

# Rushen Parish Magazine

February 2020

Love comes from God



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## *A Letter from Liz*



As we enter February we still have another month of cold weather to expect as winter is still with us. And that can feel like an ordeal for many who don't like the dark nights and the cold, particularly for those struggling perhaps to keep their homes warm. It's worth remembering for those who are able to get out that there is a walking group, Rushen Roamers, that meets regularly on a Wednesday morning at St Catherine's church hall at 10am and anyone is welcome to join us for a potter out around the Parish for an hour before sitting down to a hot drink and a piece of cake. Or if that is too demanding we also have a regular Soup Inn on the first Thursday of every month meeting at 12 noon also in St Catherine's Hall to enjoy meeting other people and sharing some warm food together.

For those who are not well and are not able to join us in church anymore we can come and visit you at home and offer some Home Communion for those who would like it.

Or if you are a lively family then you may wish to come and join our monthly Messy Church that meets in St Catherine's Hall on the third Saturday of the month at 3.30 pm for a couple of hours where craft and games illustrate a Christian theme and then we all share together in a meal afterwards. Or if you have a toddler then you may want to pop into St Mary's Church in Port St Mary on the first Wednesday of each month at 2pm for Play and Praise. And if you are a resident in Southlands we visit once a month on the first Wednesday of the month at 11.15 to hold a short Communion service for any resident that would like to join us.

Please also know that you are most welcome to come and join us at any of the services held in the four churches within Rushen Parish - with a time and style to suit a mix of visitors. And if you want to see when things are coming up then follow Rushen Parish on Facebook and stay up to date with our events.

Let's look out for signs of Spring together as we look forward to the Spring Equinox next month and warmer weather and longer days.

God bless you and looking forward to seeing you if you are able to join us this month.

**Rev. Liz Hull**

## A Mission of Love

In a settlement remote,  
Leprosy is rife –  
Causing untold strife.  
Deformity is the norm –  
This disease holds sway.  
Hands and feet become lifeless,  
Suffering from decay.

The lepers help each other,  
In ways they think best –  
A difficult quest.  
Cure, there is available,  
With treatment for free.  
Mobility's a problem –  
Getting from A to B - - -

Unexpectedly, she came,  
In the Mission's van –  
Her name was Rhodes – Pam.  
Hands were held and questions  
asked,  
There were tales of woe.  
Consequently, some lepers,  
To the hospital go.

The clinic was a solace;  
Organised and neat –  
And healing complete.

Presently, harsh prejudice  
Publicly persist –  
How encouraging to know,  
Such charity exists.

*Matt. 25 v 40 G.N.B.*

*"I tell you, whenever you did this  
for one of the least important - - -  
you did it for me."*

**Margaret Couper**

## St Valentine's Day: a poem

Saint Valentine's Day, many believe, was named after one or more Christian martyrs and was established by Pope Gelasius 1 in 496 AD. Valentine of Rome was martyred about 269, and this day usually 'belongs' to him.

The first recorded association of Valentine Day with romantic love (1382) is from Geoffrey Chaucer. He wrote, 'For this was Saint Valentine's Day, when every bird cometh there to choose his mate.' This poem was in honour of the first anniversary of the engagement of King Richard II of England to Anne of Bohemia. Valentine Day is referred to by Ophelia in Hamlet (1600-1601).

To-morrow is St Valentine's day  
All in the morning betime  
And I a maid at your window  
To be your Valentine.

The modern mention of Valentine's Day can be found in a collection of English nursery rhymes (1784):

The rose is red, the violet's blue  
The honey's sweet, and so are you.  
Thou are my love and I am thine  
I drew thee to my Valentine.





## Ladies Working Party – St Mary's

On 7<sup>th</sup> January, the ladies resumed their Tuesday afternoon meetings after the Christmas and New Year break, and enjoyed the usual warm friendship and fellowship around the table. We do like to catch up with everyone's news and the conversation is never dull! New members are always welcome.

After the reading, prayers and health updates, we discussed our forthcoming lunch, (see below), and transport arrangements were made. We were delighted to find that Peter had removed all the church decorations for us and extend our grateful thanks to him. Lesley issued the latest copy of our accounts, and also read out a letter from Judy Mathews of the Foodbank Southern Hub thanking us for our cheque for £100.

Despite high winds, heavy rain and road works, we managed to gather for a lovely lunch on 14<sup>th</sup> January, at Douglas Golf Pavilion. Sue Bould had very kindly made our booking, and both the lunch and company were excellent. We were very pleased that Joe, Liz, Peter and Gerry were able to join us as guests.

We are looking forward to a visit from Paul Moores from the Leprosy Mission on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 2pm. We may have to relocate to St Catherine's for this open meeting, depending on building works, an update on which we shall hear at the congregational meeting on Jan 19th. More information to follow.

With love and very best wishes from us all in the Ladies Working Party.

