



July 2024

Rushen Parish Magazine



The Kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed - it is the smallest of seeds, but when it grows, it is big enough for the wild birds to come and build nests in its branches.

Matthew 13:31-32

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From the Editor

Have you ever lost something and never expected to see it again? I suspect that the majority of us have been in this position at some time in our lives. I am no exception. As I get older I am forever losing things and not knowing where I have put them. Sometimes I will have had something in my hands only to find that it's suddenly gone missing. Not so long ago I wrote in this magazine about my missing wedding ring which was eventually found in a shopping bag. This led me to do a little research into the saints, because there seems to be one of these for every type of misfortune.

My research led me to St. Anthony, whose feast day happens to be 13th June. He was one of the greatest disciples of St. Francis of Assisi. Many of you will probably be familiar with the tradition of praying to St. Anthony for the return of lost or stolen items. This spiritual practice originated with the story of St. Anthony's book of Psalms being taken by a novice who departed the community. Realising his psalter was missing, St. Anthony prayed fervently for the return of the treasured book, which also contained notes he used for preaching and teaching. The wayward novice then, surprisingly, had a change of heart and came back to the community, returning the saint's psalter to him! The story of St. Anthony's recovery of his lost psalter has endured through the centuries, firmly establishing him as the patron of those who wish to find lost or stolen items.

Believe it or not I have once again mislaid an item. Superficial as it may seem I had bought a tube of toothpaste from Tesco. When I had returned from my 'big shop', I began putting all the items I had bought into their designated places in the kitchen, keeping the frozen produce to one side so that it could be dealt with later. It's a job I hate. I can cope with the shopping, but putting it away is a chore I really could do without. I then went upstairs so that the frozen produce could be put into the freezer. Many of you will now be thinking why I have a freezer upstairs, believe me I'm not losing my marbles! Eventually everything was put away and I could sit down and have a rest.

Time passed by, and about a fortnight later my existing tube of toothpaste was empty. On looking in the bathroom cabinet, where I normally store such a product, I couldn't find the new tube that I had purchased two weeks before. This led me to searching every nook and cranny of storage space in the kitchen, all to no avail. I began to think that I had inadvertently put it into the rubbish and that the only solution was to buy another tube of toothpaste. However I was still baffled as to where the other tube was.

Eventually I gave up and forgot all about it. That was until I had to go into the upstairs freezer. After moving several items to get to the food I needed, I saw a familiar packet. Yes, you've got it. The toothpaste could be seen at the bottom, almost hidden by some frozen chips. Perhaps St Anthony lies in wait in all of our minds, anticipating that he might be able to help us when we lose things, or on the other hand, a supposedly educated man like myself could be so ridiculous as to freeze toothpaste! In this case I think it was the latter of the two alternatives.

David



St Helier, losing a loved one to violence

Take the book of Samuel in the Bible, add a bit of Luke Skywalker father/son conflict from *Star Wars*, stir in a dash of *Pirates of the Caribbean*, and you sort of have the story of St Helier – the first saint and martyr of Jersey.

According to the legend, it all began in 6th century Tongeren (now in Belgium). A pagan couple badly wanted a child, but the wife was barren. In desperation they sought the help of a local Christian, Cunibert. He advised them to pray to the Christian God, and to

promise that any child born would be ‘given back’ to God. So, they did, and then the wife fell pregnant and gave birth to a son, Helier.

The parents were delighted – at first. But as the baby grew into a boy, it became clear that Helier was different from other children – he was precociously intelligent and could perform miracles. Helier’s father found this unsettling and grew jealous of Cunibert’s influence over his son. Finally, he plotted to have Cunibert murdered. In horror at such treachery, Helier fled. He wandered far, eventually reaching a monastic community in Normandy, run by Saint Marculf. Here he settled, seeking a life of contemplation, but it was not to be. Marculf had received pleas for help from the very few residents of an island called Gersut, or Agna (now called Jersey). They, too, had had bitter experience of violent men who killed their loved ones without warning: the Vikings and Saxons and Vandals had each visited the island in turn. Now they sought some comfort from the Christians: would someone bring them the Gospel? They had no one to shepherd them.

Marculf could not ignore such a plea, and so he sent Helier and a companion, Romard, to Jersey. The two monks found a small community of fishermen on the sand dunes where the modern town of St Helier would later grow. Helier chose to settle on a tidal islet, nowadays known as the Hermitage Rock. Romard, it was agreed, would act as the ‘go between’ between Helier in his hermitage and the fishing village.

Helier had chosen a remote spot for the peace and quiet it would give him as he approached God. But one day he discovered that his tidal islet had another great advantage as well. While looking out to sea and praying, he suddenly saw the sails of attacking pirates, stealthily approaching the island in boats. Frantically, Helier signalled the shore of danger coming, and the fishermen and their families scattered into the surrounding marshes, beyond the reach of the bloodthirsty, lustful pirates. This happened time and again and became so well known in island history that even today, small dark clouds on the horizon are still known as *les voiles de St. Hélyi* (the sails of St Helier). As if that were not enough, Helier’s prayers and the sign of the cross on another occasion stirred up such a storm that a raiding party was driven clear off the island.

