

JESUS

The Gate of the sheep

Rushen Parish Magazine

September 2020



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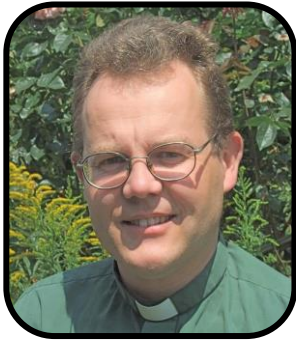
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A Letter from Joe

Dear Friends

Sheep don't often hit the headlines, but a few years ago there was a New Zealand ram, known as Shrek, that did. It seems that Shrek took a dislike to being sheared and hid among the rocky caves for six years. When the farmer finally spotted the animal he didn't recognise him as a sheep at all. Shrek's feet were barely visible for the fleece had grown and grown. When Shrek was sheared the fleece weighed more than sixty pounds.



Shrek had wandered away on the rocky slopes alone. Occasionally, when I have been out hill walking I have got lost. It can be frightening, disorientating when we lose our bearings. Everything is unfamiliar and maybe even threatening. It can become confusing and a sense of panic can begin to rise. But we don't have to wander the hills to become lost. Sometimes we can feel lost and alone in our own homes, and even when friends and family surround us. The feeling of lostness is about that empty space that sometimes opens up within. It can happen when we receive bad news about our health, or when we lose our job, or a loved one dies.

The twenty third psalm, *The Lord's my Shepherd*, is the most well-known psalm. Many have turned to the psalm when they are in need. The psalm pictures God as a Shepherd who we can turn to when we have become like Shrek and wandered away from green pastures. The writer of the psalm declares '*He restores my soul*'. In effect, he puts us on our feet again, and re-energises our whole being. But how does he do it? How does the shepherd-God restore our souls? I have found often it occurs through another human being. Someone who comes alongside us and helps us in our predicament; sometimes it can be a friend, sometimes a complete stranger. The parable of the Good Samaritan teaches us that help can come from the most unexpected quarters.

If you are currently lost at the moment and struggling with all that life is throwing at you, then I encourage to read Psalm 23 and allow it to nourish your soul. If you're not lost at the moment, then maybe you could be a Good Samaritan to someone and come alongside them in their need.

Joe

Rev Joe Heaton



Celebrating 400th anniversary of the voyage of the *Mayflower*

If we find it difficult to cross the Atlantic just now, it was even worse 400 years this month. On 6th September 1620, 102 determined Puritans climbed on board the *Mayflower* and set sail from Plymouth. They had 30 crew to steer them across 3000 miles of open, perilous ocean.

Those Puritans, or 'Pilgrim fathers', could never have dreamed that their journey would become one of the most influential in world history. Their courage and purpose for the voyage would help shape the very history and culture of the USA.

The Pilgrim fathers themselves were in search of religious freedom and a new life. Years before they had rejected the Church of England, due to its Roman Catholic past, and in 1608 they had moved to Holland, where they could worship freely. But life was very hard there, and so the New World beckoned to them.

They had originally intended to use two ships, but the *Speedwell* sprang a leak shortly after sailing, and so they crowded as many as possible into the *Mayflower*. After a long and difficult 10 weeks at sea, they reached America, but could not reach their intended destination, Virginia, because of heavy seas. They finally landed in Provincetown Harbour, Cape Cod, Massachusetts on 11th November.

That presented the next great challenge: the bitter, harsh winter of Massachusetts. Half of the Pilgrims perished that first winter, of hunger and cold. Without the help of the local Indigenous peoples to teach them food-gathering and other survival skills, all of the colony would probably have perished.

After months of hard work, by the 'Fall' of 1621 the tiny colony had its first harvest. They celebrated this great achievement with their new Indigenous friends. It became Thanksgiving. The Pilgrims had been convinced that God wanted them to go to the New World. They wrote: "We verily believe and trust the Lord is with us, and that He will graciously prosper our endeavours according to the simplicity of our hearts therein."

The *Mayflower* was one of the earliest pilgrim vessels, and so became a cultural icon in the history of the United States. This year, until coronavirus put a stop to things, many celebrations in the USA, England and the Netherlands had been planned.



Gorse – cheerful and perfumed, but prickly!

*Continuing the series on different common flowers by
Kirsty Steele, a retired teacher and active church organist.*

The old saying 'Kissing is out of season when the gorse is not in bloom' is based on the fact that it is a rare time of year when a flower or two cannot be found. The bush itself, growing on heaths and moors is well-known for its

vicious spikes. This is its answer to the problem of producing leaves that will withstand wind, rain and hungry animals.

The golden yellow flowers are at their absolute best in spring when the bushes, growing often to a height of seven to ten feet, seem to glow in the countryside. They attract bees and other pollen-seeking insects and many of us enjoy the rich coconut-like perfume as well as the joyful colour. The sharp foliage gives protection to several species of bird as they nest deep in these bulging bushes, and larger animals such as sheep and cows, if grazing nearby, will take advantage of gorse as a very effective windbreak.