**Pat Thomson**

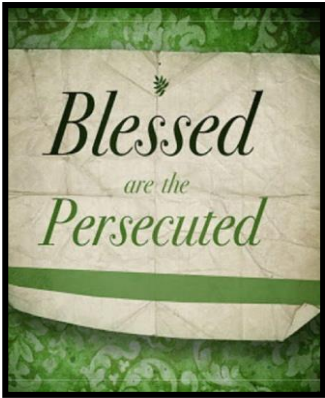
### ***St Mary's Churchyard***

*I am sure that many of you will know how beautiful the churchyard at St Mary's Church is looking these days. Eddie Perkins, Inger's husband, has been looking after it for over a year now and it looks beautiful. He mows the grass, ensures that the borders are tidy and full of seasonal flowers. It is a credit to him.*

*He has recently converted the rear of the churchyard from being an untidy, uncared for, and overgrown area, into a beautiful flowerbed surrounded at the front by a gravel pathway. The flowerbed itself is bare at the moment and needs to be planted. It may be possible that those of you who are gardeners will soon be preparing their own gardens for the spring and summer ahead. If you have any plants that you are removing, which could be used in Eddie's flowerbed, could you let me know so that he can use them and create yet another lovely area in a churchyard displaying the wonder of God's creation.*

***Editor***





## The Beatitudes: 'Blessed are the Persecuted'

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

**'Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'** (Matthew 5:10).

Somebody once described a Christian as one who is '*completely fearless, continually cheerful and constantly in trouble.*' Living the life that Jesus presents in the Beatitudes will not necessarily make us universally popular. We must be prepared for opposition, insults and ridicule or even worse. Of course, persecution is the daily experience for Christians in many parts of our world today.

Jesus didn't tell us to seek persecution, but He did say that when it comes, we should regard it as a blessing:

**Firstly, because we are identifying with Jesus:** If we identify as fully as we can with Jesus, then we will experience suffering like Him. It is '*because of me*' (v11) we are opposed or criticised.

**Secondly, it shows our faith is genuine:** To suffer for our faith is typical of God people, '*for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*' (v12).

**Thirdly, because of our reward in heaven:** we will not lose out in the future, as Jesus reminds us that '*great is your reward in heaven*' (v12).

To what extent do we suffer for being a Christian at work, with our friends or family? Although we don't seek it, Jesus describes suffering as authentic Christian experience.

We might like to ask these questions as we reflect on this:

How many people with whom we have contact know that we are a Christian?

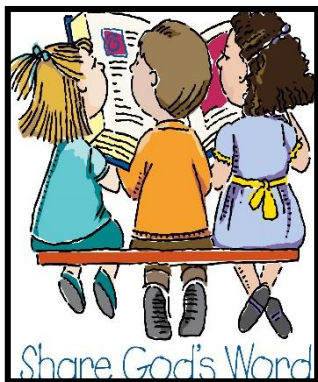
How far are we helping to give them a true picture of what Christianity is about?

How far do we demonstrate the presence of Jesus in our daily lives?

*If we were arrested for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict us?*

### Love in a bag

*I asked my nephew whether he bought his wife anything for Valentine's Day, and he said he had bought her a belt and a bag. When I commented that I am sure she would appreciate them, he agreed: "Yes, and hopefully the vacuum cleaner will work better now."*



## News from St Mary's Junior Church

After our well-deserved Christmas holiday break, we started the new year by celebrating the Feast of Epiphany. We thought about the wise men's long journey to Bethlehem to find Jesus, always following that special star, the sign that a new king had been born; and we learnt about the significance of the 3 gifts the wise men gave to Jesus: gold, frankincense and myrrh – most of us quite liked the smell of incense! We agreed that while we may not

have any expensive gifts to give to Jesus, we can all give him our love (symbolised by a heart) – the only gift Jesus really asks of us.

The following Sunday we celebrated the Baptism of Jesus in our all-age service led by our curate Liz. Lukas and Thomas shared the Old Testament reading from Isaiah, foretelling Jesus as God's chosen one who would one day open the eyes of the blind and set the prisoners free. The children and young people then acted out Jesus being baptised by John in the river Jordan and the Holy Spirit coming down on him like a dove, as well as God's voice saying, "This is my own dear Son with whom I am pleased." Well done to everyone involved!

In the 'learning together' part, Liz used the example of different habits people have (good and bad) to help us understand the rituals we use in church, especially in the sacrament of baptism. Having gathered the children around the font, she explained the different parts of the baptism ceremony and sprinkled everybody with water as a sign that as followers of Jesus, we are washed free from sin. The outward sign of being 'washed' symbolises our inner 'cleansing,' our turning away from all that is wrong in God's eyes and our commitment to turn to Christ as Saviour. The whole congregation renewed their baptism vows during the service.

The Junior Church then enthusiastically led the congregation in singing 'Father God, I wonder how I managed to exist,' accompanied by Lukas on the violin, Hannah on the ukulele, as well as several percussion instruments. Prayers were very well read by Thomas, Megan, Cameron, Laura, Hannah and Lukas. Thank you and well done to all! Many thanks also to everybody who helped with the refreshments after the service – very much appreciated! We have just finished our series about King David with a lesson about good choices, learning that we can always trust God (like David did) and that God cares for us and keeps us safe (Psalm 23). We are looking forward to starting a new series of lessons about Jesus's parables and how they challenge us.