One day the pirates finally caught up with Helier on his tidal islet. They beheaded him. Helier was deeply mourned and has always been revered in Jersey for having brought Christianity to the island. When his head and body were sent back to France, a healing spring is reputed to have sprung up on the place where the boat came ashore, and so Helier is better known there as a healing saint. The traditional year of his martyrdom is 555AD. His feast day is still marked in Jersey by an annual municipal and ecumenical pilgrimage to the Hermitage, on 16th July.



Ladies Working Party – St Mary's

The Ladies Working Party (LWP) has now been in existence for many years and throughout this time it has undergone many projects. Perhaps the most significant of these was the planning for, and funding the building of the church hall. This base became a hub for all of its meetings and the countless events it has arranged to raise funds for charities, St Mary's Church, the parish and countless other organisations. In its infancy the hall was used for children's activities and especially for the Sunday School which introduced Christianity to young minds, and still is doing so today. At present the hall is used throughout the week as a pre-school nursery. The LWP meets in St Mary's Church on Tuesday afternoons from 2pm to 3.30pm. At its meetings members plan future activities and provide a forum for a dedicated group of ladies to praise God, pray for Him, and to listen to encouraging and inspirational stories and poems. Of course, there's also an opportunity to have a good old chinwag whilst enjoying biscuits and/or cakes, along with a cup of tea or coffee. The LWP will have a break during the summer commencing on Tuesday 16th July. It will resume again on Tuesday 3rd September.

Recently the LWP arranged a 'Coffee and Chat' social event which is open to anyone. You don't have to be a member of the church, you may not really be interested in church, or anything to do with religion. Whatever your feelings you will be welcome to attend and to meet up with lots of others who just like to chat and want to spend time with likeminded people. It's held in the church where there is ample space to sit and enjoy each other's company. There's a voluntary donation of £1 or more, which enables everyone to have one, two or even three cups of coffee. There's a toilet too! By the way you won't be excluded if you are unable to meet the voluntary donation, all we want is to see you enjoying yourselves. Biscuits are provided, and very often a dog called Teddy joins us! The event does not take place on bank holidays and when the Beach Mission is operational which this year occurs on 29th July and 5th August.

The next fund raising event is to take place in St Catherine's Church Hall on 10th September from 10 – 11.30am. It will be a coffee morning in aid of the Leprosy Mission. Every two minutes someone receives the devastating news that they have leprosy, but there is a cure. The funds raised at this event will help find, diagnose and treat people affected by leprosy. It costs £24 to treat **and cure** just one person, so the funds raised could cure lots of sufferers and give them hope for the future.

If you would like to become a member of the LWP, or give a donation to the Leprosy Mission please contact Lesley Scott on 832919.

Lesley Scott



Doubts about the Christian faith? – take action now!

*Editor: The Revd Dr Roger Roberts considers
Doubting Thomas...*

Do you have doubts about the Christian faith? July is the month for you to decide what to do about them. This month the Church remembers Doubting Thomas, and there is action *you* can take, either way. You know the story: Thomas was the only apostle not present when Jesus appeared to the disciples on the evening of His

resurrection. When the rejoicing disciples later told Thomas that Jesus was alive, he flatly refused to believe them. He had seen the crucifixion.

The gospel goes on to relate that a week later Jesus indeed appeared to Thomas, and invited him to put his hand into the holes in His hands and feet. Thomas was utterly overwhelmed. His response was ‘My Lord and My God!’ He saw, he believed.

Then Jesus said something which is relevant to us today. “Blessed are those who have *not* seen and yet have believed.” (Jn 20:29) Jesus KNOWS it can be hard for you, who have never seen Him, to believe that He is indeed alive, and Lord of all.

Which is, of course, where we are today. Perhaps you really struggle with doubt. Well, there are two courses of action you can take.

1. Don’t read the Bible. Begin to forget what Christianity teaches. Don’t go to church. Don’t ask God, or anyone else, for help. Your ‘doubts’ are perfectly honest questions, but stop looking for answers. Assume that because you have questions, there are no answers.

2. Look for some answers. Find out what the New Testament actually says about Jesus by reading it! Do not be confused into thinking that you ‘doubt’ something which you may not even really ‘know.’ Pray – remember that Jesus said that those who believe without seeing are ‘blessed’. So, ask God that, if He is there, please would He ‘bless’ you by opening your eyes to spiritual realities. Go to church. Yes, the Christian faith demands that we take God at His word, with no evidence other than His Word. But though we believe in Jesus without seeing Him, we do NOT believe without considering Him. Faith is not blind credulity and unthinking naiveté. We have faith in the historic person of Jesus Christ.