In the past, gorse, also known as 'furze' or 'whin', was used as fuel as it burns very readily when dry. This has caused many serious moorland fires in recent years, but gorse is fortunately a resilient species and quickly sends up new shoots from the burnt stumps that remain. It is also apparently somewhat susceptible to frost, but will recover quickly with new growth.

A member of the pea family, its seeds are set in brown, somewhat unattractive pods, which on a hot summer's day can be heard popping, or they may be provoked into doing so when held in a hot hand. However, what might surprise us even more is that in the past, in country districts, it was used for drying washing, as the thorns would allow nothing to escape, even in the strongest of winds!

Who is where?

A man was very sick. Doctors feared the worst. As he lay at home, he suddenly looked up and said weakly: "Is my wife here?"

His wife replied, "Yes, dear, I'm here, next to you."

The man whispered: "Are my children here?"

"Yes, Daddy, we are all here," said the children.

"Are my brother and sister also here?"

And they say, "Yes, we are all here..."

The man sat up and cried, "Then why in the world is the light on in the kitchen?"

Abbey's 'black Jesus' stirs up a storm

*The **Revd Peter Crumpler**, a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts, is a former communications director for the CofE. Here he offers a personal reflection on a new painting in St Albans Cathedral*



A large-scale painting of the Last Supper depicting Jesus as a black man has sparked controversy and heated debate in the UK and around the world.

I reckon that's no bad thing. In fact, it could be really positive.

St Albans Cathedral, 20 miles north of central London in leafy Hertfordshire, has installed the painting – on show until 31st October – to “stand with the Black Lives Matter movement to be allies for change – building a strong, just and fair community where the dignity of every human being is honoured and celebrated, where black voices are heard, and where black lives matter.”

The installation is a striking piece of art and it's provoking strong reactions – just as good art should do.

People are responding with a wide range of opinions. Many have welcomed the artwork, but others are outraged, accusing the Abbey of pandering to a 'political correctness' agenda. Some have described it as seeking to be 'trendy' and riding on the bandwagon of a popular movement.

The Cathedral is a special place to me. I was ordained as a priest there, have served as a day chaplain at the historic building, and I minister at a parish church in the city.

Built on the site of an ancient shrine to Saint Alban, Britain's first Christian martyr, the Cathedral has been welcoming visitors for hundreds of years. It stands today as a thriving centre of worship, of community and of hospitality for thousands of pilgrims who visit the Cathedral each year.

The painting's artist, Lorna May Wadsworth, said: “I cast Jamaican-born Tafari Hinds as my Jesus to make people question the western myth that He had fair hair and blue eyes.

Continued on Page 7

"I also knew that, from a previous portrait of Tafari, there is something in his countenance that people find deeply empathetic and moving, which is the overriding quality I wanted my Christ to embody."

Not everyone shares the artist's perspective. A Facebook post from the Abbey promoting the installation drew 400 comments within an hour, as people from around the world hotly argued the case for and against the artwork.

One person responded: "The church has not changed the colour of Jesus; they have decided to put on show a piece of art that happens to depict Jesus as black. Let's hope it just gives people a chance to question things they have always just accepted as being right."

Other comments were more critical, with a typical response, "More shameless pandering to Black Lives Matter, bringing trendy identity politics into what is supposed to be the traditional church."

People may object strongly to Lorna May Wadsworth's artwork, or they may welcome it. Either way, it provokes an important debate about the role of race in our society and how we have depicted Christ in western culture.

The Abbey has stirred up a storm, but maybe that's the only way for ingrained attitudes to be challenged, and new perspectives formed.

A Special Place

There's a special place for us –
A quiet place, 'out of reach,'
Maybe in house or garden,
In a church or on a beach.

It's a place to rest awhile,
Where God's presence makes its claim;
Time stands still; the atmosphere,
Remains, constantly the same.

Select with care 'this corner';
Relax, find sweet solace there –
Free from many distractions;
Tiresome worry, or despair.

Let go! disturb not silence.
Let go! close your eyes and see –
Allow His enormous love,
To enclose and set you free - - -

Listen! learn to do His will.
Choose which duties to perform,
Until, while quiet and still,
God's will becomes your norm.

This personal connection,
Is amazing to behold;
As with renewed confidence,
We address what we've been told.

Mark 6:31 N.I.V. 'Come - - - to a quiet place and Get some rest'

Margaret Couper



News from St Catherine's & Kirk Christ



We have had some very mixed weather this summer starting off in May with beautiful sunshine, and with June and July being very mixed. Nevertheless it was lovely to be going back into our churches and meeting each other after being so long in lockdown.