**Many blessings, Claudia König and Sam Bowman**



## News from St Catherine's & Kirk Christ



The Parish Carol Service at Kirk Christ on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December was well attended and led by Rev'd Liz Hull. The Parish Choir led the congregation in singing carols, and they made beautiful music. This was followed by the Christmas services which again were very well attended.

On New Year's Eve at St Mary's Church there was a lovely wedding, conducted by the vicar, when Andrew Watterson married Louise Southard. The reception was held in St Catherine's Church Hall which was decorated beautifully.

Now it is time to recover from the Christmas celebrations and to look forward to Easter, and hopefully, some nice weather.

**Gerry Callister**

### World Day of Prayer Service 2020

This year's World Day of Prayer Service will be held on Friday 6th March 2020 at St Columba's Church, Port Erin.

Christian women from Zimbabwe have prepared the service which is entitled 'Rise! Take your mat and walk', encouraging us all to reflect on the difficulties and unrest that have plagued their country for many years. The focus will be on Peace, Reconciliation and Love and the same service will be held in over 170 countries.

Everyone (men and women) are welcome to attend this special ecumenical service. Tea/coffee will be served from 10.15am prior to the services starting at 11am.

**Sheila Preston**

### Pause for Poetry

I would like to thank those of you who bought the anthology entitled 'Pause for Poetry'. Altogether the booklet raised £300. This has been given to church funds.

**Margaret Couper**

### Brian Trustrum

If any of you were unable to attend Brian's Memorial Service at St Catherine's Church and would like a copy of the Eulogy given on that occasion, I can let you have a copy.

**Editor**



# Sudoku February 2020

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

## Sudoku Solution Jan. 2020

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

## Crossword Solution Jan. 2020

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

The winner of December's competition was  
Voirrey Kinley



## Where is Love?

In this month, when we celebrate St Valentine's Day, this poignant question is one many people will be asking, especially the young and hopeful. Perhaps you remember these words from the beautiful song in Lionel Bart's musical, *Oliver*? The young street boy Oliver Twist sings plaintively of his longing to find 'someone who I can mean something to'.

The need to find love is a fundamental requirement of human flourishing, and it is there within us all, young and old alike. But where do we find such love? The natural thing is to assume that it can be found in another person, the person of our dreams. Romantic love seems to offer the answer to our longing, but reality is often different. Once the shine has worn off a relationship, we see the other person as they really are – another fragile human being also searching for love. So, for many the search begins again, an endless looking for the elusive partner who will love us without condition.

Oliver comes near to answering his own question when he sings, 'Does it come from skies above?' The only love that can satisfy the deep longing of the human heart does in fact come 'from above'. It comes from heaven, and it comes to us from God in the form of a person, Jesus Christ. He was the embodiment of the love of God, and through His life and death demonstrated the enormity of the love that God has for each of us. Here is a love like no other – reliable, sure, unchanging, healing, accepting.

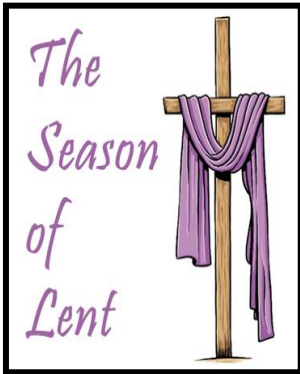
Human love is a wonderful blessing, but divine love alone can meet our need. In God alone we find the perfect Someone, the one who we can mean something to.

**Tony Horsfall**

## Why Elijah did that...

The Sunday school teacher was carefully explaining the story of Elijah the Prophet and the false prophets of Baal. She explained how Elijah built the altar, put wood upon it, cut the steer in pieces and laid it upon the altar. And then, Elijah commanded the people of God to fill four barrels of water and pour it over the altar. He had them do this four times over. "Now," said the teacher, "can anyone in the class tell me why the Lord would have Elijah pour water over the steer on the altar?"

A little girl in the back of the room started waving her hand, "I know! I know!" she said, "To make the gravy!"



## Lent – a good time to deepen your prayer life

Lent is a time to take stock of ourselves spiritually. This includes setting aside extra time for prayer. Here are some helpful things to remember as you settle down to it:

People have been praying since Adam had a grandson named Enosh. The Bible tells us (Genesis 4:26) that it was during his days when 'men began to call on the name of the Lord'. They have been doing it ever since.

People have had their prayers answered by God since Genesis, too. But if you want to read some beautiful prayers – and answers to them, browse through the Psalms. Again and again the psalmist writes: "the Lord heard my cry".

So – what do you need to bring to prayer? Just the tiniest amount of faith that God is even there.... Jesus assures us that even faith as big as a tiny mustard seed will be effective.

What gives you the right to come before Almighty God? Jesus does. The Bible is clear that "there is one mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ". (1 Timothy 2:5)

The Bible makes clear that God does not stand on ceremony – in fact, He prefers our personal, spontaneous prayers. Jesus was very matter of fact about it: "When you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." (Matthew 6:6)

The Bible assures us that prayer will bring us good things: "we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need". (Hebrews 4:16)

Above all, prayer must be made with a pure heart. "If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened." (Psalm 66:18) That simply means that if you know you are doing something wrong, and intend to keep right on doing it, don't waste your time praying.