Peter writes some real encouragement in his first epistle, “Though you have not seen Him, you love Him; and even though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls” (1 Peter 1:8-9).



News from St Mary's Sunday School

We had a very joyful celebration for Pentecost, the birthday of the Church, with flame headbands and flame-coloured streamers as well as flame kites! We also thought about what it may have sounded like on that first day of Pentecost 2000 years ago, when we listened to a recording of "Glory to God in the highest! Praise the Lord!" in several different languages, all spoken at once! We reminded ourselves that although we can't see the Holy Spirit, we know that He lives inside of us (like air in a

balloon) and helps us do things that we wouldn't be able to do in our own strength, eg being kind, patient and forgiving, or telling others about Jesus. After our session, the congregation joined us in the hall for a delicious faith lunch - many thanks to all who helped in any way on the day!

Our June all-age service was led by our vicar Joe Heaton, with beautiful music played by Charles and Ruth Crossley. Although we hadn't been able to meet the previous week, the Sunday School children did brilliantly with leading the congregation in singing "He's got the whole world in His hands" and reading prayers of intercession. The two lessons were read by Natalie and Thomas. Joe used a large clay jug to illustrate his talk about us having "treasure in jars of clay." He got the congregation thinking about what happens to our bodies as we grow older, eg we get aches and pains, we get slower, we can't see or hear as well; in short, our bodies become weaker and more fragile, and cracks appear like those in an old pot. However, the Bible says that as believers in Christ, despite our fragile, worthless earthly bodies, we are each like a treasure chest, because we have the light and life of Jesus inside of us, which can shine out to those around us and light up their lives. The children very much enjoyed pouring coloured glass 'gemstones' into the clay jug and seeing them all light up (with a little help from electric fairy lights)!

In preparation for the Flower Festival at Kirk Christ with the theme 'All at Sea' last Sunday's session focused on 'The Miraculous Catch of Fish' in John's gospel. We had fun acting out the story and creating some 'flower fish' for the Sunday School and Messy Church display, and as it was Fathers' Day, the children also made some chocolate superheroes to give to their dads and uncles.

We are now looking forward to our last Messy Church for this school year, our Sunday School Anniversary on 14th July and our annual Sunday School picnic on 21st July, before we break up for the summer holidays.

Love and Blessings
Claudia



News from St Catherine's & Kirk Christ



At Kirk Christ we had a very welcoming and enjoyable joint service on 26th May. The day started dull and cold but the sun arrived just as the service was about to begin. At present we are very busy preparing for the Southern Mission Partnership Flower Festival which takes place between Tuesday 2nd and Sunday 7th July. Kirk Christ is open to everyone throughout this period, as are the other churches within the partnership. We are particularly grateful to everyone involved, whether they have contributed to one or more of the displays, or are giving of their time to be a steward during the times that the church is open to visitors. I am sure that it is going to be a wonderful event. I would also like to give special thanks to the many organisations who will be represented in the displays. On 11th July Castletown High School Big Band will be giving a concert in Kirk Christ. It would be lovely to see you there.

At St Catherine's we are awaiting the work to commence on re-ordering the church. We ask the Lord to be with us and to bless all the planned work. While the church is closed, to enable the work to progress, the St Catherine's congregation will be using the church hall for worship on Sunday mornings at 11am.

Gerry Callister

King Charles accepts the patronage of National Churches Trust and Bible Society

Queen Elizabeth II was the patron of both charities, but following her passing, her patronages underwent review. Now King Charles has agreed to continue with his mother's legacy, saying he would be "delighted" to accept them both.

King Charles said his faith is "deeply rooted" in the Church of England. On his accession to the throne, he told faith leaders that he was "a committed Anglican Christian" and promised at his Coronation to "maintain the Laws of God and the true profession of the gospel."

Chief executive of the National Churches Trust, Claire Walker, said: "We are honoured to welcome King Charles III as Patron. This highlights the significance of UK churches and the important role of the National Church in keeping these wonderful buildings open and in good repair."

Bible Society's chief executive, Paul Williams, said: "We're absolutely delighted with this news, and very thankful. This is an affirmation of the value of Bible Society's work in sharing God's Word at home and abroad."

Sudoku July 2024

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

Hole for one

A golfing priest, after having been beaten by an elderly parishioner, returned to the clubhouse somewhat depressed. "Cheer up," said the layman. Remember, you'll eventually be burying me some day." "Yes," said the priest. "But even then, it will be your hole!"

June's Sudoku Solution

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

June's Crossword Solution

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



GIDEONS
INTERNATIONAL

125 years of Gideons and Bibles

It was 125 years ago, on 1st July 1899, that Gideons International was founded. The evangelical Christian association places free Bibles in hotel rooms, hospitals, schools, military bases and prisons around the world. It started when two traveling salesmen from Wisconsin in the northern USA – John Nicholson of Janesville and Samuel Hill of Beloit – met in a room at the Central House Hotel in Boscobel, Wisconsin, to talk about forming an association to strengthen the faith of people they came into contact with by distributing free Bibles “through designated traffic lanes of life”.