The congregations throughout the parish have more or less returned to pre-lockdown figures. Let's hope that this continues and we do not have to suffer further disruptions. It is good to see the trees and fields looking so beautiful as we make our way into Port Erin, Cregneash and Port St Mary.

The next major social event is the soir  e at Kirk Christ on Friday 4th September. You are all most welcome. Tickets at £10 each can be obtained from Jim Dale or myself.

Gerry Callister

The Parish of Rushen Thursday Summer Concerts 2020 St Catherine's Church, Port Erin

3 rd Sept. 2020:	Lon Dhoo Male Voice Choir
10 th Sept. 2020	Musicale
17 th Sept. 2020	Lon Vane Ladies Choir
24 th Sept. 2020	Rushen Silver Band



Concerts commence at 7.45pm
Admission Free - Retiring Collection
Refreshments in Church Hall following concerts

Middle class

Young son to father: "Dad, what is the middle class?"

Dad: "The middle class consists of people who are not poor enough to accept charity and not rich enough to donate anything."

Sudoku September 2020

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

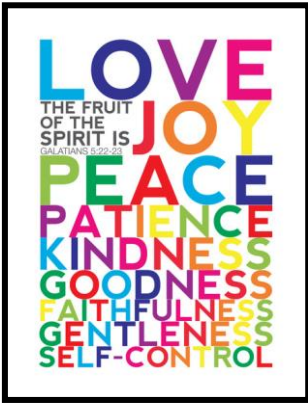
Sudoku Solution Aug. 2020

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

Crossword Solution Aug. 2020

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

The Spirit of Fruitiness



*As Harvest and the theme of fruitfulness approaches, **Joe Warton** considers the effect of the Holy Spirit on our lives.*

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. (Galatians 5:22-25)

It was quarterly review time for Max, a personal banking manager. He sat opposite his area manager, cup of tea in hand, as shoppers pootled along the High Street below, “So”, the area manager began, “How do you feel things have been going since we last met?”

“Pretty good,” answered Max. “I’ve definitely been feeling calmer at work; you know, less stressed... I guess more at peace with myself.”

“I’ve noticed that too,” she responded. “You do seem calmer; less irritable. I’ve not really heard you complain about anything. Can I ask why you think this is?”

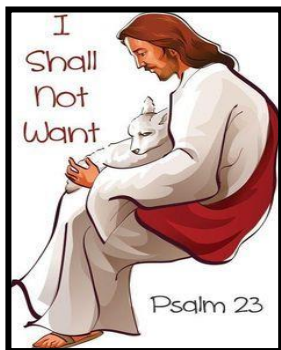
That conversation happened just a few months ago, and Max was able to share how he’d recently become a Christian, and what a difference God was making in his life. When God’s Holy Spirit makes Himself at home within us, our lives change. St Paul calls this ‘the fruit of the Spirit’.

Fruit is a great metaphor. The fruit of the Spirit isn’t something we stick onto the outside of our lives, like baubles on a Christmas tree. Rather, it flows out from us, as we soak up the nutrients of God’s Word and His holy presence. We cannot force out this spiritual fruit by tapping into our inner resources or by trying harder. This really is about God changing us, as we ‘keep in step with the Spirit’.

Healthy fruit is a sign of a healthy tree, and it shares its harvest with the surrounding ecosystem: birds, insects, Homo sapiens, and even our mortal enemies, wasps... Paul has already shown us how sin dehumanises and robs us of life, but the Spirit makes us more like Christ, the most fully alive human of all. And when we are like Him, it’s good for everyone.

Fruit brings blessing. It’s a manifestation of the life of God’s kingdom, bringing the sweetness of His presence to the people and places where it’s tasted. In that way, it furthers God’s mission. The fruit in our lives is a signpost to the life-giving God.

So today, do not hide your fruit under a bowl! Instead, put it out on the table, that people may taste your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.



Psalm 23 - a psalm for the pandemic

There are few psalms as personal and real as Psalm 23. It records David's experience of God as his Shepherd going through dark times. In the midst of the effects of a global pandemic, this psalm speaks to the fears that can overwhelm us.

He Knows Me: 'The Lord is my shepherd...' Just as a good shepherd knows every sheep in his flock, so God know each one of us intimately.

He Provides for Me: 'He makes me lie down in green pastures...' Just as the shepherd knows the needs of his sheep, so God will provide what we need in our lives and circumstances.

He Guides Me: 'He guides me along the right paths...' Just as the shepherd leads the sheep to the best pastures, so God provides the best for us, as we listen and follow Him.

He Protects Me: 'Even though I walk through the darkest valley...' Just as the sheep have no need to fear danger when following the shepherd, so we live knowing God's presence and protection.

He Comforts Me: 'your rod and your staff, they comfort me.' As the shepherd's rod defends the sheep, and the staff enables him to control the sheep, so God comforts us through His Word and discipline.

