



Rushen Parish Magazine

January 2020

JESUS
LIGHT
OF THE
WORLD

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The Editor Writes...

My Dear Friends

For the first time in my life I am beginning to get worried about the environment, and how we are slowly beginning to destroy it. I could sit back and take the view that I am at the stage of my life when it is of no consequence, and leave it to others to sort it out. How selfish can I be? I know that others of my age take this view without considering those who will still be here when they are no longer alive.

Those of us who have grandchildren, or are looking forward to the day when they have them, have to consider them as being the future of humanity. They will inherit what we have left behind, and it is most concerning. I think back to when I was a boy living in Manchester when practically all adults, and dare I say it children, smoked cigarettes in vast quantities, worked in factories where thick black smoke belched out of chimneys, and every house used coal, or coke, to light fires in their homes to keep them warm. Whenever there was a fog the air quality became so bad that it changed to smog, a mixture of industrial waste from the chimneys, and the mist, and sometimes it stayed within the air we breathed for days. To compound matters the exhaust from vehicles added to the mix. Despite warnings from health authorities, and deaths too numerous to measure, little was done to make improvements.

We began to wear clothes made of man-made fibres such as nylon, crimplene, acrylic and polyester, all of which contained plastic in some form or another. Plastic was used for a variety of purposes and still is today. I doubt that any of us are plastic free, and yet we've been warned by the likes of David Attenborough, in his superb programmes which inform us of life on earth, that plastic is virtually indestructible, and still we use it, and products continue to be made from it. We throw it away, it ends up in our seas, animals ingest it and die, and in some cases suffer an indescribable death.

Are we ever going to learn, or will our grandchildren have to suffer because of our egotistical lifestyle? When God created the world and people began to inhabit it, I am sure that he expected them to be the custodians of it, to look after it, and to give him the satisfaction of the wonderful universe he created. I just hope that it is not too late, and that the future will be brighter for those we leave behind. As Christians we owe it to God to think about the future and to give Him a world that will stand the test of time.

David

“Torches”

A trusty torch on a dark night,
Proves to be a faithful light –
Revealing gutters and sharp bends
(these it's best to apprehend).
It shines on sticks and other mess,
Which can cause unpleasantness.
No need to pause or be afraid;
Step by step progress in made –
Confident the light will show,
The destined place I need to go.

The Bible gives essential light –
Life's torch on a stormy night;
Enfolding wisdom from above,
Telling of a Saviour's love.
Above the noise and clangour heard,
Grant us grace to heed 'the Word'.
Encouraged by the Spirit's might,
Help us choose what is right –
Search daily for the one true light,
As New Year merges into sight.

*“Your word is a lamp to my feet,
a light to my path”* Ps. 119; v105
(NRSV)

Margaret Couper

Old words, new meanings

In the 1990s a stream was a small river, the web was what spiders built in your shed, a net was something you used to catch things, the cloud brought rain, and tweeting was what birds did.

Not anymore. In recent years these words from the 'natural world' have been so overtaken by technology that now they are used more in technology than in their original, natural state.

For example, the word 'web' is now used only seven per cent with regard to nature, and the word 'cloud' is down to 77 per cent for nature. The research was commissioned by the National Trust, who are concerned that 'as a nation, we are losing our connection with nature.'

As one academic in the study explained: "Language represents what is important to a culture or society. Nature language being replaced or used less frequently suggests nature potentially becoming less important or being replaced by other things."

Dedicating the 'wild waves' of 2020 to God - a Pilgrim's Plea

Shall I abandon, O King of mysteries, the soft comforts of home? Shall I turn my back on my native land, and my face towards the sea?

Shall I put myself wholly at your mercy, without silver, without a horse, without fame and honour?

Shall I throw myself wholly on you, without sword and shield, without food and drink, without a bed to lie on?

Shall I say farewell to my beautiful land, placing myself under your yoke? Shall I pour out my heart to you, confessing my manifold sins and begging forgiveness, tears streaming down my cheeks?

Shall I leave the prints of my knees on the sandy beach, a record of my final prayer in my native land? Shall I then suffer every kind of wound that the sea can inflict?

Shall I take my tiny coracle across the wide sparkling ocean? O King of the glorious heaven, shall I go of my own choice upon the sea?

O Christ, will you help me on the wild waves?

Attributed to Brendan, an early Celtic saint



Ladies Working Party – St Mary's

We continue to have a very good number of ladies attending our Tuesday afternoon meetings eager to engage in activities to benefit the church and the community. Our recent LWP coffee morning has enabled us to disburse £979.52 to Rushen PCC, and in addition, from our funds, to donate £500 to the IOM charity "Monitors4kids" and also £100, plus food items, to the local Foodbank Christmas Appeal. Thank you everyone for your continued support.

We have witnessed on many occasions the power of prayer and this is always an important part of our weekly meetings. We were saddened by the death of both Brian Trustrum and Sheila Ashworth, to whose families we send our sincere condolences.

On Tuesday 10th December we met early at 1.30pm to decorate the church, an occasion we all enjoy, made even more festive this year with Lesley's mulled wine, and softly playing Christmas carols in the background. We were pleased that the vicar was able to join us, and we all enjoyed our meeting thereafter, with tea and Jan's mince pies, during which Joe gave us an update on plans for the church and hall. We would like to extend huge thanks to Peter Hayhurst for all his help throughout the year, and also to Gerry who is always willing to assist where required. We do appreciate you very much.