Most people encounter Gideon Bibles through their placement in hotel rooms, and research by Gideons International shows that about 25 per cent of travellers read a Bible when there is one in their room. The Gideons are exclusively Protestant evangelical businessmen with a belief in the Bible as the inspired Word of God and Jesus Christ as the Son of God.

In 2018 the UK section of Gideons separated from Gideons International over the issue of women’s full membership, which is not allowed by the international organisation, but which received nearly 80 per cent support in a UK members’ vote. After losing a dispute about the use of the name Gideons UK, they are now known as Good News for Everyone! They have links with Gideons in Canada and Sweden who have made similar decisions.

A very small number of men in the UK still belong to Gideons International. They are known as The Gideons International in the UK, and still remain a men’s ministry.

Tim Lenton

Prayer for July 2024

Father, thank you for summertime, when thoughts turn to holidays and relaxation. July is a month of endings for many; the ending of the school or college year and for some a moving on to the next stage of education or work. Often, there is uncertainty or trepidation about the future. Whatever stage of life we are at, whatever season of the year it is, we can feel uncertain and concerned in a world which seems increasingly secular and confusing. Remind us Lord, of Your promise to be with us always, every step of every way, when we put our trust in You, through Jesus. Thank you that in the ups and downs of life, You never change. You are the rock on which we stand securely, eternally. Help us to move forward confidently, trusting in that truth.

Amen



1984 - The burning of York Minster

Forty years ago, on 9th July 1984, York Minster was struck by lightning, which set fire to the roof and destroyed the south transept.

It was the most recent of five fires that have occurred there over the years: the causes have ranged from workmen burning coals (1753) through arson using torn-up hymnbooks (1829) to an unattended candle (1840) and a tarpaulin catching fire (1971). Although night lightning was the official

explanation in 1984, some suggested that God might have been reacting to the very recent appointment as Bishop of Durham of the Rt Revd David Jenkins, a famously controversial cleric whose comments had seemed to cast doubt on the virgin birth and the Resurrection. He had been consecrated at York Minster three days earlier.

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, described that idea as “ridiculous”, though some – including a few members of the fire service – felt that arson by objectors could not be ruled out. As many as 114 firefighters from over North Yorkshire were involved in tackling the blaze. Insurance cover on the Minster had just been increased by its treasury department: the damage to the south transept, with its wooden vaulted roof, amounted to £2.25 million.

York Minster is a huge landmark and tourist attraction in the city: many consider it to be one of Europe’s most impressive Gothic buildings. The glass in its famous 16th century Rose Window, which had recently been renovated, cracked into 40,000 pieces, but the new lead edges held it all together.

Queen Elizabeth attended the rededication ceremony in October 1988. This year a new exhibition called *Out of the Ashes* tells the story of the blaze and marks its anniversary.

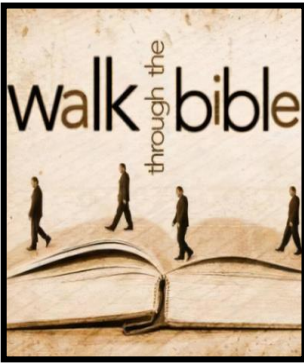
Tim Lenton



Thursday's at 7.30pm

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 4 th July | Meadowside Choral Society |
| 11 th July | Castle Rushen High School |
| 18 th July | Marlene Mask & Dilys Sowery |
| 25 th July | Glen Faba Choral |

All to be held at the **Erin Arts Centre** except for the second concert on 11th July. This will be held at **Rushen Parish Church**. Admission is free but there will be a retiring collection. Refreshments are served.



What's the Big Idea? An Introduction to the Books of the Old Testament: 1 & 2 Samuel

Editor: **Canon Paul Hardingham** continues his series which will run to the end of 2025

1 & 2 Samuel was originally a single work, which focuses on Samuel, Saul and David, around 1,000 BC, mid-way between Abraham and Jesus. It was Samuel who established the monarchy in Israel after the period of the judges. He was commanded by God to give the people a king, although their request is seen as a rejection of God's rule over Israel (8:7). The people simply wanted to be like other nations, however their king was still subject to God's law and the word of the prophet. Although Samuel anointed Saul, he soon showed an unwillingness to submit to these requirements, leading to his rejection as king (15:23). God chose David as Saul's successor, and 1 Samuel depicts David's years of waiting until the right time arrived to claim the throne.

2 Samuel depicts David's rule, in which the nation prospers and its enemies are defeated. The promise of the perfect king is fulfilled in Jesus Himself, as David's descendant. The second half of the book depicts the darker side of David's reign, describing his weaknesses and failures, including his adultery with Bathsheba and the rebellion of his son Absalom.