The final verses of the psalm (v5-6) offer the security of knowing that our lives are in His hands, even through death, as He leads us to the home we've been looking for all our lives.

Some years ago, a great actor was asked to recite Psalm 23, but asked one of the other guests to do the same. His remarkable rendition was followed by the other man, an older Christian speaking from the heart. Afterwards the actor said: *'The difference between us is that I know the psalm, but he knows the shepherd.'*

Canon Paul Hardingham



In August's magazine I indicated that the date for our opening Mothers' Union Rushen Branch communion service was on Monday 14th September. Please note that this was incorrect as the date has been changed to Monday 7th September at 2pm.

If you would like a copy of the time table for 2020 and 2021 please contact Elsie Faragher

Pat Thomson

How to deal with things that bite in the garden

by Perfectplants.co.uk

On-line supplier of garden plants, house plants, garden products.



Horse Fly



Catnip can Repel Bugs



Basil for repelling flies

Firstly, emphasising the value of planting the right plant in the right place:

A warm summer provides ideal conditions for many things. But not all. Many plants have found it difficult to survive without help during the hot, dry spells. This is the beauty of planting the right plant in the right place, taking care to match needs for shade and appropriate space together with soil requirements.

However, many plants love the hot weather, including cacti; succulents; alpiners; ornamental grasses such as *Stipa gigantea*; *Agarves*; *Bougainvillea*; *Portulaca*; *Oleander*; poppy; lavender, *Nepeta* and most silvery or furry-leaved plants. Think of a *Sedum* green roof – they can live through dry summer weather without so much as a glance.

Biting insects that thrive in the heat

Not everything that thrives in the heat is welcome. FLIES and other insects can pose a problem, and this has been a bad year for ticks too. So what can you do about these?

Firstly, many different scents can repel ticks and biting insects. These include lavender, peppermint, citronella, lemongrass, rose geranium, cedar and citrus. You can make a bug repellent using these fragrances. Just mix essential oils with a carrier oil such as sweet almond oil, mix and spray or rub into your skin. You can also use soaps containing these scents to deter the blood-sucking beasts.

Horseflies are particularly bothersome because they can deliver a rather nasty sting or bite which itches like mad and makes a big swelling. These little beasts measure up to 2.5cm long and they are often found around horse stables, rivers, ponds and livestock in general. The itchy wound is difficult to ignore. People tend to scratch the bite spot, often leading to minor or occasionally serious infection. Only the female horsefly (also known as clegs) need a meal of blood, because these require high protein levels in order to develop their eggs. All horseflies are at their most active in hot weather during daylight hours. Any warm-blooded mammal will do, including cattle, horses and people. Yum.

Horseflies are attracted to large, dark objects that move; to odours and carbon dioxide. They barely tickle when they land, so unfortunately, they are easy to miss. If you do see one trying to settle on you, swat it! But if you are too late, make sure the wound is clean, then apply an ice pack. This will soothe the itching. There are over-the-counter steroid creams that can be helpful too. Many people swear by dabbing vinegar or apple cider vinegar onto the affected area.

How to deter horseflies and other biting insects

Many of these little beasts like to live near water. Families are therefore advised to drain paddling pools rather than allowing the water to stay overnight. Standing water acts as a breeding ground for many insects including mosquitoes too. Don't waste your water, however! Those plants that need help during hot, dry weather will be happy to receive your leftovers.

There are other weapons in the war against nibblers that can help you. Encourage birds into your garden for biological control. Some plants have bug-repelling properties, and not only do they offer a natural solution, but an inexpensive one too.

Herbs to help you

Many plants repel insects. They are eco-friendly, cheap and safe to use. Try the following:

Basil: This aromatic, edible herb has a delightfully pungent scent that is known to be disliked by flies. Pop a pot of growing basil on your garden table, plant some in your borders and bring some into the home too. It loves sunshine and works its best magic when you agitate the foliage, so that it releases the oil that makes the scent. What's more, it is delicious in pesto and tomato sauces, also salads.

Bay grows so easily here in the UK where it can form a large shrub, *Laurus nobilis*. You can prune it into an interesting topiary shape, train the trunk into a spiral or allow it to form naturally. Pick some leaves and use them around the home. People have discovered that if they put a couple of leaves into a bag of flour these keep the weevils away. Bay is also thought to repel moths, earwigs, mice and flies. You can pop some in your cooking pot too.

Lavender is known to repel unwanted insects, particularly mosquitoes, moths and fleas. Hang a bunch in your wardrobe and around the home. You can sprinkle some on your pets' bedding and you can even grow it in the kitchen garden where it is said to repel rabbits.

Plant some mint and some catnip (*Nepeta*) near your entrances to keep ants, mice and flies out of the house. Sprinkle some dried leaves around your larder or put them in a bowl.