Finally, what can be the results of your prayers this Lent? Well, here are seven, for starters....

1. Joy and deep happiness. (John 16:24)
2. Relief from your worry, stress and tension (Philippians 4:6,7)
3. Wisdom and more mental clarity (James 1:5,6)
4. Protection and deliverance from temptations (Matthew 26:41)
5. An ability to share the Good News of Jesus to other people (Matthew 9:38)
6. Strength to persevere when you feel under spiritual attack (Ephesians 6:18)
7. A growing thankfulness to God, who is worthy of all glory (Revelation 4:11)

**Rev John Tyler**

## New Trends in the Garden

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*Blue Shed*



*Calathea 'Freddie'*



*Stromanthe 'Triostar'*

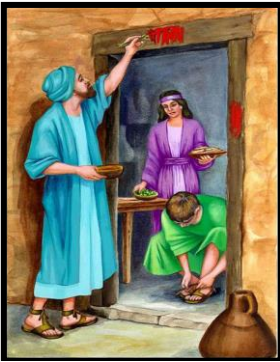
As the garden prepares to wake from its winter slumber, this is a great time to think about the coming growing season and prepare for all the excitement that is just around the corner. But just for the moment, depending on the weather, the best gift you can provide for your garden is to stay away. The compaction caused by winter boots on soggy lawns and beds does no favours for the structure of the soil. It's possible to work by using boards on which to tread, or you can wait until conditions improve.

If you are anxious to get going, this is a good time to eliminate weeds and prepare the bare soil ready for growing. Winter frost and freezing temperatures are your friend in the vegetable garden. They can help to break up the soil and also play a part in killing off bacteria and pests that might affect your crop. But don't be tempted to dig over your flower beds and borders. The soil is keeping the roots warm and you don't want to introduce air pockets that will allow the cold air to permeate deep below the surface.

You now have some time to plan your gardening year. Here's a selection of predictions for this year's trends:

- Indoors and out, the colours blue and green in terms of paint have overtaken grey in the popularity stakes. This applies to walls and ceilings indoors but also sheds and feature walls in the garden.
- Sandy and rusty tones outdoors are also on trend.
- Animal prints indoors and in outside dining areas are all the rage for throws, rugs, cushions and doormats.
- House plants are definitely the way to go – the bigger the better!
- Foliage plants have overtaken flowering plants in desirability factor. Contrasting shades of green, purple and red can look highly effective.

- The same applies to house plants and both Alocasias and Calatheas are sought after because of their textures and tones.
- Box hedging is being replaced by alternatives because of box blight and other problems. Gardeners are using pittosporum, Ilex crenata, euonymus, rosemary and lavender instead.
- Wildlife-friendly is high on the agenda. The minimalist look is falling out of favour because it offers so little in terms of biodiversity. Younger gardeners, in particular, have adopted this trend wholeheartedly.
- Outdoor rugs are popular, as are accents in paving. Landscapers are being asked to incorporate tiling within standard paving to make a feature in focal areas such as seating and dining locations.



### Ash Wednesday – 26<sup>th</sup> February My memory of the Passover in Jerusalem

At the end of this month Ash Wednesday introduces the Christian preparation for Easter, which normally coincides with Passover, the major Jewish celebration of the year. It's near Easter because Jesus was crucified at Passover, having just shared this very meal with his disciples.

Passover celebrates and recalls the Israelites' escape from slavery in Egypt. Led by Moses they crossed the Red Sea and 40 days later entered the 'Promised Land.' They shared the Passover meal at their last night in Egypt and have kept it all for nearly the past three thousand years or so that have followed.

Many years ago, when I was in Jerusalem to produce a radio programme, I was invited to join a Jewish family for their Passover meal. It was a great occasion, very like our Christmas, a family event with deep religious significance for those who seek it.

At the meal in Jerusalem we ate modest lentils and unleavened bread – Matzos as we now call it. We also drank plenty of wine but not from the cup at the end of the table. That is 'Elijah's cup', only to be drunk from when the prophet comes to announce the arrival of the Messiah. At the last supper Jesus instructed His disciples to drink from that cup after supper, which may have shocked them at the time. The Messiah had come!

David Winter



## All in the month of February



**150 years ago, on 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 1870**, the Elementary Education Act (commonly known as Forster's Education Act) was introduced in England and Wales. It provided a framework for the education of all children aged between five and 12. Many people objected to it, including the upper classes who wanted to keep educational privileges for themselves, and employers who feared losing cheap labour.

**125 years ago, on 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 1895**, Oscar Wilde's play *The Importance of Being Earnest* was performed for the first time, at St James's Theatre in London.

**100 years ago, on 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 1920**, the National Socialist German Workers' Party (Nazi Party) was established, changing its name from the German Workers' Party and holding its first mass rally in Munich.

**90 years ago, on 18<sup>th</sup> Feb 1930**, the dwarf planet Pluto was discovered by American astronomer Clyde Tombaugh.