Our next meeting will be on January 7th, at 2.15pm in St Mary's Hall.

With very best wishes to everyone for a very happy New Year.

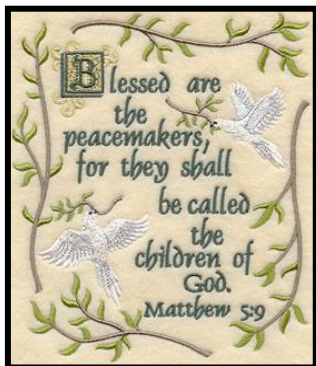
Pat Thomson

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2020

'Unusual kindness' is the unusual name for this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18th to 25th January). The materials for the week have been prepared by the Christian churches in Malta and Gozo (Christians Together in Malta).

'Unusual kindness' is found in the book of Acts. The phrase refers to the warm welcome that the people of Malta gave to Paul and his companions when they were shipwrecked on the island. In return, Paul shared the gospel with them, and thus founded the church in Malta. Something that the Christians in Malta thank God for!



The Beatitudes: 'Blessed are the peacemakers'

*Editor: **The Rev Paul Hardingham** continues his series on the Beatitudes. This is the sixth article in a series of eight.*

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.' (Matthew 5:9).

H.G. Wells wrote of Mr Polly, *'he was not so much a human being as a civil war.'* A lack of peace in our lives

reflects the lack of peace in our families, community and nation.

In this beatitude, Jesus calls us to be *peacemakers* by overcoming conflict and bringing unity to relationships. This is very different from being a *peace lover*! It calls for hard work, patience and a willingness to understand the disagreement. We also risk misunderstanding and rejection by those we're trying to help. This brings a much-needed perspective to the current Brexit debate!

What perspective does a follower of Jesus bring to peacemaking? Jesus says we will *'be called children of God'*, because we demonstrate the family likeness of the ultimate peacemaker. On the cross Jesus has enabled us to have peace with God (Romans 5:1) and broken down the walls of hostility between people (Ephesians 2:14). To be a peacemaker starts by recognising that God *'has reconciled us to Himself through Christ'* (2 Corinthians 5:8).

Our mission is to implore people to *'be reconciled to God.'* (2 Corinthians 5:20). This is the only true path to inner peace, as it is rooted in the reality of peace with God.

We are also called to bring peace between people, especially in the local church. It's easy to avoid doing anything because we want a peaceful life! It means confronting situations where relationships have broken down and bringing people together in unity of heart and mind. The role of peacemaking is never easy; it cost Jesus His life and will undoubtedly change us: *'reconciliation takes place when two opposing forces clash, and somebody gets crushed in between.'*

Have you ever wondered where the name 'Jesus' comes from?

The name Jesus is a transliteration of a name that occurs in several languages. It is of Hebrew origin, 'Yehosua', or Joshua. Or there is the Hebrew-Aramaic form, 'Yesua'. In Greek, it became 'Ἰησοῦς' (Iēsoûs), and in Latin it became 'Iesus'.

The meaning of the name is 'Yahweh delivers' or 'Yahweh rescues', or 'Yahweh is salvation'. No wonder the angel Gabriel in Luke 1:26-33 told Mary to name her baby Jesus: "because He will save His people from their sins".



News from St Mary's Junior Church

As we write this the New Year is a few weeks away so we would like to take this opportunity in wishing you all a very Happy New Year. However, what follows are the activities we pursued in the lead up to Christmas.

At the end of November, we had a very joyful yet thought-provoking all-age celebration of Christ the King. It was led by Rev. Liz Hull who explained the church year and its liturgical colours. She showed a beautiful liturgical calendar by means of a piece of string and the never-ending circle of God's time, where beginnings become endings and endings become new beginnings. The children wore splendid kings and queens outfits, which helped with our reflection on earthly kings and queens, e.g. their clothes, their wealth, their power and authority. The dramatic gospel reading centred around Jesus on the cross, the King of the Jews, and on the forgiveness he showed to the thief who asked for it in the last moments of his life. Many thanks to Hannah, Thomas, Lukas, Peter, Steven and Sam for bringing this reading to life for us. Accompanied by Lukas on the mandolin, and Hannah on the ukulele, the Junior Church enthusiastically led the congregation in the singing of "Jesus is our King," while waving flags and shakers. The final 'Learning Together' part of the service had a surprise in store: tasty chocolate crispy cakes for the children, but surprise crispy cakes with Marmite (!) for unsuspecting Peter and Sam! This illustrated that Jesus is a king full of surprises and very different from any other king; born in a stable instead of a palace, poor and humble, yet full of power to heal the sick and save the lost, and through his death and resurrection to become our Saviour and the King of our hearts. Many thanks to Lukas, Hannah, Cameron, Rebecca and Laura for leading the prayers.

During Advent, amongst other activities, the children have been busy colouring in advent wreaths with a candle for love, joy, peace and hope, waiting for the fifth candle 'Jesus, the light of the world' on Christmas Day. We have also read the Christmas story and coloured in wooden nativity characters to hang on our tree in the hall. Many of the children were able to attend the Parish Christingle service, which was enjoyed by all (thanks to Rebecca for helping to make the Christingles).

We all had a great time at our last meeting for this year - the Christmas party! After playing a variety of fun games, including 'pass the parcel' with questions about the Christmas story, which Margaret had very kindly prepared for us, we all enjoyed a delicious party lunch and Christmas cracker fun. We are now looking forward to the Parish Crib Service on Christmas Eve, where the children will be helping to act out the Christmas story as well as read some of the lessons.