Finally, **Rosemary** is a wonderful herb with so many uses. Many people use it for medicinal reasons and it repels mosquitoes too. Plant it near the patio and around the barbecue to keep unwanted pests away.

Keep biting bugs away, every little plant can help!

Delivery to your door across the whole of the UK

All in the month of September



400 years ago, on 6th September 1620, 102 English Puritans (now known as the Pilgrims) set sail aboard the Mayflower from Plymouth, for a new life in America. After a perilous journey they landed in what is now Provincetown Harbour, Cape Cod, Massachusetts on 11th November. They had intended landing in Virginia, but were unable to reach it because of heavy seas.

150 years ago, on 20th September 1870 Rome was captured. Italian forces defeated the Papal States and captured the city of Rome at the end of the wars of Italian Unification. The Papal States were dissolved. Rome was annexed, and it became the capital of Italy in 1871.

125 years ago, on 28th September 1895 Louis Pasteur died. This French biologist, microbiologist and chemist was one of the main founders of the field of medical microbiology. Best known for originating the pasteurization of foodstuffs to eliminate micro-organisms that cause disease. Pasteur saved the French beer, wine and silk industries and developed vaccines against anthrax and rabies.

65 years ago, on 22nd September 1955 Britain's first independent television channel, ITV, was launched. It ended the BBC's monopoly. Regional franchises were rolled out across the whole country by 1965.

60 years ago, on 27th September 1960 Sylvia Pankhurst, suffragette leader, died.

50 years ago, on 19th September 1970 the first Glastonbury Festival was held, at Worthy Farm near Pilton, Somerset. About 1,500 people attended (compared to 135,000 today). It became an annual event from 1981 and is now the world's largest greenfield festival. The first festival was billed as the Pilton Pop, Blues & Folk Festival.

40 years ago, on 22nd September 1980 the Solidarity movement was created in Poland, with Lech Walesa as its leader. It was the first independent trade union in the Soviet bloc.

25 years ago, on 3rd September 1995 the auction site eBay was founded (as AuctionWeb).

20 years ago, on 17th September 2000 Paula Yates, TV presenter (*The Tube*, *The Big Breakfast*) died of a heroin overdose, aged 41. Wife of the musician Bob Geldof, she was also noted for her relationship with the musician Michael Hutchence. She was the daughter of Hughie Green, host of the talent show *Opportunity Knocks*, though she did not discover this until late in life.

15 years ago, on 24th September 2005 the IRA decommissioned its last remaining weapons in front of independent inspectors.

HAVE YOU TALKED TO GOD TODAY?

God Hears Every Prayer

Adrian has retired from full-time teaching, but he does some supply work in secondary schools.

Like many a teacher, when he's set the pupils some work, he often walks up and down the class, pausing here and there at a desk. No doubt the pupils think he is glancing over their work. No doubt sometimes he is. But often he's praying for them by name. It takes something to do that, doesn't it? To

remember that God loves every one of these people, that God answers prayer, and to pray and trust him for the answers, even though Adrian is very unlikely to see any difference himself, or be able to tell anyone else that something amazing has happened...

One day, like any other day, Adrian is in a class of 14-year-olds. He's set them some work. He walks up and down the class. He stops by one of the boys and begins to pray. And then he hears God say this to him: 'No one has ever mentioned this boy's name to me before.'

Imagine that. No one has ever mentioned this boy's name to God before. No midwife, no health visitor, no parent, no uncle or aunt or grandparent, no sibling, no godparent, no lollipop person, no doctor, no primary school teacher, no football coach or sweetshop owner or bus driver, no schoolfriend... no one.

But God was listening, waiting it seems, alert at that moment to the fact that, though there are 7.8 billion people on his planet, and no doubt hundreds of thousands of prayers being offered at that very moment, someone was at last lifting this particular 14-year-old person to his throne. To him.

God hears every prayer.

God cares for every person. Indeed, one might wonder why Adrian chose to stop at that particular desk and pray for that particular boy. After all, he didn't stop at every desk or pray for every child in the class. Perhaps God really wanted someone to pray for that particular boy, yearned for that boy to be lifted to his throne. And worked through Adrian to bring it about.

There is mystery here, but praying for the people around us, as we are led, however briefly, is something we can all do. And when Jesus returns, we will indeed get to see how he has worked through the things we regard as little, and created something gloriously beautiful.