Nevertheless, David remained a man after God's own heart: *'The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.'* (1 Samuel 16:7). The characters in this book are not always great examples of faith, however, *'They do not show us how we should live but how in fact we do live, authenticating the reality of our daily experience as the stuff that God uses to work his purposes of salvation in us and in the world.'* (Eugene Peterson).

Quiz on 1 & 2 Samuel

1 Who taunted Hannah about her inability to have children? <i>Leah, Peninnah, or Naomi</i>	2 What was Eli's job? <i>Priest, Counsellor or Baker</i>
3 How did Eli die? <i>He was poisoned, He died in his sleep, or He fell off his chair</i>	4 In the house of which god did the Philistines place the Ark of the Covenant? <i>Ashtaroath, Dagon, or Molech</i>

<p>5 How was the ark returned?</p> <p><i>The Philistines carried it by hand, or It was carried on a cart pulled by cows, or It was strapped to a chariot and pushed down a hill</i></p>	<p>6 What did the people demand from Samuel?</p> <p><i>Lower taxes, A king, or A better army</i></p>
<p>7 Which tribe was Saul from?</p> <p><i>Judah, Benjamin, Dan or Simeon</i></p>	<p>8 Which animals did Saul's father tell him to search for?</p> <p><i>Donkeys, Sheep, or Horses</i></p>
<p>9 What did Jonathan eat, despite Saul telling his troops that they were not to eat it until they were victorious?</p> <p><i>Milk, Honeycomb, or Bread</i></p>	<p>10 What job did David first do for Saul?</p> <p><i>Chef, Shepherd, or Musician</i></p>
<p>11 How many shekels of brass did Goliath's coat of armour weigh?</p> <p><i>2,000, 3,000, or 5,000</i></p>	<p>12 What did David do when he visited King Achish in Gath?</p> <p><i>He pretended to be insane, He gave the king a gift, He offered him his friendship or He killed the king</i></p>
<p>13 Where did David cut off the corner of Saul's cloak?</p> <p><i>In a cave, In a forest, or By a river</i></p>	<p>14 Which of the following did Saul not turn to for advice towards the end of his life?</p> <p><i>Dreams, Prophets of Baal, or A witch/medium</i></p>
<p>15 For how long did David reign over Judah before he became king of Israel?</p> <p><i>Twelve days, Six months, Three years, or Seven and a half years</i></p>	<p>16 What did Uzzah touch which resulted in his death?</p> <p><i>Serpent - Ark - Poisoned Arrow</i></p>
<p>17 Who did God send to rebuke David for his dealings with Uriah and Bathsheba?</p> <p><i>Nathan, or Zadok, or Joab</i></p>	<p>18 What type of tree did Absalom get caught up in during the battle with David?</p> <p><i>Willow, or Oak or Palm</i></p>
<p>19 How many men died in a plague as punishment for David's sin?</p> <p><i>70,000, or 100,000, or 640,000 or 1,000,000</i></p>	<p>20 On whose threshing floor did God instruct David to build an altar?</p> <p><i>Naboth's - Othniel's - Araunah's</i></p>



All in the month of July



750 years ago, on 11th July 1272 Robert I (Robert the Bruce) was born. He was King of Scotland 1306-29.

125 years ago, on 1st July 1899 the Gideons International was founded. The evangelical Christian association places free Bibles in hotel rooms, hospitals, schools, military bases and prisons around the world.

100 years ago, on 11th July 1924 British sprinter Eric Liddell won the men's 400 metres gold medal at the 1924 Olympics in Paris. He preferred the 100 metres, but the heats were held on a Sunday, and he refused to run in them.

90 years ago, on 4th July 1934 Marie Curie, Polish-born French physicist died. Twice winner of the Nobel Prize for her work on radioactivity. The first woman to win a Nobel prize.

75 years ago, on 27th July 1949 the first successful test flight of the de Havilland Comet, the first commercial passenger jet, took place. The jet went on into production. **Also on 29th July 1949** the BBC began broadcasting regular weather forecasts on TV.

70 years ago, on 5th July 1954 the BBC launched the first daily television news programme in the UK. **Also on 21st July 1954** the first part of J R R Tolkien's epic fantasy novel *The Lord of the Rings* was published.

65 years ago, on 25th July 1959 the first hovercraft crossed the English Channel. The SRN-1 had been designed by British inventor Christopher Cockerell.

60 years ago, on 28th July 1964 NASA launched its Ranger 7 space probe on a mission to the Moon. On 31st July it sent back the first close-up images of the lunar surface.

50 years ago, on 4th July 1974 Georgette Heyer, best-selling historical romance novelist, died. **Also on 24th July 1974** the US Supreme Court ordered President Richard Nixon to surrender the White House tape recordings that had been subpoenaed by the House Judiciary Committee in April. The White House released the tapes on 5th August, and Nixon resigned on 9th August, before he could be impeached.