After our well-deserved Christmas break, Junior Church will start again on the 5th January, ready to prepare for our next all-age service on the 12th.

Claudia König and Sam Bowman



News from St Catherine's & Kirk Christ



A very happy New Year to everyone! It doesn't seem twelve months since the last time I wrote these words. It make you wonder where 2019 went!

I am writing this article before the Christmas services have occurred so I cannot comment on how well they have been attended and how successful they have been. However, I am in a position to report on the Mothers' Union Advent Carol service at St Catherine's Church which was wonderful, the Advent meal held in St Catherine's Church Hall, which was enjoyed by all who attended, the Christingle service, also at St Catherine's Church, which seems to get better every year, and a Soup Inn which enables people in the community to spend a time of fellowship with others. Decorating the churches for Christmas has been good fun and a time of preparation for the wonderful season ahead.

Now I am looking forward to the remainder of our Christmas celebrations in our parish of Rushen, as I am sure that you are too: Carols, Candles and Cake at St Peter's Church, the Crib Service at St Mary's on Christmas Eve, two Carol Services, one at St Catherine's held by the Commissioners, and our own service at Kirk Christ on Sunday 22nd December. We have two other services at St Peter's and St Catherine's churches on Christmas Eve, and a joint service at Kirk Christ on Christmas Day. We do have a variety of services which cater for every person, young or old, in the parish. By the time you have read this you might have been to at least one of them. I hope you enjoyed it!

All that remains for me to do is to wish you all a very Happy New Year, and I look forward to working with you all in 2020!

Gerry Callister

The naming of Jesus

It is Matthew and Luke who tell the story of how the angel instructed that Mary's baby was to be named Jesus - a common name meaning 'saviour'. The Church recalls the naming of Jesus on 1 January - eight days after 25 December (by the Jewish way of reckoning days). For in Jewish tradition, the male babies were circumcised and named on their eighth day of life.

For early Christians, the name of Jesus held a special significance. In Jewish tradition, names expressed aspects of personality. Jesus' name permeated His ministry, and it does so today: we are baptised in the name of Jesus (Acts 2:38), we are justified through the name of Jesus (1 Cor 6:11); and God the Father has given Jesus a name above all others (Phil 2:9). All Christian prayer is through 'Jesus Christ our Lord', and it is 'at the name of Jesus' that one day every knee shall bow.

January 2020 Sudoku

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

*This is for your enjoyment and is not a competition.
Solution in February's magazine.*

The Turning of the Year

*Day turns to night
Without much bother
The midnight chimes
Like any other;
But on this night
We sing and cheer,
And wish ourselves
"Happy New Year!"*

*And it is right
To mark the chimes
Looking back
To former times;
And making plans
With near and dear
And praying for
A good New Year.*

Nigel Beeton

December's Sudoku Solutions

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

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

*The winner of November's
competition was Graham McFarlane*

December's Crossword Solution

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

Collecting

An employee asked her boss if he would advance her a few pounds of next month's wages, and gave the reason as follows: "You see our minister at church is leaving, and we are collecting money so that we can give him a little 'momentum'."

Answers to News Quiz

(From December's Magazine)

1. *A Gillet jaune is the yellow reflective vest French drivers have to carry by law in their cars. It became associated with protest.*
2. *Chouquette is a cat, a very rich cat.*
3. *It landed in Edinburgh by mistake.*
4. *He was a comedian.*
5. *The Hunchback of Notre-Dame by Victor Hugo*
6. *Love of ferns.*
7. *Eiffel Tower in Paris.*
8. *Penny Mordaunt was named after the Arethusa-class cruiser HMS Penelope.*
9. *Canada. The loonie is the type of bird featured on the dollar coin. Toonie refers to the two-dollar coin.*
10. *The Thin Red Line refers to an episode in the Battle of Balaklava during the Crimean War. Around 500 men of the 93rd (Sutherland Highlanders), aided by a small force of 100 walking wounded, 40 detached Guardsmen, and supported by a substantial force of Turkish infantrymen, led by Sir Colin Campbell, fired at the Russian cavalry.*
11. *Coffee*
12. *Lots of butterflies.*
13. *Beards.*
14. *Seagulls. (Please do not try this at home. It probably does not work!)*
15. *HRH Prince Charles*
16. *Greenland. It was not for sale.*
17. *They are butterflies. You might find them in a churchyard.*
18. *Beef*

I hope you enjoyed solving this (Editor)

World Leprosy Sunday - 26th January

World Leprosy Day aims to raise awareness and knowledge of this horrific disease. The good news is that nowadays, it can in fact be cured, and so it is vital to change attitudes that stigmatise the people affected.

Many churches and groups across the country will hold their own local Leprosy Sunday sometime between 26 January and 26 April 2020. They will look back to the gospel of Matthew, when just after delivering the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus was approached by a man with leprosy. The leper knelt before Him and pleaded for help.

Matthew tells us: 'Jesus reached out His hand and touched the man. "I am willing," Jesus said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy.' (Matthew 8:3).



And you in 2020

I cannot pray **'our'** if I am not in communion with fellow Christians.

I cannot pray **'Father'** if I do not treat Him as such, on a daily basis.

I cannot pray **'Who are in Heaven'** if all my interests are on earthly things.

I cannot pray **'hallowed by thy name'** if I am not striving, with God's help, to be holy myself.

I cannot pray **'Thy Kingdom come'** if I don't live as if I am within His kingdom now.