From the Registers

Funerals (June/July 2020)

25 th June 2020	(Ashes Rushen Churchyard) 4.00pm	Doreen Smith
30 th June 2020	(Service Kirk Christ, Burial RBG) 2.00pm	Antony David Cannon
7 th July 2020	(Service Kirk Christ, Burial RBG) 2.00pm	Dollin P G Kelly
9 th July 2020	(Service Kirk Christ & Crem.) 10.15am	Daphne Mary Allen
10 th July 2020	(Ashes Rushen Churchyard) 3.30pm	Pam Crawley
10 th July 2020	(Ashes Rushen Churchyard) 3.30pm	Roy Crawley
21 st July 2020	(Ashes Rushen Churchyard) 11.30pm	Simon Kenneth Nead
22 nd July 2020	(Service St Catherine's, Burial RBG) 2.00pm	Sheila Kearsley

Crem. – Crematorium

RBG – Rushen Burial Ground

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





4th Sept. - St Birinus - apostle of Wessex

Did you ever feel that God was calling you to do something big for Him, even though you were not quite sure of the details? If so, Birinus is the saint for you.

He was a French Benedictine monk who in 634 was made a bishop at Genoa, and sent by Pope Honorius 1 to extend the evangelisation of England. (Augustine had arrived in Canterbury about 35 years before.)

Birinus landed at Hamwic, near Southampton. His original plan was to evangelise Wessex and then penetrate up into the Midlands, where no preacher had ever yet reached. But Birinus soon found the West Saxons so pagan that he decided to concentrate just on them.

Birinus had little to help him become the apostle to Wessex. So, he simply used what he did have: his own two feet and his voice. He wandered around preaching at every opportunity, trusting in God to help him. And He did: Birinus became known and respected, and soon a big breakthrough occurred: for political reasons the King of Wessex, Cynegils, wanted to convert to Christianity, and he asked Birinus to help him.

So Birinus instructed and baptised King Cynegils, who was then able to marry the Christian king of Northumbria's daughter, Cyneburg, and in due course Birinus baptised their family as well.

In return, Cynegils gave Birinus the town of Dorchester (upon Thames) to be his diocesan see. It was a perfect location: a Romano-British town right on a road and a river, in the midst of a populated area.

During his 15 years as Bishop of Dorchester, Birinus baptised many people and built churches all over the area, with the king's blessing.

Before he died in 650, Birinus dedicated a church at Winchester. It was a glimpse of the future: for Winchester's growing importance made it inevitable that in time it would also become the ecclesiastical centre of the kingdom.

Parish Pump

Off to uni...

Smith: *So your son is in college? How is he making it?*
 Jones: *He isn't. I'm making it and he is spending it.*

The Madonna of the Goldfinch' by Raphael

God in the Arts

The Rev Michael Burgess continues his series on animals and birds as seen in art and scripture.



The weeks and months of lockdown have been difficult and testing times for many of us, but they have also provided the opportunity to look afresh at the world of nature. With less traffic on the roads, less air pollution, and less noise pollution, the sky has somehow seemed bluer and the bird song more joyful and confident.

It is appropriate that we focus this month on one such bird noted for its liquid, tinkling song - the goldfinch. In this month we also celebrate the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary on 8 September, and so the painting is 'The Madonna of the Goldfinch' by Raphael.

Raphael was only 37 years old when he died in 1520, but his work is marked by maturity and great beauty. No more so than in this painting which shows Mary with a young Jesus and John the Baptist. You could easily miss the tiny bird which is carefully held by John and gently stroked by Jesus, who has one foot resting on His mother's. It is an intimate, tender scene which was painted in 1505 as a wedding gift for Lorenzo Nasi. It was badly damaged by an earthquake in 1548, painstakingly restored in the early part of this century, and now hangs in the Uffizi in Florence.

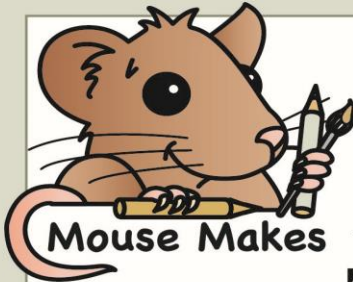
As we look, we rejoice in the grace and simplicity of the scene. We look again and ask ourselves 'Why a goldfinch?' The bird has a red spot on its head, and legend tells that the goldfinch flew down to the cross of Calvary to take a thorn from the crown of thorns. As it pulled the thorn in its beak, its head was splashed with a drop of blood.

And so this painting of gentleness and innocence opens out into a wider canvas of redemptive love. Our thoughts move from infancy to the cross. Mary, sat on a rock, is reading 'The Throne of Wisdom', and the artist is inviting us to ponder where true wisdom is found. Here, as we look at the wonder of nature and new life with a mother and children, but also as we look ahead to the 'wisest love' of Jesus who is our Redeemer.

Essays

A second year student explaining to a first year student how to write essays: "When you take stuff from one writer, it's plagiarism, but when you take it from many writers, it's called research."