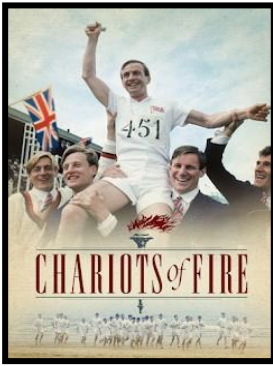
40 years ago, on 9th July 1984 York Minster in England was struck by lightning, which set fire to the roof and destroyed the south transept.

30 years ago, on 15 July 1994, the Rwandan genocide ended. Up to 1.1 million people were killed by the Hutu-led government and other militias between April and July. **Also on 21st July 1994** Tony Blair was elected leader of Britain's Labour Party. He became Prime Minister in 1997.

25 years ago, on 1st July 1999 the Scottish Parliament was officially opened by Queen Elizabeth II.

20 years ago, on 28th July 2004 Francis Crick, British molecular biologist and biophysicist, died. He was joint winner of the 1962 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for discovering the molecular structure of DNA.

15 years ago, on 5th July 2009 the Staffordshire Hoard was discovered by a metal detectorist in Hammerwich, a village in Staffordshire. It was the largest hoard of Anglo-Saxon gold and silver ever found.



Remembering the faith of Eric Liddell – 100 years ago at the Paris Olympics

Editor: Many people will recall the popular film Chariots of Fire which came out in the 1980s. We are approaching the centenary of that big race...

The 2024 Paris Olympics (26 July – 11 August) will soon be here. It was 100 years ago this summer, also at the Paris

also at the Paris Olympics, that a young science student at Edinburgh University, Eric Liddell, ran an astonishing race that caught the imagination of millions worldwide.

Liddell had been born in China in 1902, to Scottish missionaries there. Early on, he had made a deep commitment to Jesus Christ, and sensed he was being called to spend his life in serving others. But Liddell was also an outstanding sportsman, playing rugby for Scotland before settling on athletics.

When he was chosen for the Paris Olympics, he expected to run his preferred 100m. But then came the news that the race would be run on a Sunday, and Liddell refused. Quickly, he trained for the 200m and 400m. He took bronze at the 200m, but no one expected much from him at the 400m. Instead, he won, and even broke the world record in the process.

After the Olympics, Liddell felt God calling him to his life's work. He went back to China, to teach in a Christian college. As the Second World War loomed, he sent his wife and children home, but stayed on himself. By 1943 Liddell was confined to a brutal prison camp, where he shone among the fellow prisoners – encouraging them, teaching Bible classes, and praying for both his fellow inmates and the prison wardens. Deeply malnourished, his health failed and in 1945, just months before the war ended, he died, aged only 43.

In 1981 his story was made into the Oscar-winning film *Chariots of Fire*.

Parish Pump



Sunday School Photos



From the Registers

Funerals May 2024:

10 th May	Shaun A Watterson	3pm	Kirk Christ	Service & Burial
13 th May	Joan Faragher	11am	RBG	Ashes Burial
17 th May	Mark Breslin	2pm	RBG	Burial only

Wedding May 2024:

18 th May	Andrew Kneen & Sarah Keggen	3pm	Kirk Christ
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RBG - Rushen Burial Ground

Answers to last month's quiz on the book of Ruth

1. Famine in his home town (Ruth 1:1), 2. He died (1:3), 3. Daughter-in-law (1:22), 4. Ruth (1:16), 5. Mara (1:20), 6. Kinsman of Elimelech (2:1), 7. She had looked after Naomi (10-11), 8. Winnowing barley (3:2), 9. Uncovered his feet and lay down (3:7), 10. As a virtuous woman (3:11), 11. Didn't want to spoil inheritance (4:5-6), 12. Sandal (4:7-8), 13. Obed (4:17), 14. David (4:17)

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,
Rhiannon Manning (Tel. 832275)

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



Sea Sunday – 14th July



Look around your home. How much of the contents of your bedroom, kitchen, living room and even garage came to you over the seas, via the great merchant ships? What would your home be like without them?

Yet when did you last give a thought to the people who bring them to you?

It is a curious fact that seafarers are one of the most important, and yet invisible, people groups in our society. We depend on them to bring us more than 90% of the world's goods and fuels, yet we rarely even remember their existence.

It suddenly makes Sea Sunday seem a very good idea: an annual opportunity to give thanks for the 1.89 million seafarers of the world, and to pray for their personal well-being. For going to sea is a lonely occupation. It separates families for up to nine months on end. It is also one of the world's most dangerous occupations, with physically demanding work as well as the threat of piracy, shipwreck and even abandonment.

So this Sea Sunday, let's pause and give thanks to God for the seafarers of the world. Let's remember how their work so enriches our lives. Let's pray for them, for their families, and let's support the organisations that offer them care and support through their chaplaincy work.