I cannot pray **'Thy Will be Done'** if I am disobedient to His commands.

I cannot pray **'on earth as it is in Heaven'** unless I am truly ready to give my life to God's service here and now.

I cannot pray **'give us this day our daily bread'** if I am not also willing to work for it, and to share with my neighbour in need.

I cannot pray **'forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us'** if I harbour a grudge against anyone.

I cannot pray **'lead us not into temptation'** if I deliberately remain somewhere where I am likely to be tempted.

I cannot pray **'Thine is the Kingdom'** if I live as if the world is my kingdom.

I cannot pray **'Thine is the power and the glory'** if I am seeking power for myself and my own glory.

I cannot pray **'forever and ever'** if all my attention is on daily affairs.

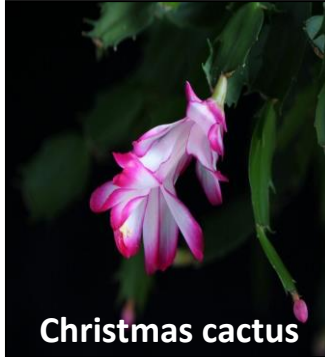
I cannot pray **'Amen'**, unless I honestly say, 'Cost what it may, this is my prayer.'

An emergency guide to caring for your festive growing gifts!

**By Perfectplants.co.uk: an on-line shop offering delivery to your door:
garden plants, house plants, gifts and accessories. Tel: 01323 833479.**



Amaryllis



Christmas cactus



Poinsettia

How many plants were you gifted during the festive season? Christmas festivities will already be feeling distant as we flow with the continuous march of time into the easier-on-the-tongue year of 2020. Happy new year! And have you managed to kill your plant presents yet?

Here's an emergency guide to festive flower care that might help to win you a few Brownie points from the person who gave you the plant:

Poinsettia

Originating from Mexico, there will be more than 8 million plants residing in UK homes in January. *Euphorbia pulcherrima* is certainly appealing, with the red bracts blending perfectly with seasonal cheer. The good news is that they are not difficult to look after.

- Avoid draughts, including wafting air around radiators and opening doors.
- Keep the compost slightly moist and don't allow it to dry out completely.
- Don't overwater your plant. The biggest cause of death to house plants is overwatering. The compost should only be very slightly moist and the roots should never sit in water.
- Inspect the foliage regularly. If the leaves start to turn yellow, it's not enjoying its conditions. Try watering less (or more) and maybe try a different position indoors.
- Place in medium light and avoid direct sunlight.
- Want to keep your plant going until next Christmas? You can! You need to prune the plant quite hard around April. Keep the plant in a constant temperature of around 13 degrees C, giving it medium amount of light during the spring. You can replot it in May, then place in a lighter, warm spot during the summer. Around

November, the plant will need to be forced. Give it 12 hours of bright daylight, then 12 hours of darkness. This will encourage the new tiny flowers, surrounded by those desirable red (or white/pink) bracts.

Christmas cactus

Beautiful *Schlumbergera* have the most amazing flowers around Christmas time, hence the seasonal name.

- These are succulent plants which like to see some light. Don't choose a dark corner!
- They are so easy to look after, provided you don't over water them.
- The compost needs to be free-draining and fairly 'poor'. They don't need high levels of fertilizer.
- Just give them a little regular water (rainwater is always best).
- Allow them to rest when flowering has finished. This means that you can give them less water and place in a medium to lower light position.
- Before flowering next winter, give them a little, but regular, weak fertiliser and move them to a more prominent position.
- Never allow them to freeze!

Amaryllis

You might have been the recipient of an Amaryllis growing kit, and maybe you haven't got around to planting it yet? Many of these rather amazing bulbs originate from South Africa and it stands to reason that they like the light!

- Plant up the bulb in a good, heavy pot. Or place the plastic pot into a heavier cover.
- Plant as deeply as possible within the pot provided.
- Give your bulb a short stake so that you can anchor it firmly once it starts to emerge.
- Place in a bright position.
- If you grow your bulb in a darker spot, the flower stalk will grow very tall, trying to seek out the maximum light. Then it is likely to look rather top-heavy.
- Water regularly, but never allow the bulb to sit in soggy compost.
- Keep your flower and bulb away from children and pets – these are toxic.
- Once the flower has faded, cut the stalk very low, maybe about 3cm above the compost.
- You can encourage your bulb to flower again next year.
- Water and feed the bulb regularly.
- Allow the plant to produce fresh leaves. They will help feed the bulb.
- Reduce watering in summer, then withhold water and allow the foliage to die back as the compost dries out completely.
- Store the bulb in a cool, dry and dark place for about two months or so.
- The bulb is then ready for repotting for another winter show!

All in the month of January



200 years ago, on 27th and 30th Jan 1820, Antarctica was discovered. A Russian expedition sighted the Fimbul Ice Shelf, but not land. Three days later a captain in the British Royal Navy sighted the Trinity Peninsula.

175 years ago, on 29th Jan 1845, Edgar Allen Poe's poem *The Raven* was first published, in the *New York Evening Mirror*.

125 years ago, on 12th Jan 1895, the National Trust was founded (as the National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty).

100 years ago, on 16th Jan 1920, Prohibition began in the USA, as the 18th Amendment went into effect.

80 years ago, on 8th Jan 1940, food rationing began in Britain (bacon, butter and sugar).