**75 years ago, in Feb/Mar 1945**, Anne Frank, Dutch Jewish diarist and Holocaust victim died in Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, at the age of 15, probably from typhus. Known for *The Diary of a Young Girl*. **Also, from 4<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 1945**, WW2's Yalta Conference took place in Crimea. U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and Soviet Leader Joseph Stalin met to plan the final defeat of Nazi Germany. **Also, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 1945**, the bombing of Dresden Germany took place. The Allies carried out four massive bombing raids, completely destroying the inner city and killing about 25,000 people. **Also, from 19<sup>th</sup> Feb to 23<sup>rd</sup> Mar**, that WW2's Battle of Iwo Jima, Japanese Volcano Islands, took place. U.S. victory. (The iconic photograph of U.S. marines raising the American flag on top of Mount Surabachi was taken on 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb.) **Also, on 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 1945**, Eric Liddell, Scottish athlete, died. He became an Olympic gold medallist in 1924 for the 400m. Because of his religious convictions he had withdrawn from the 100m heats held on a Sunday and entered (and won) the 400m heats. He died in a WWII internment camp in China, aged 43.

**60 years ago, on 8<sup>th</sup> Feb 1960**, Queen Elizabeth II issued an Order-in-Council stating that she and her family would be known as the House of Windsor, and that her descendants would use the surname Mountbatten-Windsor. **Also, on 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 1960**, Prince Andrew, Duke of York, was born. He is the second son of Queen Elizabeth II.

**50 years ago, on 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 1970**, Bertrand Russell, British philosopher, logician, mathematician, and social reformer, died. He was winner of the 1950 Nobel Prize in Literature.

**30 years ago, on 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 1990**, South African President F.W. de Klerk lifted a 30-year ban on the African National Congress (ANC) and other opposing political parties and anti-apartheid groups. He also freed Nelson Mandela from prison (on 11<sup>th</sup> Feb) after 27 years of imprisonment.

...cont'd



**Also, 30 years ago, on 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 1990**, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union agreed to give up its 70-year monopoly on political power.

**25 years ago, on 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 1995**, Barings Bank, the oldest merchant bank in London, collapsed after its chief trader in Singapore, Nick Leeson, lost approximately £625million on unauthorised transactions.

**20 years ago, from 11<sup>th</sup> Feb to 29<sup>th</sup> May**, the British Government suspended the Northern Ireland Assembly after it failed to strike a deal on decommissioning IRA weapons.

**15 years ago, on 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2005**, the popular video-sharing website YouTube was founded. (It was officially launched in November after more development and testing.) **Also, on 16<sup>th</sup> Feb 2005**, the Kyoto Protocol came into effect. The international treaty obliges industrialised nations to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.



## Shrove Tuesday – Who's for pancakes?

Why do we have pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day, as we call it today? And what is Shrove Tuesday? And why do thousands of people feel it rewarding to race along a street somewhere tossing pancakes from their frying pans as they go?

Well, the answer to the first question is that it is the day before Lent begins and for well over a thousand years that has meant it was the last chance to enjoy meat, fat and other strictly observed. The food in the larder wouldn't keep for

six weeks so it had to be eaten. With all these rich foods no wonder the French call it 'Fatty Tuesday' – Mardi Gras.

So, what have pancake races got to do with all this solemnity? 'Shrove' is an old word for 'forgiven' and in those days to prepare for the rigours of Lent people would want to confess and seek forgiveness – not quite what you want at a party. The answer is quite simply enjoying yourself while you can! So, on Shrove Tuesday this year let's have some fun and make it last as long as possible.

The most convincing (and amusing) of the explanations of pancake races is of outwitting the Sexton who rang the curfew bell that marked the start of Lent. He was reluctant to do it while the race was unfinished. So, the revelry caused by dropped pancakes, postponed the inevitable.

Since the Reformation it has not been so rigorously observed in Britain, but still people will resolve to 'give up something for Lent'. Six weeks is about right as a duration and Sunday has always been exempt but make the most of those pancakes. They may well not reappear until April 12<sup>th</sup>!

## *From the Registers*

### *Funerals (December 2019)*

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

**Barbara Cregeen**

Kirk Christ @ 2pm

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December

**Joan Bridge**

Kirk Christ @ 2pm

### *Memorial Services (December 2019)*

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December

**Linda Eddolls**

St Catherine's Church @ 12 noon

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

**George Brian Trustrum**

St Catherine's Church @ 11.45am

### *Wedding Service (December 2019)*

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> December

**Louise Jan Southard and**

**Andrew Mark Watterson**

St Mary's Church @ 3pm

### *Lot's wife*

*The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'My Mummy looked back once, while she was driving,' he said, 'and she turned into a telephone pole!'*

### **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)

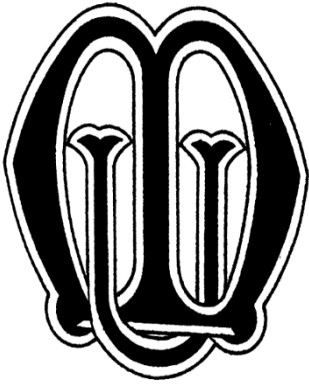
The **Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser** has now been appointed. For more details contact the diocese.

