



Rushen Parish Magazine

April 2020

JESUS
The Resurrection
and the Life

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A Letter from Joe

Dear Friends,

It is an uncertain time for us all, life has changed from the normal and it is changing more every day. Many of our routines have gone and it seems that we cannot rely upon those things which we once took for granted.

It may be the empty supermarket shelves, the constant changing news, the fear of the unknown. Perhaps it is the need to self-isolate, or social distance that is troubling, no longer seeing people like we used to. The elbow bump is no substitute for the warmth of a handshake or the closeness of a hug. Here in the vicarage life is oddly different, my once full diary is now devoid of the meetings and services that I was expecting to lead. However, I have been busy preparing resources that are available on our website.

I want to share with you part of last week's New Testament reading from the letter to the Hebrews Chapter 6 "take hold of the hope set before us we have this hope as an anchor for the soul, sure and steadfast". This anchor imagery received a powerful boost in the late 19th century when Priscilla Owens wrote the following hymn:

Will your anchor hold in the storms of life,
When the clouds unfold their wings of strife?
When the strong tides lift, and the cables strain,
Will your anchor drift or firm remain?

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

It is safely moored, 'twill the storm withstand,
For 'tis well secured by the Saviour's hand;
And the cables passed from His heart to mine,
Can defy the blast, through strength divine.

Let these words be your security too, they are about the certainty of God's promise to us through Jesus Christ. The routines may have gone, the shelves may be empty, the shoulder bump lacking warmth and the social contact limited, but we have an anchor for the soul.

We may not currently be able to gather together for prayer and worship, however, that doesn't mean that we can't stay connected or be church. I have put together a whole variety of prayer resources on our parish website, and are exploring how we might do virtual church each week. For more details and the latest Parish news go to: <http://www.rushenparish.org.uk/online-resources/>

Richest Blessings

Joe

Rev Joe Heaton

“On the Road”

“The two,” on the Emmaus Road,
Were burdened with a heavy load.
Their grief and loss they could not hide,
Then Jesus drew near, alongside.
Law and scripture He did not unfold,
As prophets of old had foretold:
Resurrection had to be,
Thereby to save humanity.

“Come with us,” the two did say,
’Tis the end of a tiring day.
Bread was bought, wine displayed;
Help for the travellers on their way.
“Take,” said Jesus and bread did break,
Revealing truth for His dear sake.
“It is the Lord!” they both exclaim,
“Praise to His Resurrected name.”

Transformed with joy, “the two” arose;
No longer ready for repose!
Back to Mary, Peter, the rest;
The wonderful news to confess.
With confidence to share, to see,
The next manifestation to be!

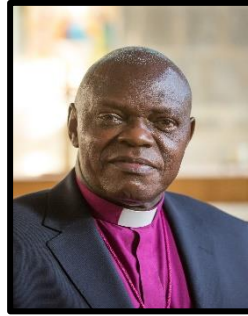
In the “breaking of bread” may we,
Be transformed eternally.

“Then they told what had happened on the road and how He had been made known to them in the breaking of bread.” Luke 24 v 25 NRSV

Margaret Couper



Archbishop of Canterbury pays tribute to the Archbishop of York



The Archbishop of Canterbury has paid tribute to the Archbishop of York in General Synod what would have been his final Synod.

Archbishop Justin Welby praised the Archbishop of York who is currently travelling in the Pacific. He said: “He (John Sentamu) has gone to visit parts of the world which are suffering the effects of climate change right now. He has gone typically to be alongside those who are suffering: a pattern of his life throughout his ministry.”

The Archbishop continued: “Speaking about Sentamu when he’s not here ... means we can show our gratitude, thanks and love for him without him being able to stop us.”

Recalling the Archbishop of York’s work on the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry, Archbishop Justin added that “he has said that he himself was stopped at least eight times by the police”.

Reflecting on the Archbishop of York’s impact nationally, the Archbishop of Canterbury said: “The Church of England will miss you Sentamu and the wider country will miss you. There aren’t a lot of bishops who are so well known outside the church.”

Ladies Working Party – St Mary's



Having had a wonderful first 9 days on the island, on March 1st Mr Paul Moores of The Leprosy Mission received the news that his 94-year-old mother had taken very ill and he immediately caught the ferry back home to be with her. He arranged for a lovely Trustee and Volunteer Speaker, Elly Duchars, to come to lead the open meeting on March 3rd in his place, and sent her a copy of his presentation. Unfortunately, Elly had problems with the

technology and so was unable to show us his films which were to illustrate this year's appeal entitled "Hospital Heroes", a programme to help fund the training of doctors and nurses in Myanmar where if you have disabilities caused by leprosy, you will lose your job and be cast out of your community.