75 years ago, on 2nd Jan 1945, the British RAF and US Army Air Force bombed the city of Nuremburg, destroying 90% of its medieval centre within one hour. **Also 75 years ago, on 16th Jan 1945**, Adolf Hitler took up residence in the Führerbunker, a subterranean bunker complex in the garden of the Reich Chancellery in Berlin. It became the headquarters of the Nazi regime until Hitler committed suicide there in April. **Also 75 years ago, on 26th – 27th Jan 1945**, the Soviet Red Army liberated Auschwitz concentration camp in southern Poland. It was the largest Nazi concentration camp, and at least 1.1 million prisoners died there.

70 years ago, on 23rd Jan 1950, the Israeli Knesset declared Jerusalem the capital of Israel. Also 70 years ago, on 26th Jan 1950, India became an independent republic. President Rajendra Prasad replaced King George VI as head of state. This day is now marked as Republic Day in India.

65 years ago, on 25th Jan 1955, the world's first atomic clock was unveiled by scientists at the National Physical Laboratory in the UK. It measured time by counting the vibrations of cesium-133 atoms. It was accurate to one second every 300 years.

50 years ago, on 11th Jan 1970, Richmal Crompton, best known for her *Just William* stories, died. Also 50 years ago, on 22nd Jan 1970, the Boeing 747 'Jumbo Jet' went into service on its first regularly scheduled commercial flight, from New York to London. **Also 50 years ago, on 26th Jan 1970**, the album *Bridge Over Troubled Water* by Simon and Garfunkel was released.

30 years ago, on 31st Jan 1990, Russia's first McDonald's fast-food restaurant opened in Moscow. It is said that 30,000 hamburgers were sold the first morning.

25 years ago, on 3rd Jan 1995, the World Health Organisation reported that the cumulative total of reported AIDS cases had passed the one million mark, with cases reported in 192

cont'd.....

countries. With unreported cases included, the total was estimated to be approximately 4.5 million.

20 years ago, on 1st Jan 2000, the calendar switched over to the year 2000, with no major computer problems from the so-called Y2K 'Millennium Bug'. **Also 20 years ago, on 31st Jan 2000**, British family doctor Harold Shipman was jailed for life for murdering 15 of his patients. He is thought to have killed at least 215 patients, making him Britain's worst-ever serial killer.

10 years ago, on 4th Jan 2010 the Burj Khalifa in Dubai opened. It is the world's tallest structure, at 2,722 feet (829.8 metres). **Also 10 years ago, on 12th Jan 2010**, the Haiti earthquake killed at least 100,000 people, and devastated the capital, Port-au-Prince.



Bridge Over Troubled Water

The album *Bridge Over Troubled Water* by Simon and Garfunkel was released 50 years ago, on 26th January 1970. It topped the charts in ten countries and sold 25 million records. It was their fifth and final studio album.

The song itself, one of their most widely known, was influenced by gospel music, especially the Swan Silvertones' version of *Mary Don't You Weep*, which includes the line "I'll be your bridge over deep water, if you trust in my name" – a debt acknowledged by Simon.

Art Garfunkel initially refused to sing lead on the song, but was eventually persuaded, with Paul Simon transposing the key to suit him. Simon wanted a gospel piano sound, and so hired session musician Larry Knechtel. The song was initially two verses long, but he thought it was too short and asked Knechtel to play a third verse, to which he wrote more lyrics.

Despite the many accolades that followed, the duo split up later in 1970, with Garfunkel concentrating on his film career.

Simon and Garfunkel are both Jewish, and many of the later songs written by Simon have Christian overtones – this stunning song is no exception.

Tim Lenton

Quick

A young husband was in big trouble when he forgot his wedding anniversary. His wife told him, "Tomorrow there better be something in the driveway for me that goes from zero to 200 in two seconds flat". The next morning the wife found a small package in the driveway. She opened it and found brand-new bathroom scales.

From the Registers

Funerals (November 2019)

Wednesday 13th November

Brenda Nickless

Kirk Christ @ 11.30am

Monday 18th November

Ralph Cregeen

Kirk Christ @ 1.30pm

I'll sing to that...

There was a church where the new minister and the organist were not getting along. As time went by this began to spill over into the worship service. One week the minister preached on commitment and how we all should dedicate ourselves to the service of God. The organist played: 'We Shall not be Moved'. The next week the minister preached on tithing and how we all should gladly give to the work of the Lord. The organist responded with: 'Jesus Paid it All'. The third week the minister preached on gossiping and how we should all watch our tongues. The organist played all verses of: 'I Love to Tell the Story'. By now the minister had become very discouraged with the situation, and the following Sunday told his congregation that he was considering resigning. The organist closed the service with: 'O Why Not Tonight?' As it came to pass, the minister did indeed resign. The following Sunday he informed the church that it was Jesus who had led him there and it was Jesus who was taking him away. The organist then outdid himself with: 'What a Friend We Have in Jesus.'

