts were encouraged. The day was full of laughs, even at school, where the teachers would try to trick us and all day long no one quite believed anything they were told. So it went on, year after year, though I think it all seems as a bit unsophisticated for the modern generation.

You couldn't say that, though, about probably the most famous April Fool's effort of all time. In the 1960's BBC TV broadcast a feature on the spaghetti farms of Italy. Even those of us who bought our spaghetti in the supermarket from the pasta shelves began to wonder if we'd been wrong. Italian farmers explained their work and the progress of the spaghetti plants was carefully filmed, from planting to reaping. And all in the BBC's most serious documentary manner. It took a while to appreciate that this was Aunty playing games. Whatever next!

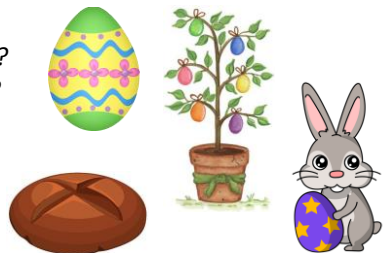
The odd thing is that no one is quite sure of the origin of this very British tradition. Most attribute it to changes in Britain's calendar in the 1700s, when New Year's Day moved from March 25th to January 1st. Not surprisingly, the change caused a lot of confusion and mistakes around the start of April. Others look further back, to the ancient Roman feast of Hilaria, when the goddess Cybele was celebrated with pranks and jokes around the spring equinox, March 25th. Either way a touch of hilarity at the end of Lent does not seem amiss. Go to Greece, where the resurrection of Jesus is celebrated with fireworks and parties to see how it might work.

Canon David Winter

Easter Trivia Quiz

For those of you who love to use search engines as a means of solving trivial questions, here is a quiz for you. The answers will appear in May's Parish Magazine (Editor)

1. What was the largest ever Easter egg hunt?
2. What was the largest-ever decorated Easter egg?
3. What was the largest ever chocolate Easter egg?
4. What was the largest ever Easter egg tree?
5. What about the most expensive hot cross bun?
6. What was the biggest-ever (real) Easter bunny?



From the Registers

Wedding (February 2019)

Saturday 23rd February 2019

Vanessa S A Jennings & Philip J Sloan

Kirk Christ @ 1.00pm

Memorial Service (February 2019)

Monday 4th February 2019

Henry Hugh Goldsmith

Kirk Christ @ 2.00pm

Funeral (February 2019)

Wednesday 27th February 2019

Mavis Bowers

Kirk Christ @ 12.30pm

Egg

Church notice: This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Cusworth to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

Safeguarding

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

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

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

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

“Easter Certainty”

“I do believe!” ---

Has the thrust of certainty.

“I do believe!” ---

Has a confident ring,

Here is trust and anchorage ---

Free from the power of sin.

The National scene is all amiss

We’re disconcerted at all this;

Personal pain is hard to hide ---

Witness the rise of suicide;

And certainly with banks is low ---

Many wondering where to go.

Break the mourning ritual—

Let the facts of Easter dawn

Christ the saviour is reborn;

Bright and joyful is the morn!

Peace and hope replace despair –

Behold! God’s certainty everywhere.

Philippians 3:10 “That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection.”

Margaret Couper

Rushen Mothers' Union



It was a lovely sunny afternoon for our meeting on Monday 11th March in St Catherine's Hall. We arrived to find the hall already set up, with tables and chairs laid out and the kitchen ready for teas. Thank you, Gerry! Mrs Sue Maddrell warmly welcomed us all, including our speaker Mrs Jane Foxon.

Our short service began with a quiet moment for us all to reflect on the life of a loved and valued member, Mrs Wyn McFarlane, who had recently passed away; a kind and caring lady whose laughter and warm smile will not be forgotten. Thereafter, Sue led us in prayer, with hymns chosen and played by Mrs Valerie Vaughan, followed by a very apt reading from Mrs Sue Bould.