A copy of the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy is available on the Diocesan website: [http://www.sodorandman.im/safeguarding\\_inclusion](http://www.sodorandman.im/safeguarding_inclusion)



"Ready when you are, George..."

## Rushen Mothers' Union



Storm Brendan, which hit the island on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January, caused our first Mothers' Union branch meeting of 2020 to be postponed, and so it was on 20<sup>th</sup> we met in St Catherine's Hall to hear a talk from Mr Brendan O'Friel. We had a very good turn out of members and guests who all thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon. Our short service included prayers led by Mrs Kathleen Trustrum, hymns played by Mrs Valerie Vaughan and a reading given by Mrs Pat Thomson.

We were all looking forward to hearing our speaker Mr O'Friel on the theme of "The Effects of Prison on Families". Mr O'Friel is a former governor of Strangeways and Risley prisons and has a wealth of knowledge and experience in dealing with all manner of offenders. He emphasised the importance of how we treat prisoners by referring to two Bible readings, from Mathew chapter 25 and Luke chapter 23. He stressed that we must look carefully at offenders and at what we can do for them. Positive activities should be found to bring out their talents, and life skills be taught for such issues as anger management. Support for families here in the Isle of Man who wish to travel to visit a family member in Jurby would be useful, as would assistance in adjusting to being back in society, on release.

There was a short question and answer session, during which Mrs Elsie Faragher described the work of the MU in providing a creche in the prison hall so adult family members are free to visit. This was followed by a vote of thanks and a gift given by Pat, and after a closing hymn we all enjoyed tea and biscuits prepared by Elsie. Our thanks go to Mr Gerry Callister too for setting up the hall, making sure it was nice and warm, and helping in the kitchen.

Our next meeting will be in St Mary's Hall on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm, when Mrs Peta Mills will be in the chair and our speaker Mr Andrew Foxon's topic will be "Manx Walks". As always, guests are most welcome.

With love and very best wishes.

**Pat Thomson**

### *Love in a bag*

*I asked my nephew whether he bought his wife anything for Valentine's Day, and he said he had bought her a belt and a bag. When I commented that I am sure she would appreciate them, he agreed: "Yes, and hopefully the vacuum cleaner will work better now."*

## God in the Arts

Editor: **The Rev Michael Burgess** continues his series on animals and birds as seen in art and scripture... this is the second in the series which will run throughout 2020.

### ‘He gave us eyes to see them’: William Blake’s engravings of Job



The canticle we call the Benedicite began its life as the *Song of the Three Holy Children*. In the midst of their terrifying ordeal in the burning fiery furnace, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego praise God. They call on the sky above, the seasons, and all that grows and moves on the earth to join them. Their song invites the whales in the sea, the birds of the air and all creatures to echo their praise. Finally, they ask all people who are holy and humble in heart to bless God the creator of all that is.

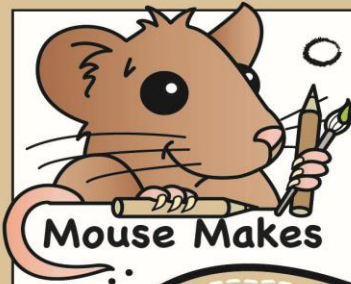
During this year we are exploring the glory and wonder of creation, especially animals and birds. The song of the Benedicite praising that creation is born of pain and testing. That ordeal is the theme of another

another book in the Old Testament - Job. We are told that he was an upright, blameless man, but he suffered. That pain tested his faith and he demanded an explanation from God.

The book of Job inspired the visionary work of the poet and painter, William Blake. In 1823 he began creating a series of 22 engravings illustrating Job which were based on earlier water-colours. Plate 13 depicts God answering Job out of the whirlwind. We can read of this in chapters 39-41. God asks Job if he was present at creation. Indeed, can he even begin to understand the marvels of this world - the mountain goat giving birth, a horse running through a meadow, or the eagle soaring in the sky. They praise God like the creatures in the Benedicite by their very being. And finally, God points to Behemoth and Leviathan - the hippopotamus and the crocodile - who are symbols of power and brute strength. They are shown in Plate 15 and fill the orb of the world, just as they dominate creation.

God answers Job with this catalogue of wonders to assure him that He is the Creator, but He does respond to the cry of humanity. Job may not understand the stars above nor the earth beneath his feet, but through meeting God, his life has gained meaning and value. His fortunes are restored, and he ends his days as one of the holy and humble of heart who praise God in the Benedicite. The Three Children of the fiery furnace and Job - they assure us that this world is full of wonders and glory that show the handiwork of God. When we realise that, we will join them in singing hymns of praise and thanksgiving.

# Children's Page



After **Jesus** was baptised He was led by the Spirit into the **wilderness** for **forty** days where he was tempted by the devil.

**READ** the story in **Luke 4:1-13**

**Mouse Makes**

JUMP AP  
JERUSALEM  
HIGH HOLD I  
F

THUNGRY  
EOHFOOT  
MLIFTDE  
PYMOJB  
TSBREAD  
APATSRE  
TIPYUAV  
IRTESTI  
OIILEDL  
NTSTONE  
STEMPLE  
HDAYS

What was Jesus' reply when the devil asked Him to turn a stone into bread?