Elly was however delighted to share with us her experiences of her trip to Nepal, to the hospital at Anandaban. What an interesting talk it was and what an inspired speaker she is. There were 12 in her group of whom 2 were from the Isle of Man, and their visit took place after a huge earthquake. She met patients and spoke to them through an interpreter, helped to feed some, visited a leprosarium (formerly called a leper colony), went up into the mountains to see a village cooperative where patients, having been given some money to assist in setting up, can grow crops, in particular strawberries, and also witnessed an operation to correct foot drop, a common result of untreated leprosy. She highlighted the stigma that is attached to suffering from leprosy, how abandonment breaks the spirit and that the cure works. Money is not wasted but brings hope and healing.

Paul's mother has sadly passed away, but he was able to be with her at the end. He very much hopes to be back on the island soon and will be in touch. Meanwhile Elly was delighted to take away with her a huge number of used stamps which raise a lot of money, and also £232.69 from the bring and buy stall, the afternoon tea and donations. Thank you everyone.

At the time of writing, posies are being planned for Mothering Sunday on 22nd March. June Davies, whom we are delighted to welcome back to LWP, will help Gerry to get the daffodils. Thank you.

In these uncertain times caused by Coronavirus, we send love and prayers to all, particularly to those in poor health, in hospital, recovering from operations and awaiting results.

Pat Thomson



News from St Mary's Sunday School

At the time of writing, we would normally be getting excited about our annual Mothering Sunday all-age service and making flower posies to give out to all the ladies. Last Sunday we were still practising our song and prayers, all ready for the service. But things have changed in quite a dramatic way since then, and while it is sad that we can't meet together in church any more, we know it is the right decision in order to keep us all safe.

In our last Sunday School sessions, we learnt about Lent and Jesus being tempted by the devil in the wilderness. Although Jesus must have been desperate for food at the time (after 40 days of fasting), he stood firm and did not give in to the temptations, because he knew that this would not be in line with God's will. Jesus spoke the Word of God like a shield to protect himself against the temptations. We had great fun making shields with the words 'The Lord is my strength and my shield' (Psalm 28:7), and we also had an interesting discussion about temptations in our own lives and how we can resist them.

In our series of parables, we looked at the parable of the 10 bridesmaids and talked about how we can be ready for Jesus's return, i.e. by making good choices in our lives, asking ourselves 'What would Jesus do?' in a certain situation. We also learnt about the parable of the sheep and the goats (Matthew 25) and thought about practical ways in which we can be on the side of the sheep by helping each other and those in need. We decided that we'd like to do some fundraising for a charity, and we were hoping to have a cake sale on Mothering Sunday, but with the new regulations, we had to postpone that idea for the time being.

Last Sunday, as well as practising a song and the prayers for Mothering Sunday, the children also enjoyed making a paper flower display for church and a small gift for their mums in the shape of a teapot with a teabag, so their mums can enjoy a nice cup of tea on Mothering Sunday.

We will very much miss our Sunday morning time to worship, learn more about Jesus and the Bible, share our own stories and have fun together, but we will be staying in touch. While it seems very unlikely that we'll be able to celebrate Easter in church together this year, we hope and pray that we will be united in spirit on Good Friday to remember that Jesus died for us on the cross and on Easter Sunday to celebrate with great joy the glorious resurrection of our Saviour! Alleluia, Jesus is alive!

At this difficult time of uncertainty and anxiety, may we draw strength and comfort from our faith in Christ and from God's promise that He will always be with us and will never forsake us. May God bless you all this Easter and keep you safe,

Claudia König and Sam Bowman



Planes, Trains and Automobiles – our mission to York

As I told you last month I was anticipating going on a mission to the Diocese of York organised by the Archbishop of York called 'Come and See'. So earlier one Thursday in March, Bishop Peter, Rev Alex Brown and I set off from the Isle of Man at an unearthly hour on a flight to London City airport. We had to fly there as the flight we should have taken to Manchester had been discontinued with the demise of Flybe. We arrived in London City in good time but unfortunately when we got on

the London tube to transfer to King's Cross station for our train to York experienced such delays that we had to abandon the tube and take a taxi. We ended up on the train an hour later than anticipated so we missed eating with fellow Bishops and clergy on the mission but in time for the service to start the mission led by Archbishop Sentamu.

After the service we were driven to Harthill Deanery in the Yorkshire Wolds in the East Riding of Yorkshire; an agricultural and beautiful landscape of fields dotted with towns containing ancient Norman and medieval churches. We enjoyed the hospitality of the local churches at a meal in a church hall.

On Friday after Morning Prayer together with the local clergy, we split up and visited a number of schools; an infant school, a junior school, a primary school and some A Level students in the local secondary school where we were able to talk about our faith and engage with many young people. In the evening we visited a few church halls where there were concerts and were able to chat to many local people and enjoy more local hospitality.

On Saturday, again after Morning Prayer, we split up and joined cadets, scouts and men's groups and went to a church for a lent lunch. In the afternoon we visited a very rural church which had developed a resource of sounds and light display to explain to visitors the church's history and architecture using a grant. The adjacent church hall had a wonderful array of homemade cakes. We ended the day with more concerts and opportunity to meet local people and talk about faith and ministry.