Mrs Pat Thomson read from the minutes of the recent South & West Committee Meeting. The MU Festival will be on Monday 25th March at 2.30pm in the Cathedral, followed by tea provided by the ladies of the Cathedral and cake by the East and North JMP. Founder's Day will be 9th August at Kirk Andreas. Revd Ben Bradshaw has been appointed as the MU Chaplain. Kirk Michael Branch are holding an afternoon tea on April 30th at 2.30pm to which all are welcomed. The IOM International Development Small Group is hoping to raise money for a project in Zimbabwe and the MU would aim to raise £2,500. Mrs Jane Gunn reported on the Council meeting held on 5th March, and Mrs Elsie Faragher invited us all to support our branch coffee morning on Friday 15th March, in St Catherine's Hall.

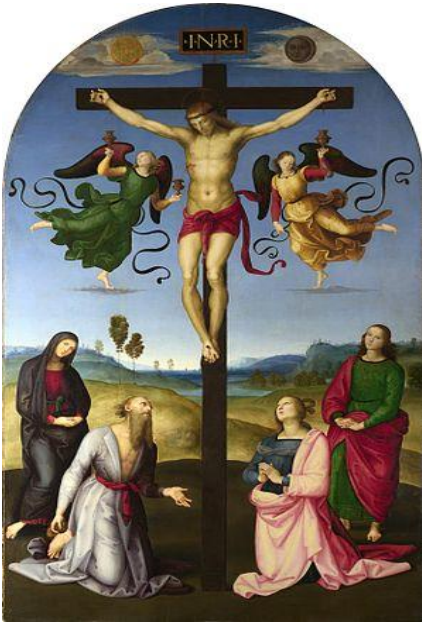
Sue introduced our speaker Mrs Jane Foxon, who gave us a wonderful talk on the work of the Isle of Man Food Bank, from 2013 to date, describing how it was set up, how the Southern Distribution Hub operates, the other agencies with whom the Food Bank works, the reasons why people might need a "Hand Up, not a Hand Out", as she describes their aim, and some of their plans for the future. We were amazed that so much more was done by this charity than we had realised, and encouraged to keep donating and perhaps even volunteering.

St Catherine's Hall looked very inviting for our coffee morning on 15th March, each table decorated with little vases of flowers by Mrs Valerie Vaughan. We were delighted to welcome our Diocesan President, Mrs Gail Eagles, and Mrs Joyce Kermeen who kindly brought MU cards to sell, and would like to thank everyone who helped us raise a total of just over £300.

Mrs Jane Gunn will lead our next meeting on 8th April in St Mary's Hall, when Mrs P Lewthwaite will speak on the topic "Family History". As always, guests will be very welcome. With very best wishes...

Pat Thomson

God in the Arts



The National Gallery at Trafalgar Square in London houses one of the finest collections of European paintings in the world, with some 2,300 works spanning the centuries. During this year we are journeying through the gallery to explore one of those treasures each month. By the Rev Michael Burgess.

The Mond Crucifixion – by Raphael

This month's painting in the National Gallery is known as the Mond Crucifixion. It has an interesting history, because Ludwig Mond, the German born scientist and industrialist, offered to lend the painting to the Gallery in 1892. The trustees for some reason declined the offer. Ludwig Mond was undeterred and at his death in 1909 he bequeathed to the Gallery

over 40 paintings. It was an amazingly generous gift, and included this Crucifixion by Raphael.

It belongs to the artist's early years and was painted when he was just 20, for a church altarpiece in Urbino in 1503. On Good Friday we hear those words from Lamentations, 'Is it nothing to you who pass by? – look and see.' We might look on the cross of Jesus and see a sign of agony and death. But here in the Mond Crucifixion, all seems serene and still. It is a far cry from the harshness and cruelty of the Gospel accounts. Look at the angels with their ribbons and feet resting on the clouds, the hands and feet of the four bystanders so delicately painted, and beyond, the softly lit Umbrian landscape with a river, trees and low hills stretching away into the distance.