Who did Jesus say He would only worship and serve?

What did Jesus say you must not do?

Can you find these words in the word search?

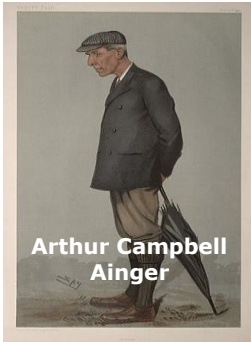
JESUS • BAPTISED • RIVER • JORDAN • LED  
HOLY SPIRIT • WILDERNESS • DESERT • TEMPTATIONS  
DEVIL • FORTY • DAYS • HUNGRY • ROCK • STONE  
BREAD • WRITTEN • SCRIPTURE • ALL • KINGDOMS • WORLD • GLORY  
WORSHIP • SERVE • GOD • ONLY • JERUSALEM • TEMPLE • HIGH • IF • SON  
JUMP • THROW • DOWN • ANGELS • HOLD • LIFT • FOOT • LORD • TEST

DESERT  
ROJORDAN  
VRIVEROCK  
U

WOWORLD  
ISONKTO  
LCRWIHW  
DRSRNRN  
EIHIGOD  
RPITDWG  
NTPTOOL  
EUAEMNO  
SRINSLR  
SERVEYY  
EANGELS  
LORDR



## The Story Behind the Hymn



### ***God Is Working His Purpose Out***

- 1.** God is working his purpose out  
as year succeeds to year:  
God is working his purpose out,  
and the time is drawing near;  
nearer and nearer draws the time,  
the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth shall be filled  
with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.
- 2.** From utmost east to utmost west,  
wherever foot hath trod,  
by the mouth of many messengers  
goes forth the voice of God;  
give ear to me, ye continents,  
ye isles, give ear to me,  
that earth may filled  
with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.
- 3.** What can we do to work God's work,  
to prosper and increase  
the brotherhood of all mankind--  
the reign of the Prince of Peace?  
What can we do to hasten the time--  
the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth shall be filled  
with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.
- 4.** March we forth in the strength of God,  
with the banner of Christ unfurled,  
that the light of the glorious gospel of truth  
may shine throughout the world:  
fight we the fight with sorrow and sin  
to set their captives free,  
that earth may filled  
with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.

**5.** All we can do is nothing worth  
unless God blessed the deed;  
vainly we hope for the harvest-tide  
till God gives life to the seed;  
yet nearer and nearer draws the time,  
the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth shall be filled  
with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.

*God Is Working His Purpose Out* is an English Christian hymn. It was written in 1894 by Arthur Campbell Ainger. The original music for the hymn was written at the same time by Millicent D. Kingham but a number of other pieces of music have been used for the hymn in recent times.

In 1894, Ainger was a Master at Eton College, where he had a reputation of being a fair teacher and had the respect of his pupils for a reasonable approach to discipline at the school. As the son of a Vicar, he had written a number of songs and hymns for the school in English and in Latin. Ainger wrote *God Is Working His Purpose Out* as a tribute to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Edward White Benson, who was a former Master at Rugby School and headmaster at Wellington College. It was also written as a hymn for the boys of Eton. The hymn was first published in a leaflet with a tune composed by Kingham entitled *Benson*.

*God Is Working His Purpose Out* was then published nationwide in the Church of England's *Church Missionary Hymn Book*. It also started to be published within public school hymnals, however when it was published in *Public School Hymn Book* the tune was changed from *Benson* to a newly commissioned tune entitled *Alveston*. Some modern hymn books also do not use *Benson* as the tune, instead using *Purpose*, written by Martin Shaw in 1953, although Common Praise (the successor to Hymns Ancient and Modern) continues to do so.

*God Is Working his Purpose Out's* refrain is based on Habakkuk 2:14; *For the earth will be filled With the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, As the waters cover the sea*. The hymn references God being always at work to realise his will for the world and for humanity. It also references Philippians 2:12–13 in that God works in humanity to act according to his purpose.



## Rushen Parish Prayer Diary



*Thank you, that you accept us as we are;  
that you love us as we are. So, may we love  
those around us. By your Spirit may we  
hold hands. May we rejoice with the  
rejoicing, weep with the weeping. And may  
we offer our all to you, together. Then we  
may be ourselves. Then we may be one.*