Children's Page



BIBLE WORDS

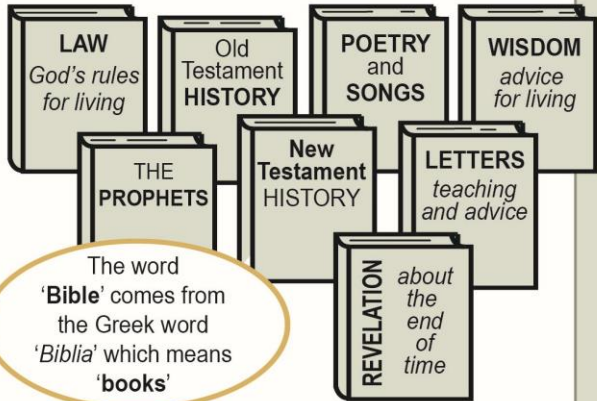
The Bible words in **BOLD** type on this page are also hidden in the word search, can you find them?

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

The **Bible** is a collection of **books** that took over 2,000 years to write!

The books were written by many different people, all helped and inspired by God. The Bible has books about:

There are **66** books in the Bible. How many can you name?



The word '**Bible**' comes from the Greek word '*Biblia*' which means '**books**'

God speaks to us today as we read the Bible. The Bible encourages us, corrects us and shows us how to live, it also describes itself as:



Mirror
James 1:23



Food
Hebrews 5:12-6:1



Honey and Gold
Psalm 19:10



Light
Psalm 119:105



Rain
Isaiah 55:10-12



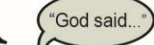
Seed
Mark 4:14



Hammer
Jeremiah 23:29



Fire
Jeremiah 20:9



Living Word
Hebrews 4:12



Sword
Ephesians 6:17

...but most of all The Bible teaches us about **God** and how we can be friends with Him.

The Story Behind the Hymn



Make way, make way

Make way, make way, for Christ the King
In splendour arrives
Fling wide the gates and welcome Him
Into your lives

Make way!
Make way!
For the King of kings
Make way!
Make way!
And let His kingdom in

He comes the broken hearts to heal
The prisoners to free
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance
The blind shall see

Chorus

And those who mourn with heavy hearts
Who weep and sigh
With laughter, joy and royal crown
He'll beautify

Chorus

We call you now to worship Him
As Lord of all
To have no gods before Him
Their thrones must fall!

Chorus

Graham Kendrick was born on 2nd August 1950. He is a prolific English Christian singer, songwriter and worship leader. He is the son of Baptist pastor, M. D. Kendrick and grew up in Laindon, Essex and Putney. He now lives in Tunbridge Wells and is a member of Holy Trinity with Christ Church, Tunbridge Wells.

Kendrick began his song writing career in the late 1960s. His most successful accomplishment is his authorship of the lyrics and music for the song, "Shine, Jesus, Shine", which is among the most widely heard songs in contemporary Christian worship worldwide. His other songs have been primarily used by worshippers in Britain. Kendrick is a co-founder of the March for Jesus. He received a Dove Award in 1995 for his international work. In 2000, London School of Theology and Brunel University awarded Kendrick an honorary doctorate in Divinity in "recognition of his contribution to the worship life of the Church".

Although now best known as a worship leader and writer of worship songs, Graham Kendrick began his career as a member of the Christian beat group Whispers of Truth. Later, he began working as a solo concert performer and recording artist in the singer/songwriter tradition. He was closely associated with the organisation Musical Gospel Outreach and recorded several albums for their record labels.

Kendrick worked for a time as a member of "In the Name of Jesus", a mission team led by Clive Calver. He was based at St Michael le Belfrey church in York in the late 1970s and was involved in student and university ministry with British Youth for Christ. At this time he recorded the albums *Triumph in the Air* and *Cresta Run*. Calver went on to run British Youth for Christ and the Evangelical Alliance, and then left the United Kingdom for the Evangelical Church in the United States. Kendrick, however, remained firmly fixed in the UK church as probably the most influential Christian songwriter of his generation.

In May 2020 he took part in The UK Blessing, a worship song video collaboration of 65 churches released during the national coronavirus lockdown

Rushen Parish Prayer Diary



Heavenly Father look in love on our friends and neighbours. Keep them from harm; bless them in all good things; give them your gifts of kindness and gentleness. Enfold our whole community, friends and strangers, in the peace that only you can give. And give us the wisdom to see your image in the eyes of everyone we meet, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen



September 2020

This is your invitation to pray day by day for:

- 1st The Annual Parochial Church Meeting being held at Kirk Christ this evening at 7pm
- 2nd Children preparing for the new term at school
- 3rd Children in third world countries who need medical help in order to survive
- 4th The United Nations and peace-keeping forces
- 5th All who are confused in a world of multi-choice
- 6th That world leaders may set good examples
- 7th All who work in dangerous or hostile environments
- 8th Children taken into care and those left at risk
- 9th All whose sight and hearing are failing
- 10th That we may know God's presence in our homes
- 11th All missionaries both at home and abroad
- 12th The Pope and fellow Christians in the Roman Catholic Church
- 13th The fellowship experienced in our four churches
- 14th Integrity and fair dealing in world trade
- 15th All who work with children during court proceedings
- 16th Local singers and musicians
- 17th Our churchwardens and members of the PCC
- 18th The work of the Children's Society
- 19th People we know who are ill, or in pain, and are awaiting treatment
- 20th Funeral directors and the work they do in helping the bereaved
- 21st Members of St Mary's Church Choir and Michael Porter, their choirmaster
- 22nd The PCC Meeting being held this evening in St Mary's Church Hall at 7pm
- 23rd People who receive Holy Communion at home because they are housebound
- 24th Those responsible for opening and closing our four churches each day.
- 25th For the selfless adults and children who have raised funds for the NHS this year
- 26th The work of charitable organisations in helping those in need
- 27th Peace throughout the world, especially in the Middle East
- 28th Those who go hungry because of failed harvests
- 29th Children of the parish who want to know more about Jesus and His wonderful work
- 30th Good harvests so that those who have been hungry because of famine can be fed

Services September 2020

6 th September (Trinity 13)	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)
13 th September (Trinity 14)	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)
20 th September (Trinity 15)	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)
27 th September (Trinity 16)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW Harvest)
	11am	St Mary's All-Age Service(Harvest)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW Harvest)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
4 th October (Trinity 17)	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 Harvest)
6 th October	11.15am	Southlands Holy Communion (CW)
	2pm	Play & Praise at St Catherine's (*)
11 th October (Trinity 18)	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)

(*) Dates and times of services/activities subjects to alteration)

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

Contact Details for Rushen Parish
--

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

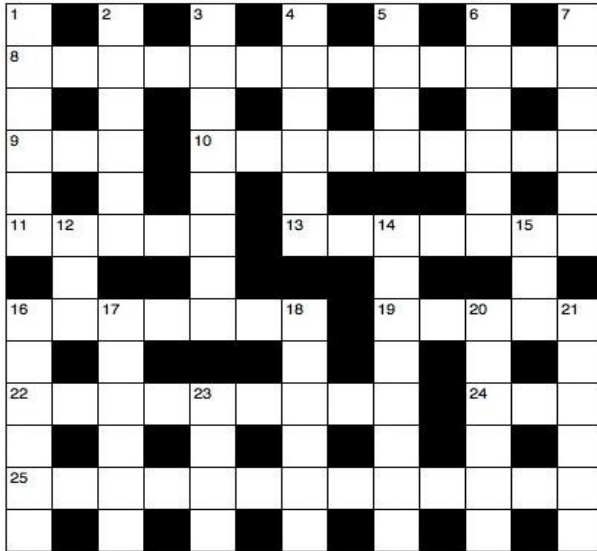
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Mr M D Porter, 10 Fairway Drive, Rowany, Port Erin 832143

Churchyard Enquiries:

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

September Crossword 2020



Across

- 8 Where the Ark of the Covenant was kept for 20 years (1 Samuel 7:1) (7,6)
- 9 One of the parts of the body on which blood and oil were put in the ritual cleansing from infectious skin diseases (Leviticus 14:14-17) (3)
- 10 Uncomfortable (3,2,4) (11)
- 11 'Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have ___' (Malachi 1:3) (5)
- 13 Where Paul said farewell to the elders of the church in Ephesus (Acts 20:17) (7)
- 16 'Jesus bent down and ___ to write on the ground with his finger' (John 8:6) (7)
- 19 Prophet from Moresheth (Jeremiah 26:18) (5)
- 22 Comes between Exodus and Numbers (9)
- 24 and 2 Down 'Then Elkanah went home to Ramah, but the boy ministered before the Lord under ___ the ___' (1 Samuel 2:11) (3,6)
- 25 There was no room for them in the inn (Luke 2:7) (4,3,6)

Down

- 1 Underground literature (including Christian books) circulated in the Soviet Union (8)
- 2 Lo, mash (anag.) (6)
- 3 The Bible's shortest verse: 'Jesus ___' (John 11:35) (4)
- 4 'Can a mother forget the baby at her ___ and have no compassion on the child she has borne?' (Isaiah 49:15) (6)
- 5 Can be seen in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (6)
- 12 'Send me, therefore, a man ... experienced in the ___ of engraving, to work in Juda and Jerusalem' (2 Chronicles 2:7) (3)
- 14 Second city of Cyprus (8)
- 15 United Nations Association (1,1,1)
- 16 One of the women who first heard that Jesus had risen from the dead (Mark 16:1) (6)
- 17 Braved (anag.) (6)
- 18 ___ of Evangelism, outreach initiative in the 1990s (6)
- 20 'Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and ___ in their own sight' (Isaiah 5:21) (6)
- 21 'Neither ___ nor depth... will be able to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (6)
- 23 What Jesus shed in 5 Down (4)
- 6 Rough drawing (2Kings 16:10) (6)
- 7 See 24 Across