It is as if Raphael has frozen this moment of death on his canvas to tell us that here is an enduring message of love and generosity for Mary, John, Mary Magdalene and Jerome gathered below. Our Lady and John look at us, inviting us to discover there the solemn beauty that moves their lives and that can move us.

In our worship on Good Friday we encounter this paradox of the cross – a sign of suffering and death, but a sign also of generosity. We can think of the generosity of Ludwig Mond, the generosity of Raphael sharing his gifts with us, but above all the generosity of our Prince of Glory. Here, in the words of Isaac Watts' hymn, we see how 'love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.'

Children's Page

Bible Bite

It can be read in the Bible in
Lk 22:1-13, Mt 26:14-19, Mk 14:10-16

A short story from the Bible

It was just before Passover, when Jews celebrate God rescuing them from Egypt. Jesus and his disciples were in Jerusalem...

The Chief Priests were plotting



How can we get rid of Jesus?
He always has crowds around him.

Jesus' disciple Judas came to them...



I could help you.

We'd be happy to pay you



How much?

30 silver coins



30 silver coins happened to be the same amount that had to be paid as compensation to the owner if a slave was killed Ex.31:32



I'll let you know when Jesus is alone.

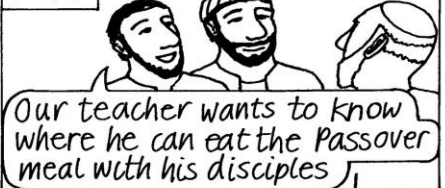
Meanwhile, Peter and John asked Jesus...



Where do you want us to prepare the Passover meal?

Go into the city and follow the man carrying a water jar to his home

They did, and asked the house owner



Our teacher wants to know where he can eat the Passover meal with his disciples

The room is upstairs on the roof, ready to use



Peter and John got the meal ready



That evening, Jesus and his 12 disciples went to the room to eat the Passover meal.



The Story Behind the Hymn



Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
 Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
 Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
 Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
 Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
 Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Were you there when they rolled the stone away?
 Were you there when they rolled the stone away?
 Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
 Were you there when they rolled the stone away?

Were you there when he rose up from the dead?
 Were you there when he rose up from the dead?
 Sometimes I feel like shouting 'Glory, glory, glory!'
 Were you there when he rose up from the dead?

This is an African-American spiritual—author known only to God. These spirituals were popular among American slaves quite early—how early we can't say. They started becoming known in the wider church (white congregations) after the Civil War, which ended in 1865.

The Fisk Jubilee Singers, African-American students from Fisk University, made a major contribution to the awareness of these spirituals when they went on a tour in 1871 to raise money. They performed to acclaim in the United States, England, and Europe—and made \$150,000 to support their college.

This song has captured the hearts of people for at least a century and a half. One reason is that it speaks clearly of the death and resurrection of our Lord—the central events of our faith. We often sing it (or hear it sung) whenever the preacher is preaching from a crucifixion or resurrection text—but it is always appropriate to bring the death and resurrection of Jesus to the forefront of the worshipping community.

Another reason for this song's popularity is the simplicity of the words. The phrases are short, and the words are common and easy to understand. They are words that we use in the context of our ordinary lives—but in this song they take on the character of a sacrament.

The song is intended to be sung slowly—thoughtfully—even mournfully, because it speaks of the Lord's suffering and death. However, the mood changes sharply in the last verse—the one that speaks of resurrection.

A choir performing this song could hardly restrain itself from shouting **GLORY, GLORY, GLORY** when singing that last verse.