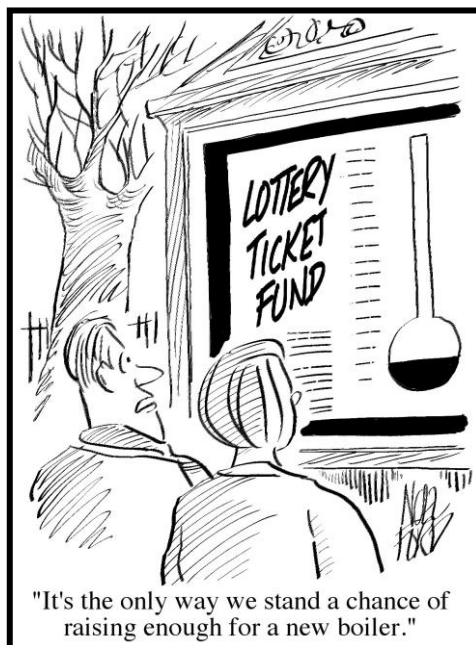
Safeguarding

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

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

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

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





Rushen Mothers' Union

We had a lovely evening on 3rd December when we welcomed members from throughout the island, friends and guests, including Lady Gozney, to the Mothers' Union Diocesan Advent Carol Service, held in St Catherine's Church. We all enjoyed the service and our thanks go to the officiants: Father Ben Bradshaw, the Rev'd Canon Joe Heaton, the organist Mr John Binns, and to our speakers Karen Peers and Danielle Wilkinson from our Mothers' Union charity this year which is, "monitors4kids", for which donation envelopes were collected.

The fellowship afterwards was special, and the cake's table was laden with delicious food for all to share. Thank you to all who helped make this such a memorable evening.

The branch Christmas Party was held on 9th December in St Mary's Hall. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed hearing the Christmas readings which members had brought with them, singing carols together, ably accompanied by Mrs Valerie Vaughan, and afterwards consuming the delicious assortment of food brought by members.

The next branch meeting will be on Monday 13th January at 2pm in St Catherine's Church Hall when the speaker, Mr Brendon O'Friel, will talk on the theme of "The Effects of Prison on Families". Guests will be very welcome.

We would like to send everyone our love and very best wishes for a blessed New Year.

Pat Thomson

Holocaust Memorial Day – 75 years since Auschwitz

This year Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) marks 75 years since the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. It also marks the 25th anniversary of the Genocide in Bosnia.

Both dates are worth remembering. And it is also a time to thank God for all the various people who did whatever they could at the time to defend the innocent. Sir Nicholas Winton, who rescued 669 children from Nazi-occupied Europe explained it this way: 'Don't be content in your life just to do no wrong, be prepared every day to try and do some good.'

The HMD theme for 2020 is: 'Stand Together'. As HMD explains: 'Genocidal regimes throughout history have deliberately fractured societies by marginalising certain groups. Now more than ever, we need to stand together with others in our communities in order to stop division and the spread of hatred in our society.'

God in the Arts

*Editor: **The Rev Michael Burgess** begins a series on animals and birds as seen in art and scripture... this will run throughout 2020.*

‘He gave us eyes to see them’: ‘The Peaceable Kingdom’ by Edward Hicks



St Francis' Canticle of the Sun invites all creatures to praise God the Creator. But we live in a world of climate change and global warming. A thousand species are at risk of extinction in the United Kingdom alone. The richness of creation St Francis knew in his day is no longer. We need to heed the urgent call to care for the biodiversity of our planet and its richness in plant and animal life. This year we shall

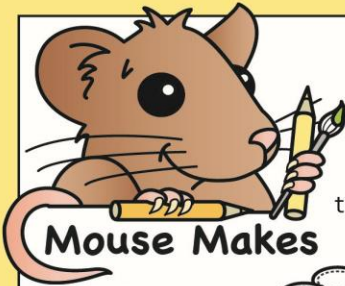
be looking at animals and birds - their grace and strength, their beauty and wonder - as reflected in art and scripture, and so learn to value the glory of Creation all around us.

Isaiah in chapter 11 had a vision of a special child who would bring paradise to the earth once more. He spoke of a world where the wolf would lie down with the lamb, and the leopard with the kid. It is the theme of 'The Peaceable Kingdom' by the American Quaker artist, Edward Hicks. This subject occupied all his artistic talent for he painted almost a hundred versions. Sixty still exist and this one is from 1834.

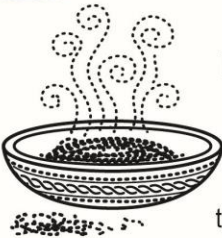
The foreground is occupied by not just one child, but several. They are innocent and free, playing with the animals around - lion, tiger, leopard, bear, wolf, cow and lamb. There is no sign of 'nature red in tooth and claw' here. All is peace and tranquillity. The bear and cow nudge each other in the bottom corner with no fear. That peaceful co-existence is echoed in the distance with William Penn and other Quakers working on a treaty with the Indians. The animals in the foreground symbolise the human traits we see at work in the background: leadership and power, sensitivity and gentleness.

Edward Hicks as he worked on later versions knew that this peace was not a straightforward achievement. Selfishness, pride and greed got in the way. But the vision remained. Follow the inner light of God's grace, he is saying in his art, and that harmony can be achieved. Cherish the world around and give thanks for its rich variety and colour. Then we can follow Edward Hicks and St Francis in caring for 'all creatures great and small.'

Children's Page



Mouse Makes



FRANKINCENSE

A sweet smelling incense used in the Temple to worship God. Reminds us that **Jesus is God**.