**Amen**



### February 2020

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

- 1<sup>st</sup> Everyone who gives of their time, money and energy to charitable organisations
- 2<sup>nd</sup> The Presentation of Christ in the Temple - Candlemas
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Pets which bring such comfort to the elderly and the lonely
- 4<sup>th</sup> The bereaved and the sense of loss that they feel when loved one's die
- 5<sup>th</sup> The children and parents who attend Play and Praise each month
- 6<sup>th</sup> The Queen, Lord of Man, as we remember her accession to the throne
- 7<sup>th</sup> Stephen Curtis and the work he does maintaining the finances of the parish
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grandparents who help their children through challenging times
- 9<sup>th</sup> Care workers who visit people who are lonely and/or elderly
- 10<sup>th</sup> The Mothers' Union meeting taking place this afternoon
- 11<sup>th</sup> Families attending morning services today and the fellowship they derive
- 12<sup>th</sup> Those preparing for marriage later this year and the excitement they derive
- 13<sup>th</sup> Children enjoying their pancakes and chocolate before Lent begins
- 14<sup>th</sup> St. Valentine, the patron saint of romantic love, remembered today
- 15<sup>th</sup> The participants in Messy Church which takes place today
- 16<sup>th</sup> Those people in hospital awaiting treatment for life threatening diseases
- 17<sup>th</sup> Homegroups in the parish and the fellowship derived from them
- 18<sup>th</sup> Children who attend nursery, primary and secondary schools across the island
- 19<sup>th</sup> All those who intercede during the services in the parish
- 20<sup>th</sup> Farmers as they prepare for springtime and the year ahead
- 21<sup>st</sup> Sidespersons who carry out their duties in our parish week by week
- 22<sup>nd</sup> All those who read the lessons at the services in the parish
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Children who have been baptised in the parish during the past year
- 24<sup>th</sup> Children who attend youth organisations such as brownies, cubs, scouts and guides
- 25<sup>th</sup> The Ladies Working Party and the work it does for charities
- 26<sup>th</sup> The head teachers of our local schools and the successes they bring to all children
- 27<sup>th</sup> PCC committees and the work they do in keeping the parish active
- 28<sup>th</sup> Those who administer communion to the housebound.
- 29<sup>th</sup> The Rev'd Joe Heaton, Vicar of the Parish of Rushen, and his ministry.

<b>Services February 2020</b>
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2 <sup>nd</sup> February <b>(Candlemas)</b>	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)
5 <sup>th</sup> February	11.15am	Southlands Holy Communion (CW)
	2pm	St Mary's Play & Praise
9 <sup>th</sup> February <b>(Proper 1)</b>	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)
16 <sup>th</sup> February <b>(2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent)</b>	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 (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
23 <sup>rd</sup> February <b>(Sunday before Lent)</b>	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)
1 <sup>st</sup> March <b>(1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent)</b>	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)
4 <sup>th</sup> March	11.15am	Southlands Holy Communion (CW)
	2pm	St Mary's Play & Praise
8 <sup>th</sup> March <b>(2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent)</b>	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)

(CW) Common Worship

(BCP) Book of Common Prayer

## Contact Details for Rushen Parish

### St Mary's Sunday School Leader:

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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

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Ballafesson, Port Erin

e-mail: [dbow43@manx.net](mailto:dbow43@manx.net)

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

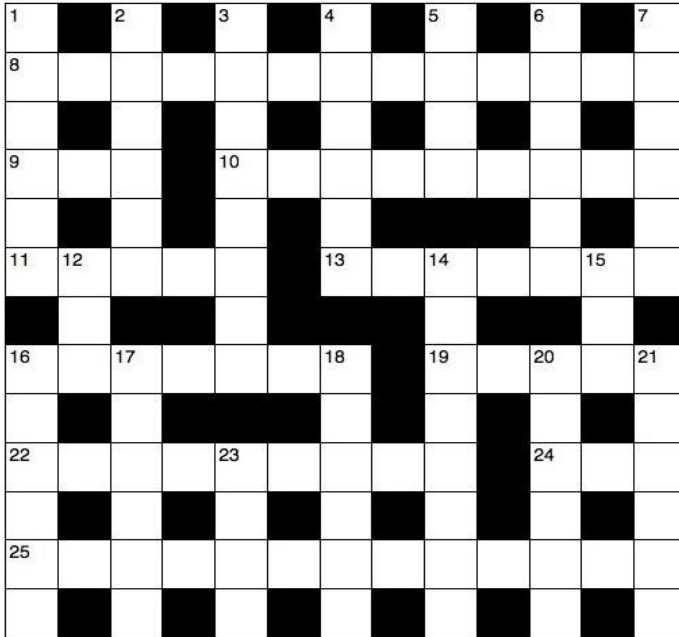
### Parish Director of Music:

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

### Churchyard Enquiries:

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

## February 2020 Crossword



### Across

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>8</b> Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)</p> <p><b>9</b> 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)</p> <p><b>10</b> Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)</p> <p><b>11</b> Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)</p> <p><b>13</b> Clay pit (anag.) (7)</p> <p><b>16</b> Went to (John 4:46) (7)</p> <p><b>19</b> 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to — your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)</p> <p><b>22</b> David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)</p> <p><b>24</b> Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1)</p> <p><b>25</b> How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)</p> | <p><b>4</b> 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)</p> <p><b>5</b> One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)</p> <p><b>6</b> Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)</p> <p><b>7</b> God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ' — salt to — your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)</p> <p><b>12</b> Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)</p> <p><b>14</b> 'All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8)</p> <p><b>15</b> The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)</p> <p><b>16</b> Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)</p> <p><b>17</b> How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)</p> <p><b>18</b> What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)</p> <p><b>20</b> Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)</p> <p><b>21</b> Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to — (Genesis 8:5) (6)</p> <p><b>23</b> Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)</p> |
|---|--|

### Down

- 1** Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)
- 2** One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)
- 3** Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)