On Sunday we preached in different churches and after a quick lunch were whisked back to York to catch our train to London. Our tube journey to London City airport was uneventful. However when time for our boarding gate was due to be displayed for our flight there was an announcement calling all passengers for the Isle of Man to the British Airways desk. We were advised that our plane was at Southend airport and that we would be taken there by taxi. So all the passengers for the flights were taken together in taxis to Southend and eventually our flight left, and we returned to the Isle of Man arriving back exhausted and glad to be home but thankful for the opportunity to visit other churches and share the love of God.



News from St Catherine's & Kirk Christ



At the March 'Soup Inn', held in St Catherine's Church Hall, thirty nine people enjoyed a lunch of soup followed by a lovely dessert. The meal was followed by tea or coffee. Many thanks to the helpers. Unfortunately there will not be a 'Soup Inn' during April as the hall has been hired for another function.

On Friday 24th April there will be a Murder Mystery Evening in St Catherine's Hall from 7pm. The event will include a two course meal. Tickets are on now sale but selling fast, please contact me if you would like to join us as soon as possible on 474924.

Preparations are being made for the forthcoming Flower Festival being held at Kirk Christ in July. At the time of writing only three windows are left for anyone wishing to take part. Hopefully the event will be as successful as it was last year.

Gerry Callister

Kentraugh Mill – A Date for your Diary

National Mills Weekend is the second weekend of May. Kentraugh Mill will be open on **Saturday 9th May from 10am – 5pm.**, and **Sunday 10th May from 11am – 5pm.**

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

Refreshments are available. No charge is made, but donations are invited for the United Society, Partners in the Gospel (U.S.P.G.).

This is an ancient building and the machinery will be running. Visitors come at their own risk.

Enquiries: 832406

The Lord is my Shepherd

A Sunday school teacher decided to have her young class memorise one of the most quoted passages in the Bible, Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the Psalm, but little Charles did not find it easy to memorise much of anything.

On the day that the children were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Charles stepped up to the microphone and began proudly, "The Lord is my Shepherd...." He knew that much, but the rest of the Psalm suddenly deserted him. So he concluded bravely: "... and that's all I need to know."

Sudoku April 2020

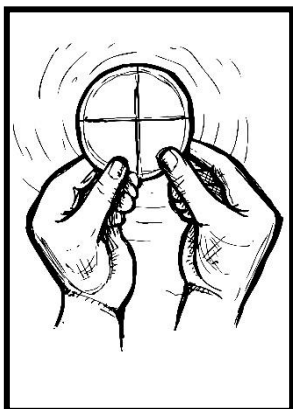
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7								
		9			3	1	2	
8				9	1			3
	2	5				7	1	
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Sudoku Solution March 2020

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

Crossword Solution March 2020

P	L	A	N	E	T		R	U	G	G	E	D
A		D			R		I	U		X		
T	R	U	E		A	U	G	U	S	T	U	S
H		L			C		I		T		D	
	A	T	T	I	T	U	D	E		B	E	D
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	K		E		A		I			S		A
C	E	N	S	U	S		A	R	I	S	E	N



Reflected Faith: the role of the Sacristan

*Editor: **The Rev Dr Jo White** continues her series on symbols in our churches. This began in March and will run for the rest of 2020.*

The traditional marks on an altar are five crosses representing either the five wounds of Christ or perhaps more matter-of-factly, Christ at the centre of what holds up the table – and indeed what holds our lives. This month let's consider the work of the person responsible for preparing the altar for worship.

So often when we arrive in church, everything is already set up for the service and by the time we've drunk our coffee afterwards it's all cleared away – as if some altar fairies come in the dark and do it all very quietly. Well, in fact that's exactly what happens! Except that rather than fairies this is the job of the *Sacristan*. A busy priest with many churches may conduct several services on a Sunday and so rely on the altar to have been prepared before their arrival.

There are set ways of preparing all altars so that, wherever you go to worship, the same things should be found and folded/laid in the same ways. This not only helps in times of business, but principally it allows all who conduct or serve at the altar to engage with the words of the service, rather than get distracted by wondering 'where so and so' is today. Some churches are more stringent than others in their preciseness, but there is a minimum level of acceptability. Otherwise the priest must spend time before the service checking everything is 'right' – or getting an inconvenient surprise when something is missing!

When the 'moment' comes in the Eucharistic prayer at the words, 'We break this bread', you should be able to hear the sharp 'snap' at the break. Making sure that the wafer is crisp enough is the responsibility of the Sacristan.

The story is told about one church where the wafer tended to go a bit soft – until the Sacristan began putting it on the radiator for a few minutes beforehand, until they were 'dry enough to snap'.

Another solution, of course, would have been to find an airtight container...