One such is The Mission to Seafarers, which has Seafarers Centres in 50 countries, and offers not only practical support such as access to Wi-Fi and a place to relax, but also emotional and spiritual aid through its ordained Port Chaplains, who are constantly visiting the ships.

Parish Pump

Men of the Sea

Your first disciples, Lord, were men of the sea:

Hardy fishermen from the shores of Galilee.

They knew from experience the perils of the deep...

They also knew Your presence with them in their darkest hours.

We pray for those who face like hazards today...

Lord of the sea, be near to guard them in every danger...

And let them hear Your voice above the tempest,

'It is I, be not afraid'

So bring them to their haven in peace.

From a prayer by Frank Colquhoun

God in Music



Editor: The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series looking at great works of music.

‘Glorious the song when God’s the theme’: J S Bach’s joy and dance

In 1956 a small novel by a German writer, Johannes Rüber, appeared in an English translation. It was called ‘Bach and the Heavenly Choir’ and tells of Pope Gregory XIX’s desire to elevate Bach to the ranks of the saints. To bring together the Lutheran bishop and his own cardinals, he organises a great Bach festival in Rome. At the festival he announces his plan and the reasoning behind it: that in J S Bach ‘faith has become music.’

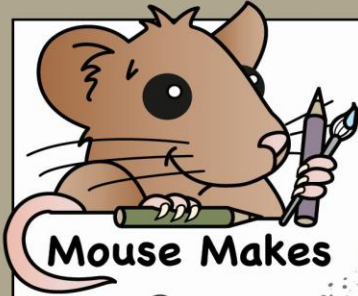
In that realisation lies the grace and glory of Bach’s achievement, and why we treasure his works today. The irony is that the bulk of his music was never published in his lifetime. The six Brandenburg Concerti, beautifully copied out and offered, were never performed and the music put in a cupboard. His music in all probability would have been lost for ever had it not been for a young Mendelssohn, who just happened to find a manuscript of the St Matthew Passion in his music teacher’s house. He recognised it for its brilliancy and beauty and ordered a massive search to unearth the decaying manuscripts.

So much of Bach’s music was inspired by his joy in believing. Just consider one of the six motets, ‘Jesu, meine Freude’ (Jesus, my joy). It was probably written for a memorial service in July 1723. In his other works, Freude, or ‘joy’, releases new movement. In this motet, the word is kept within the constraints of the chorale melody that acts as a framework for the motet. The word that brings a joyous release is Geist, Spirit – when it appears, then each voice joins in the chase as notes spill over the page and into our ears, proclaiming the inspiration of God’s Spirit in human life.

This spirit of joy helps us realise that what makes Bach’s music so vital and rewarding is that total sense of movement and dance. Wilfred Mellers wrote a book ‘Bach and the Dance of God,’ showing how so much of Bach’s music is dance-inspired from lively gavottes to more stately sarabandes that can be heard in both the instrumental and choral music. Widor, like Bach a great organist, wrote that ‘For me Bach is the greatest of preachers.’

And what does he preach? That in the end, all is dance and life in the power of God’s Spirit. In ‘Jesu, meine Freude’ as in all his music we hear and relish the movement and pulse of his compositions that open up for us a world where all is joy and dance. That is how Dante ended his vision of Paradise, where everything is movement and dance, and what moves the sun and the other stars is love.

Children's Page



Mouse Makes

How many days did the Lord tell Joshua to march around the city of Jerico?

Joshua 6:3

What did the priests carry that were made from rams' horns?

Joshua 6:4

What was carried along behind the priests?

The _____
Joshua 6:4

On the seventh day how many times did they march around Jerico?

Joshua 6:6

Who was saved from Jerico along with her family?

Joshua 6:17



READ
the story
in Joshua
5:13-6:27

DAY SAWALK
AJOSHUARKKE
SEVENIOFLATW
YNTRFXUELBOI
IPRIESTSOUND
AAUCLISWRRC
RIMOLKIBDNEW
OSPSCAMPHORN
URECGUARDBK
NATIFIREXLI
DESTRUCTION
ELRYRAHABWG

JERICO • LORD • JOSHUA • ISRAEL • KING • PRIESTS • GUARD
CAMP • MARCH • AROUND • DAYS • WALK • ONCE • BLOW • HORN • SOUND
DAWN • SHOUT • CITY • WALL • FELL • FLAT • FIRE • BURN • DESTRUCTION

Find the question answers in the word search too!