Rushen Parish Prayer Diary

Dear Lord, we thank you for the seasons and the changing weather we experience in each one of them. We look forward to the warmer weather now that April is here, for the spring flowers and the changing countryside that you have created for us to enjoy. Help us to realise that without you none of these things would occur. Amen



April 2019

This is your invitation to pray day by day for:

- 1st The beauty of springtime and the new life that it brings to us all
- 2nd All those who attend the home groups that are arranged within the parish
- 3rd Gerry Callister for all his work as churchwarden, and his devotion to the parish
- 4th Engaged couples preparing to be married this year
- 5th The work of the Royal Lifeboat Institution in its aim to save lives of people in distress
- 6th The gift of love, given to us by God
- 7th Our sidespeople who work tirelessly for the parish
- 8th All the work carried out by those involved in the parish with the Mothers' Union
- 9th The Annual Parochial Church Meeting taking place at Kirk Christ this evening
- 10th Stephen Curtis for all the work he's doing as Treasurer to the PCC
- 11th The responsibility given to people who care for those who are terminally ill
- 12th The use of talents, given by God to us, as we pursue our daily lives
- 13th All people who are persecuted for their beliefs
- 14th Help for all those around the world who are hungry
- 15th Peace throughout the world
- 16th Those who intercede at all services within the parish
- 17th Children who have been orphaned and their hope for the future
- 18th The work of teachers and their assistants in our primary and secondary schools
- 19th Those who decorate our churches with floral displays
- 20th Those people in need of financial help in times of trouble
- 21st Queen Elizabeth, Lord of Man, and her 93rd birthday which is today
- 22nd Those elected into positions of responsibility on the Parochial Church Council
- 23rd St George, the Patron Saint of England, who is remembered today
- 24th Farmers and farm workers, preparing the land for profitable harvests
- 25th The Children's Society and the wonderful work that it does
- 26th The Prayer Group which meets on Friday mornings every week
- 27th Young sportsmen and women preparing to partake in sporting activities
- 28th Parishioners and others who give of their time to keep our churches clean
- 29th People who are moving to a new house either here on the island or across the water
- 30th The tourist industry and the preparations being made for the summer months

Services April 2019

3 rd April	11.15am 2pm	Southlands Holy Communion (CW) St Mary's Play & Praise
7 th April (Lent 5)	8am 9.30am 11am 11am 3.15pm	St Catherine's Holy Communion Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW) St Mary's Holy Communion(CW) St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW) St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
14 th April (Palm Sunday)	9.30am 11am 11am 3.15pm 6.30pm	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW) St Mary's All-Age Service (CW) St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW) St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP) Kirk Christ Alternative Service
21 st April (Easter Day)	5.45am 9.30am 11am 11am 3.15pm	Kirk Christ Dawn Service Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW) St Mary's Holy Communion (CW) St Catherine's All-Age + Holy Communion (CW) St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
28 th April (Easter 2)	9.30am 11am 11am 3.15pm	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW) St Mary's Morning Prayer (CW) St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW) St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
1 st May	11.15am 2pm	Southlands Holy Communion (CW) St Mary's Play & Praise
8 th May (Easter 3)	8am 9.30am 11am 11am 3.15pm	St Catherine's Holy Communion Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW) St Mary's Holy Communion(CW) St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW) St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)

(Dates and times of services correct at time of publication)

(CW) Common Worship (BCP) Book of Common Prayer

Contact Details for Rushen Parish

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Mrs Susan Maddrell, Athol Lodge, Fistard, Port St Mary. IM9 5PE 833151

Miss Margaret Moore, 51 Ballamaddrell. Port Erin. IM9 6AT 832399

St Mary's Hall Bookings:

Mr G Callister, 60 Ballamaddrell, Port Erin. IM9 6BA 474924/834627

St Catherine's Hall Bookings:

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

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Churchyard Enquiries:

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

April Sudoku Competition

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

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

If you would like to take part can I remind you that the competition closes on the last Friday of each month. This means that your entry must be with me on Friday 26th April. You can get it to me by posting it through my letter box, by post, or by giving it to one of the churchwardens. My address can be found overleaf. Do have a go. The puzzles are deliberately easy so that it gives everyone a chance of taking part. There's a £5 prize for the winner of each month's competition. Good luck! (*Editor*)