I am sure that you would like to thank those in our four churches who are responsible for the things that go on in the background. Those who prepare the altar, and arrange refreshments after services, and clear it all away. And as for wafers that snap, we're privileged to be given real bread during communion – mind you, the person taking the service does snap a wafer during the Eucharistic Prayer! (Editor)



Easter Morning: The Other Mary

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

That's quite a record for a woman who, the Gospels tell us, had been delivered by Jesus from by Jesus of body, mind or spirit.

As a result, her devotion to Him was total and her grief at His death overwhelming.

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

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

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

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

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

Parish Pump

Coronavirus

Please note that articles submitted by the Ladies Working Party, Rushen Mothers' Union, Kentraugh Mill and St Catherine's and Kirk Christ, include dates, which because of the Coronavirus Pandemic, are unlikely to be fulfilled. Please contact those involved with these activities for more information.

Everyone loves April

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The flowers of spring

Despite the worries about coronavirus and all the associated concerns, who could fail to have noticed the welcome, cheery pop of colour that has emerged from ground level? Under the hedgerows, in gardens and on sunny banks there is joy to behold. Spring flowers have emerged, despite wind, rain and more rain. It's what they do. The harbingers of better weather are here! They are suited to just about all conditions, with the exception of complete flooding, and will raise their merry little faces – providing some much-needed joy.

The snowdrops have faded away, after which one of the first welcome flowers in early spring is the primrose. But what do you know about the Primula family? There are several similar flowers which deserve their own place in our hearts.

The genus *Primula* includes many herbaceous flowering beauties, including the dainty common primrose, which is a wildflower. Its botanical name is *Primula vulgaris* and it remains one of the nation's most popular flowers. It forms a low, rosette-shaped mound and produces creamy yellow simple flowers with darker centres, each on its own short stem. The flowers appear in late winter or early spring and provide a useful nectar source for early pollinating bees.

Then there is another, much-loved, later spring native, the cowslip, which is *Primula veris*. These are synonymous with Easter because they generally flower in April and May. They love woods and meadows where their taller stem will pop up above the grass sward. Cowslips have bell-shaped, yellow flowers with a hint of orange. They tend to rise above the surrounding growth to a height of up to 25cm, where the flowers nod in the breeze in clusters. The foliage is similar to that of primrose, but the leaves form a lower rosette.

Just to confuse matters further, there are false oxlips too. They commonly arise from a cross between *Primula veris* x *vulgaris* and they can pop up in gardens, on verges, banks and woodland edges. Taller than a primrose, the flowers are produced on stalks and they have a natural beauty which makes them valuable in their own right.

Primula acaulis has a similar shape and habit as the wild primrose, but this popular spring bloomer has been bred specifically for its array of bright colours. They come in the traditional yellow as well as vibrant orange, reds, blues, purples, rust and white, to name but a few. It stands to reason that this is the plant of choice for those looking for bright and beautiful flowers to fill spring containers and to brighten the garden after a long winter.

Finally, the *Polyanthus* family. These hybrids are similar to *Primula acaulis*, in that they now come in a huge range of colours. But their form is closer to the cowslip or oxlip as they bear their bright colours on stalks, with several flowers on one tall stem.

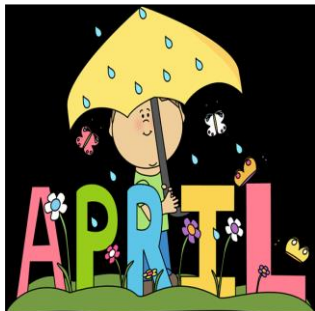
The bright spring flowers are often treated as an annual, but strictly speaking, these are fully capable of being perennials and coming back year after year. What they won't tolerate, however, is dry, baked earth, so if you intend to keep them going you will need to ensure that their summer position is shady and moist.

What can you do in the garden now spring is here?

- If the ground is still waterlogged, stay off the lawn as much as possible. Trampling on sodden soil does more harm than good.
- You can sow annual herb seeds and hardy annuals now, also beetroot and salad.
- Chit potatoes, then plant them out once sprouted. Don't leave more than 3 sprouts, up to 3cm long. More sprouts will result in smaller potatoes.
- Onion sets and shallots can also be planted out now.
- If you have fruit trees bearing blossom and there's a frost forecast, attempt to cover the blooms with fleece. This will boost the chances of fruit production.
- You can feed roses regularly from April onwards using a foliage feed. This will help them to stay healthy and they are less likely to succumb to blackspot and mildew. Some general fertiliser and mulch is always a good idea.
- Put in stakes and supports for taller herbaceous plants that will need them later in the season. It means you won't need to trample on the beds when everything is freshly grown.
- Put up your supports for runner beans and sweet peas. The latter can be planted in late April, but don't be tempted to plant runner beans until warmer weather in May.



All in the month of April



500 years ago, on 6th April 1520, Raphael, Italian Renaissance artist and architect, died, aged 37. (Unknown illness.)

250 years ago, on 7th April 1770, William Wordsworth, British Romantic poet, was born. He was Poet Laureate 1843-50.