EPIPHANY is the time in the Church year that we remember when the 'wise men' or 'Magi' followed a star that led them to the Christ child Jesus. They bowed down and worshiped him and left *three* special gifts:

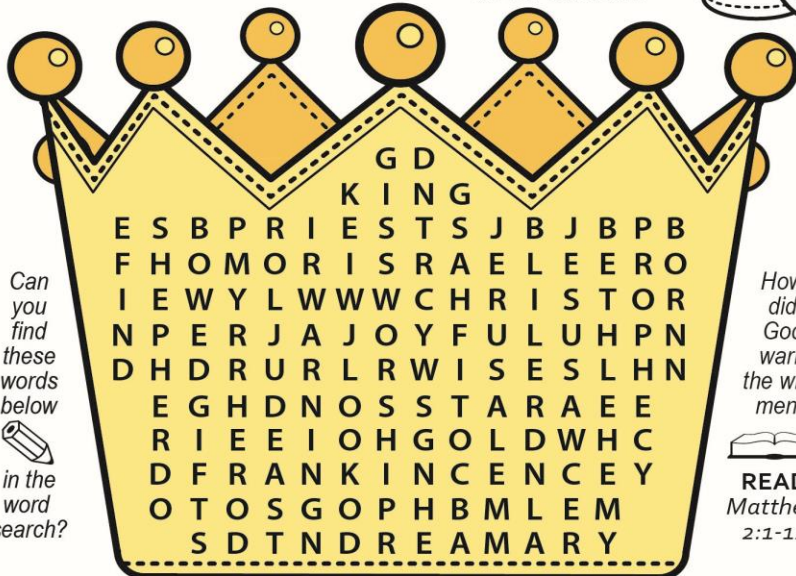


GOLD

A valuable metal. Reminds us that Jesus is **King of Kings**.

MYRRH

A fragrant spice put on a body before burial. Reminds us that Jesus was to die so that he could be our **Saviour**.



Can you find these words below



in the word search?

How did God warn the wise men?



READ
Matthew
2:1-12

JESUS • BORN • BETHLEHEM • JUDEA • WISE • EAST • JERUSALEM • KING
STAR • WORSHIP • HEROD • PRIESTS • CHRIST • PROPHECY • SHEPHERD
ISRAEL • GO • FIND • LOOK • SAW • JOYFUL • MARY • BOWED • GIFTS
GOLD • FRANKINCENSE • MYRRH • WARNING • DREAM

The Story Behind the Hymn



There is a Redeemer

There is a Redeemer,
Jesus, God's own Son,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Holy One

*Thank you, O my Father,
for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit
till the work on earth is done.*

Jesus, my Redeemer,
name above all names,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
O for sinners slain.

*Thank you, O my Father,
for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit
till the work on earth is done.*

When I stand in glory,
I will see his face,
and there I'll serve my King forever,
in that holy place.

*Thank you, O my Father,
for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit
till the work on earth is done.*

There is a Redeemer was written by Melody Green in 1977. Melody had grown up in the Jewish faith of her forefathers, who survived persecution in tsarist Russia.

Today Melody says, "My family history has played a large part in shaping my heart to absolutely disdain all types of persecution, prejudice, and injustice. Some things are just wrong. My spirit told me this long before I even met the Lord." Growing up in Hollywood, she spent much time on the beach and saw the glory of God in the shifting sand, moving waves and glorious sunsets. By her 20s, she was seeking something more and experimented with Buddhism and drugs in her search for fulfilment.

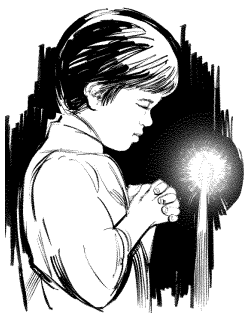
She met Keith Green while working as a clothing designer in 1972 and they drifted together seeking answers, before finally coming to Christ in 1975, during a bible study. The couple then began an outreach to unwed teenage mothers, the drug cultures and others seeking. This ministry is called Last Days Ministry {LDM}. In 1979, they relocated to East Texas. She continued to travel with Keith for his concerts and to write music together.

These words inspired her to pen the words to *There is a Redeemer*. Her husband, Keith, wrote the third verse, unaware of the tragic end he would soon suffer. The praise and worship song was popularised by her husband, the well-known gospel singer, Keith Green. The song first appeared on his 1982 album, *'Songs for the Shepherd'*, which was the last album he released before his tragic death in a plane crash on July 28, 1982 at the age of twenty-eight. Two of his children, Josiah, 4, and Bethany, 2, were also with him and perished. Melody Green was left with a one year old and expecting their fourth child at the time of the tragic accident.

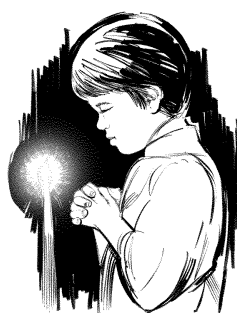
The song has been published in more than twenty hymnals and is considered a classic.

Melody Green still continues to run their ministry and carry out Christ to others through her ministry LDM.

Rushen Parish Prayer Diary



Dear Father, as we stand together on the threshold of a new year, we ask that you watch over us in the year ahead; guide us when we falter; and re-direct us when we lose our way. But above all, pour down on the whole world Your Love and Peace, so that all may know that you are our Father, and Lord of all. Amen



January 2020

This is your invitation to pray day by day for:

- 1st A happy and peaceful year ahead
- 2nd Preparations being made for the return to work and school
- 3rd The work of the Royal Lifeboat Institution
- 4th People in residential care homes across the island
- 5th People awaiting treatment in our hospital
- 6th Wildlife throughout the island as it seeks food and shelter during the winter
- 7th Those who enjoy watching and/or partaking in sporting activities
- 8th Travellers having to drive on sometime treacherous roads during the wintertime
- 9th Workers for charitable organisations and the money they raise for good causes
- 10th People who live in isolation with little contact with the outside world
- 11th Noble's Hospital and the doctors and nurses dedicated to making people well
- 12th All people who are expected to work outside in adverse weather conditions
- 13th The Mothers' Union meeting in St Catherine's Church Hall this afternoon at 2pm.
- 14th The Ladies Working Party and its charitable work in the parish
- 15th People who are suffering financial hardship after the Christmas season
- 16th People mourning the loss of loved ones
- 17th New mothers and fathers looking after their children
- 18th The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 'Justice' which commences today
- 19th Messy Church and its continued success in bringing Jesus into people's lives
- 20th Music and the part it plays in everyone's life whether it is modern or classical
- 21st The PCC meeting taking place at 7.00pm in St Catherine's Church Hall this evening
- 22nd The beauty of this wonderful island on which we live
- 23rd All the Home Groups which meet each week throughout the parish
- 24th The Diocese of Sodor and Man and the work undertaken by all employees
- 25th The Headteacher and staff of Rushen Primary School
- 26th Those who entertain whether on the stage or on television
- 27th The Headteacher and staff of Scoill-Phurt-le-Moirrey
- 28th Those parishioners who read the lessons or intercede at services in the parish
- 29th The work of aid organisations at home and overseas
- 30th Ourselves and our quest to serve God in as many ways possible
- 31st Everybody who has celebrated a birthday in January

Services January 2020

5 th January (Epiphany)	8am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion(CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
12 th January (Epiphany 2)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's All Age Service (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
19 th January (Epiphany 3)	8am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's All-Age Service + Baptism (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
26 th January (Epiphany 4)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
2 nd February (Presentation of Jesus)	8am	<i>St Catherine's Holy Communion (BCP)</i>
	9.30am	<i>Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)</i>
	11am	<i>St Mary's Holy Communion(CW)</i>
	11am	<i>St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)</i>
	3.15pm	<i>St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)</i>
5 th February	11.15am	Southlands Holy Communion (CW)
	2pm	St Mary's Play & Praise
9 th February	9.30am	<i>Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)</i>
	11am	<i>St Mary's All Age Service (CW)</i>
	11am	<i>St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)</i>
	3.15pm	<i>St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)</i>

(CW) Common Worship

(BCP)

Book of Common Prayer

(Services in italics not confirmed, others correct when magazine published)

Contact Details for Rushen Parish

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St Mary's Ladies Working Party

Mrs Susan Maddrell, Athol Lodge, Fistard, Port St Mary 833151

St Mary's Hall Bookings:

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

St Catherine's Hall Bookings:

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

Web Site/E-mail:

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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.

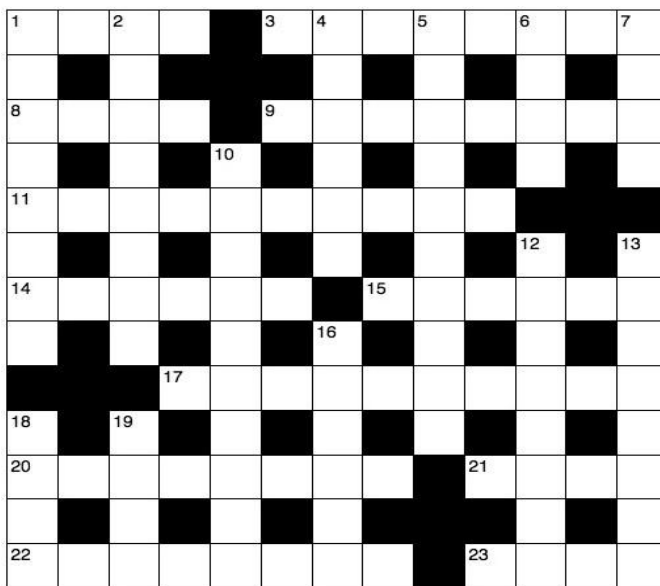
Parish Director of Music:

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

January 2020 Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1** 'Again Peter denied it, and at that moment a — began to crow' (John 18:27) (4)
- 3** Fetters (Job 33:11) (8)
- 8** Perform on a musical instrument (1 Samuel 16:23) (4)
- 9** Paul describes it as 'the third heaven' (2 Corinthians 12:2–4) (8)
- 11** Loyally (Deuteronomy 11:13) (10)
- 14** Hens? Me? (anag.) (6)
- 15** Not visible (Matthew 6:6) (6)
- 17** Predicted site of the final great battle (Revelation 16:16) (10)
- 20** Jacob's youngest son (Genesis 35:18) (8)
- 21** One of Zophar's eleven sons (1 Chronicles 7:36) (4)
- 22** For example, London, Paris, Rome (8)
- 23** United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (1,1,1,1,1)

Down

- 1** Favourite church activity: Fellowship round a — — — (3,2,3)
- 2** Divinely bestowed powers or talents (8)
- 4** Pile together (1 Thessalonians 2:16) (4,2)
- 5** Commanded to justify (John 8:13) (10)
- 6** Timothy's grandmother (2 Timothy 1:5) (4)
- 7** Killed (Psalm 78:34) (4)
- 10** One of Graham Kendrick's best-known songs, — — King (3,7)
- 12** Indecency (Mark 7:22) (8)
- 13** Unceasing (Jeremiah 15:18) (8)
- 16** He prophesied 'the abomination that causes desolation' (Matthew 24:15) (6)
- 18** British Board of Film Classification (1,1,1,1,1)
- 19** Pans (anag.) (4)