200 years ago, on 8th April 1820, the famous Ancient Greek statue of the Venus de Milo was discovered on the island of Milos in the Aegean.

150 years ago, on 22nd April 1870, Vladimir Lenin, Russian communist politician and revolutionary was born. First head of state of the Soviet Union, founder of the Russian Communist party, leader of the Bolshevik Revolution, and founder of Comintern (Communist International).

100 years ago, on 25th April 1920, Britain was assigned the Mandate for Palestine. It officially took control of Mandatory Palestine in September 1923 and held it until the creation of the state of Israel in 1948.

75 years ago, from 1st April 1945 to 22nd June: The Battle of Okinawa. The largest amphibious assault in the Pacific War. Allied victory. **Also in April**, the following concentration camps and prison were liberated: Buchenwald (11th April); Bergen-Belsen (15th April); Colditz Castle (16th April); Dachau (29th April). They were liberated by either US, British or Canadian forces. **Also on 29th and 30th April**: Austrian-born German Nazi Party leader and dictator Adolf Hitler married his long-term partner Eva Braun in his Berlin bunker. They committed suicide the next day.

65 years ago, on 15th April 1955, American fast-food pioneer Ray Kroc opened his first McDonald's franchise in Des Plaines, Illinois.

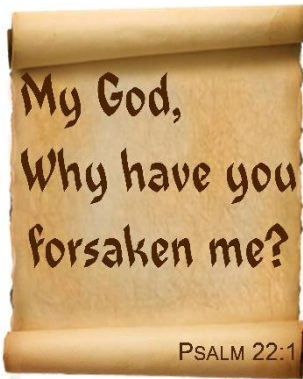
50 years ago, on 28th April 1970, US President Richard Nixon announced that the USA was sending troops into Cambodia to hunt Viet Cong, sparking widespread protests.

40 years ago, on 29th April 1980, Alfred Hitchcock, British-born American film director and producer (*Rear Window*, *Vertigo*, *Psycho*, and many more) died.

30 years ago, on 24th April 1990, the Hubble Space Telescope was launched.

15 years ago, on 2nd April 2005, Pope John Paul II died. **Also on 9th April 2005**, Charles, Prince of Wales married Camilla Parker Bowles, who gained the title the Duchess of Cornwall.

10 years ago, from 15th April to 21st April, Iceland's Eyjafjallajökull volcano erupted explosively, sending a plume of volcanic ash across NW Europe. Air travel was disrupted for six days.



Psalm 22: Why have you forsaken me?

Editor: **The Revd Canon Paul Hardingham** continues his look at various Psalms.

'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' (Psalm 22:1 & Matt 27:46). *Where is God?* is a common question voiced today and shared by Jesus on the cross on the first Good Friday. This question is answered in the psalm, as we look through the lens of Jesus' crucifixion.

It is a real question: Both David and Jesus question God about the pain and darkness of their experience. It is a real question for all suffer, yet they are still able to hold onto a God of love, who has their lives in His hands: *'Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the one Israel praises.'* (3).

It requires faith to ask: Their complaint about the apparent absence of God is not a sign of losing faith in Him. David remembers those who have trusted God in the past and been saved from their troubles: *'In you our ancestors put their trust; they trusted, and You delivered them.'* (4). Just like Jesus on the cross, we are able to entrust ourselves *'to Him who judges justly.'* (1 Peter 2:23).

It is answered in experience: When David cried out to God, he experienced his deliverance: *'For He has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted one; He has not hidden His face from him but has listened to his cry for help.'* (24). As a result, David was able to praise God and witness to His faithfulness.

The fulfilment of these verses are seen in Jesus' resurrection, which we celebrate on Easter Sunday. He was vindicated by God and has become the source of life and hope for all who trust themselves to Him.

In answer to the question *'Where is God?'*, we hear the answer, *'Look to the cross of Jesus!'*

Passionflower

Why is the passionflower called the passionflower? This beautiful climbing plant that grows in many of our gardens, was discovered in South America by Spanish missionaries centuries ago. Drawings were sent back to Europe and in 1609 an Italian priest interpreted the flower to represent the crucifixion, otherwise known as the Passion.

The five petals and five sepals represent the 10 disciples who remained steadfast (Judas and Peter both abandoned Jesus). The corona is the crown of thorns. The stigma is the cross or nails, and the five stamens are the number of wounds Jesus received.

From the Registers

Funerals (February 2020)

Tuesday 25th February

Joan Sansbury

Kirk Christ @ 2pm

Baptism (February 2020)

Sunday 9th February

James Neil Pairman O'Connor

Kirk Christ @ 9.30am

Jesus' appearances after His Resurrection

The following list of witnesses may help you put all those references in order....

Mary Magdalene	Mark 16:9-11; John 20:10-18
Other women at the tomb	Matthew 28:8-10
Peter in Jerusalem	Luke 24:34; 1 Corinthians 15:5
The two travellers on the road	Mark 16:12,13
10 disciples behind closed doors	Mark 16:14; Luke 24:36-43; John 20:19-25
11 disciples WITH Thomas	John 20:26-31; 1 Corinthians 15:5
7 disciples while fishing	John 21:1-14
11 disciples on the mountain	Matthew 28:16-20
A crowd of 500	1 Corinthians 15:6
Jesus' brother – James	1 Corinthians 15:7
Those who saw the Ascension	Luke 24:44-49; Acts 1:3-8

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)

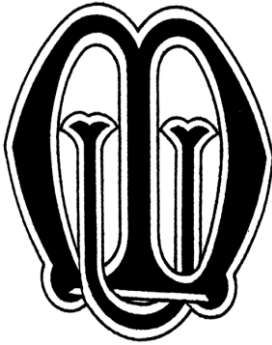
The **Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser** has now been appointed. For more details contact the diocese.

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



"The organist isn't too sure about it, he says he can't play that fast."

Rushen Mothers' Union



Undaunted by the wet and windy weather, twenty met in St Catherine's church hall on Monday 9th March for a short service led by Mrs Margaret Couper, and to hear Rev Roger Harper's talk on The Anglican Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham, "England's Nazareth".

Margaret began by warmly welcoming us all, particularly Roger, and introducing the first of 2 hymns chosen and played

by Mrs Valerie Vaughan. Margaret led us in prayer from the Mothers' Union prayer book and from the MU booklet Families Worldwide, for the Season of Lent. Mrs Sue Bould delivered a lovely reading from Helen Steiner Rice's book of prayer.

We had all been looking forward to Roger's illustrated talk, and to learning about Walsingham, in north Norfolk. He began with a short history of the founding of the Shrine in 1061 following a vision of the Holy Family's home in Nazareth experienced by Lady Richeldis, the lady of the manor, its destruction in 1538 by order of Henry VIII and its restoration in 1931. From his pictures we were able to view many aspects of this beautiful, peaceful place of pilgrimage and retreat, which Roger has been visiting now for 20 years: the rebuilt Holy House within the Shrine Church, the Sprinkling of water from the Holy Well, the processions through the Shrine gardens, the snowdrops carpeting the grounds, the Roman Catholic Shrine nearby, the refectory and the shop from which Roger had brought some interesting purchases including a beautiful icon. After questions from the floor and an appreciative vote of thanks from Mrs Sue Maddrell, we were invited to see the many items of interest which Roger had kindly brought.

Margaret concluded with a very apt prayer from the "2020, Year of Cathedrals, Year of Pilgrimage", prayer card, after which we sang the final hymn and said the Grace. Refreshments were served by Mrs Elsie Faragher and Mrs Jane Gunn.

For information:

- The Spring Council meeting in St George's Church on 9th March was attended by Elsie and Sue B.
- The Mothers' Union Festival will be held on Wed 25th March at 2.30pm in the Cathedral. The Rev Jeanette Hamer will preach, and refreshments will be served. Lifts available.
- Rushen MU will be holding a coffee morning on Wed 29th April in St Catherine's Hall, 10-11.30am, to which we warmly invite you.

With love and very best wishes to all,

Pat Thomson

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 fourth in the series which will run throughout 2020.*

‘He gave us eyes to see them’: Murillo’s ‘St John the Baptist with the Lamb’



The nursery rhymes we learnt as children often focused on lambs: Mary had a little lamb, Baa baa black sheep, Little Bo-Peep and Little Boy Blue. They come to mind in springtime when we see lambs in the field jumping for joy or bleating as they run to the ewes for warmth and safety.

Murillo, a 17th century artist from Seville, had that world of childhood in mind when he painted ‘St John the Baptist with the Lamb.’ He looks back to the little child of Isaiah 11 leading the animals, but also we are called to think of the adult John the Baptist, who sees Jesus walking by and exclaims, “Look, here is the Lamb of God.” In the painting, St John is a child with his arms around the lamb. He stands on rocky ground

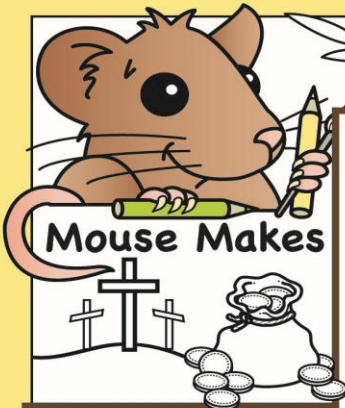
with a reed cross at his feet that has the words ‘Behold the Lamb of God’ on the ribbon.

The painting hangs in the National Gallery, and it certainly lacks the strength and brilliance of other Spanish artists. But Murillo is telling us how the drama of salvation is played out by children and lambs. He is inviting us to look from that world of childhood to another part of Isaiah’s prophecy, where he talks of the Messiah led like a lamb to the slaughter. We enter that drama of salvation in Holy Week this month. On Good Friday Jesus was led to His crucifixion, just as the lambs were being killed for the Passover.

We think of the world of Old Testament sacrifice, where the high priest on the day of Atonement would enter the Holy of Holies and sacrifice a ram. And we focus on Jesus who is for us both priest and sacrifice, and realise that there is a divine chemistry at work that leads us from Good Friday to Easter Day.

The writer of Hebrews meditates on this theme and proclaims that in Jesus we have a high priest of the good things that have come - eternal redemption. We are invited to appropriate that great gift for ourselves in this Holy Week of our salvation. So, we journey from the childhood days of Murillo’s painting to Calvary and the Easter garden. And we can also journey beyond to the heavenly city, where Revelation tells us that all the nations walk by the light of that Lamb - the Lamb of God.

Children's Page



Mouse Makes

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



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



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

DONKEY • COLT • SAT • COATS
ROAD • CROWD • CUT • PALMS
BRANCHES • KING • HOSANNA
DISCIPLES • ROOM • PASSOVER
FEAST • EAT • DRINK • BREAD
WINE • SON • MAN • BLOOD • CUP
MEAL • JEWS • PLOT • KILL • COINS
GETHSEMANE • PRAY • WILL
BETRAY • KISS • ARREST • MESSIAH
CHRIST • CRUCIFY • JESUS • CROWN
THORNS • ROBE • TREE • NAILS
CROSS • SPIRIT • DARKNESS
TEMPLE • DEATH • LOTS • DICE
TOMB • STONE • LINEN • BODY
BURY • GUARD • THREE DAYS
DAWN • MORNING • ANGEL • TELL
HEAVEN • GOOD NEWS • LORD
GOD • RAISED • JOY • PEACE
PRAISE • SAVIOUR • EASTER

The Story Behind the Hymn



This is the Day

This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made,
that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made.

This is the day, this is the day
when he rose again
when he rose again;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day when he rose again;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
when he rose again.

This is the day, this is the day
when the Spirit came
when the Spirit came;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day when the Spirit came;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
when the Spirit came.

This well-known chorus invites a discussion on how the Bible relates to congregational song. From the 17th through the 19th centuries, metrical versions of the psalms were standard in many churches. The idea of a metrical version was that the text should follow Scripture as closely as possible—adding nothing and taking nothing away. Scripture choruses, usually from the evangelical and charismatic traditions, also have attempted to set short biblical passages. “This Is the Day” is one of the most famous of these.

Leslie Norman Garrett was born in 1943 on the island of Matamata, New Zealand. He graduated from Faith Bible School. According to the *Psalter Hymnal Handbook*, he is currently a minister at the Christian Family Centre in Maddington, Australia. He lectures at Hebron Bible College and has travelled around the world speaking at conventions and churches. Mr. Garrett promotes the singing of Scripture choruses in books such as his collection *Scripture in Song* (1967), where “This Is the Day” first appeared. Since then stanzas have been added through oral tradition, including “This is the day when he rose again” and “This is the day that the Spirit comes.”

The *Psalter Hymnal Handbook* notes, “‘This Is the Day’ celebrates God’s mighty acts of redemption (originally referring to the Passover before the Exodus), hailing ‘the day’ as a special day of the Lord.” In other words, the reference is not just to any day but, for the Christian, Sunday—the Lord’s Day. (See Revelation 1:10, Matthew 12:8 and Acts 2:42 and 20:7 for references to the Lord’s Day.)

The tune is Mr. Garrett’s arrangement of a folk tune from Fiji. Part of the charm of the song is the possibility of singing it antiphonally or with two groups singing in alternation.

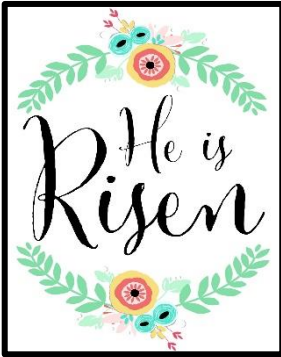
Rushen Parish Prayer Diary

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

April 2020

This is your invitation to pray day by day for:

- 1st The beauty of springtime and the new life that it brings to us all
- 2nd All those who attend the home groups that are arranged within the parish
- 3rd Gerry Callister for all his work as churchwarden, and his devotion to the parish
- 4th Engaged couples preparing to be married this year
- 5th The work of the Royal Lifeboat Institution in its aim to save lives of people in distress
- 6th The gift of love, given to us by God
- 7th Our sidespeople who work tirelessly for the parish
- 8th All the work carried out by those involved in the parish with the Mothers' Union
- 9th That everyone will stay safe during the Coronavirus Pandemic
- 10th Those who have served the parish for many years and now reside in care homes
- 11th The responsibility given to people who care for those who are terminally ill
- 12th The use of talents, given by God to us, as we pursue our daily lives
- 13th All people who are persecuted for their beliefs
- 14th Help for all those around the world who are hungry
- 15th Peace throughout the world
- 16th Those who intercede at all services within the parish
- 17th Children who have been orphaned and their hope for the future
- 18th The work of teachers and their assistants in our primary and secondary schools
- 19th Those who decorate our churches with floral displays
- 20th Those people in need of financial help in times of trouble
- 21st Queen Elizabeth, Lord of Man, and her 94th birthday which is today
- 22nd Those elected into positions of responsibility on the Parochial Church Council
- 23rd St George, the Patron Saint of England, who is remembered today
- 24th Farmers and farm workers, preparing the land for profitable harvests
- 25th The Children's Society and the wonderful work that it does
- 26th Stephen Curtis for all the work he's doing as Treasurer to the PCC
- 27th Young sportsmen and women preparing to partake in sporting activities
- 28th Parishioners and others who give of their time to keep our churches clean
- 29th People who are moving to a new house either here on the island or across the water
- 30th The tourist industry and the preparations being made for the summer months



EASTER: the most joyful day of the year

Easter is the most joyful day of the year for Christians. Christ has died for our sins. We are forgiven. Christ has risen! We are redeemed! We can look forward to an eternity in His joy! Hallelujah!

The Good News of Jesus Christ is a message so simple that you can explain it to someone in a few minutes. It is so profound that for the rest of their lives they will still be 'growing' in their

Christian walk with God.

Why does the date move around so much? Because the date of Passover moves around, and according to the biblical account, Easter is tied to the Passover. Passover celebrates the Israelites' exodus from Egypt and it lasts for seven days, from the middle of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which equates to late March or early April.

Sir Isaac Newton was one of the first to use the Hebrew lunar calendar to come up with firm dates for Good Friday: Friday 7 April 30 AD or Friday 3 April, 33 AD, with Easter Day falling two days later. Modern scholars continue to think these the most likely.

Most people will tell you that Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which is broadly true. But the precise calculations are complicated and involve something called an 'ecclesiastical full moon', which is not the same as the moon in the sky. The earliest possible date for Easter in the West is 22 March, which last fell in 1818. The latest is 25 April, which last happened in 1943.

Why the name, 'Easter'? In almost every European language, the festival's name comes from 'Pesach', the Hebrew word for Passover. The Germanic word 'Easter', however, seems to come from Eostre, a Saxon fertility goddess mentioned by the Venerable Bede. He thought that the Saxons worshipped her in 'Eostur month', but may have confused her with the classical dawn goddesses like Eos and Aurora, whose names mean 'shining in the east'. So, Easter might have meant simply 'beginning month' – a good time for starting up again after a long winter.

Finally, why Easter eggs? On one hand, they are an ancient symbol of birth in most European cultures. On the other hand, hens start laying regularly again each Spring. Since eggs were forbidden during Lent, it's easy to see how decorating and eating them became a practical way to celebrate Easter.



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St Mary's Ladies Working Party

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

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

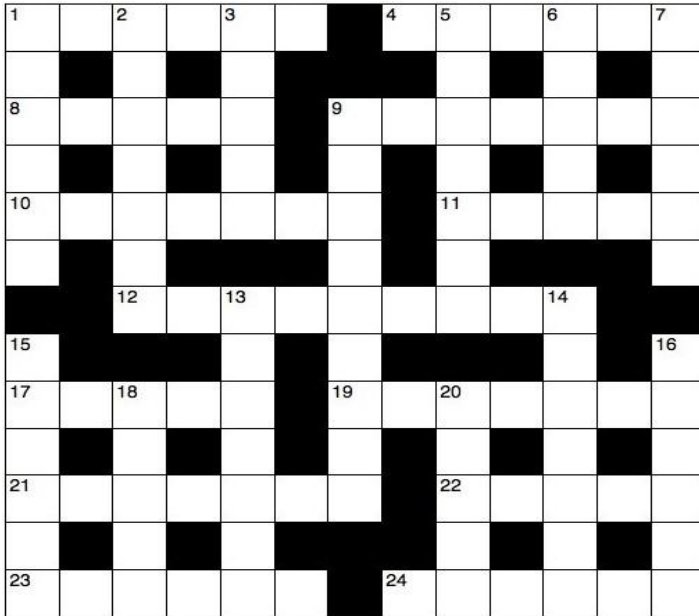
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Mr M D Porter, 10 Fairway Drive, Rowany, Port Erin 832143

Churchyard Enquiries:

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

April 2020 Crossword



Across

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
 10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)
 11 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)
 12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3-4) (5)
 19 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord' (Exodus 34:29) (7)
 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)
 22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)
 23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)
 24 'I was sick, and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me'

Down

- 1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)
 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)
 3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)
 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)
 6 11 Across is certainly this (5)
 7 He reps (anag.) (6)
 9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)
 13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)
 14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)
 15 The human mind or soul (6)
 16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)
 18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)
 20 Bared (anag.) (5)