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The Story Behind the Hymn



Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

O soul are you weary and troubled
No light in the darkness you see
There's light for a look at the Saviour
And life more abundant and free

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in his wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow
strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace*

His word shall not fail you he
promised
Believe him and all will be well
Then go to a world that is dying
His perfect salvation to tell

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in his wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow
strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace*

O soul are you weary and troubled
No light in the darkness you see
There's light for a look at the Saviour
And life more abundant and free

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in his wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow
strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace*

"Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus" has become a familiar hymn that has been widely used in Christian circles to challenge believers musically with the necessity of making Christ the paramount priority in their lives, and then living each day with eternity's values in view. The author and composer of this hymn, Helen H. Lemmel, relates that one day, in 1918, a missionary friend gave her a tract entitled "Focused." The pamphlet contained these words: "So then turn your eyes upon Him, look full into His face and you will find that the things of earth will acquire a strange new dimness."

These words made a deep impression upon Lemmel. She could not dismiss them from her mind. She recalls this experience following the reading of that tract: "Suddenly, as if commanded to stop and listen, I stood still, and singing in my soul and spirit was the chorus, with not one conscious moment of putting word to word to make rhyme, or note to note to make melody. The verses were written the same week, after the usual manner of composition, but none the less dictated by the Holy Spirit."

The hymn was first published in 1918 in the form of a pamphlet in London, England. Four years later, it was included in a collection titled, *Glad Songs*, a book containing sixty-seven songs by Mrs. Lemmel. This hymn became especially popular that same year at the Keswick Bible Conference in northern England, where it was first introduced. It first appeared in the United States in 1924 in a song collection called, *Gospel Truth in Song*, published by Harry Clarke in Chicago, Illinois. Since that time, the song has been included in most evangelical hymnals and has been translated into many languages around the world.

How easy it becomes, even for those of us who profess to be faithful followers of Christ, to get caught up in the "things of earth" so that our heavenly vision and values become blurred and dull. This often happens even when we are active in our Christian activities, we become so involved in merely doing things for God that we miss the real blessing of enjoying the personal fellowship of Christ Himself in our daily lives.

Prayer Works

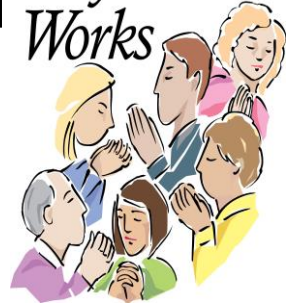


Rushen Parish Prayer Diary

*Lord Jesus Christ, you have said
that you are the Way, the Truth and the
Life.*

*Do not allow us to stray from you,
who is the Way,
not to distrust you, who is the Truth,
nor to rest in anything other than you,
who is the Life. Amen*

Prayer Works



July 2024

This is your invitation to pray day by day for:

- 1st Children with special needs and their families
- 2nd Peace between peoples of different faiths
- 3rd The ability to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves
- 4th The NHS and its tireless work in looking after the sick and infirm
- 5th Tynwald and the festivities taking place today
- 6th Those who work in the legal profession, and the work they do for everyone
- 7th Local organisations for children and young people
- 8th Those known to us who are unwell and need our prayers
- 9th Families hoping to spend part of the summer on holiday abroad or in the UK
- 10th The Commissioners of Port Erin, Port St Mary and Rushen and the work they do
- 11th Those who give of their time to help those who are less fortunate than themselves
- 12th The environment, and how we can ensure that it is not polluted by our waste
- 13th The kindness of those who keep in touch with the vulnerable and the lonely
- 14th Fair trade and sustainable development in the third world
- 15th The charitable work undertaken by many of the island's organisations
- 16th The PCC meeting being held this evening
- 17th The work of the Salvation Army
- 18th The Diocese of Sodor and Man and its links with parishes within its boundaries
- 19th The work of retreat houses and places of pilgrimage
- 20th Food and clothing for those afflicted by war and famine
- 21st Single parents, teenagers living alone and families on low incomes
- 22nd Chaplains in the armed forces, hospitals and prisons
- 23rd All pets and the pleasure they give to so many both young and old
- 24th Farmers as they look forward to the harvest of their crops
- 25th The people of Ukraine who have lost everything and seem to have no hope
- 26th Those who have been bereaved recently or remembering the death of loved ones
- 27th Family life throughout the world
- 28th Those who have died for their faith in Jesus Christ
- 29th Those who work in the holiday industry and the difficulties they are experiencing
- 30th Victims of abuse, cruelty, and violence
- 31st Children and students enjoying their break from school or college

Services July/August 2024

7 th July (Trinity 6)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer + Baptism (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
14 th July (Trinity 7)	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 Holy Communion (BCP)
21 st July (Trinity 8)	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)
28 th July (Trinity 9)	11am	Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)
4 th August (Trinity 10)	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)
11 th August (Trinity 11)	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 Holy Communion (BCP)
18 th August (Trinity 12)	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)
25 th August (Trinity 13)	11am	Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)

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

Contact Details for Rushen Parish cont'd....

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St Mary's Ladies Working Party

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(Mobile: 07808254356 email: lesley@pharmaconsulting.co.uk)

St Catherine's Hall Bookings:

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

Web Site/E-mail:

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e-mail: dbow43@manx.net

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

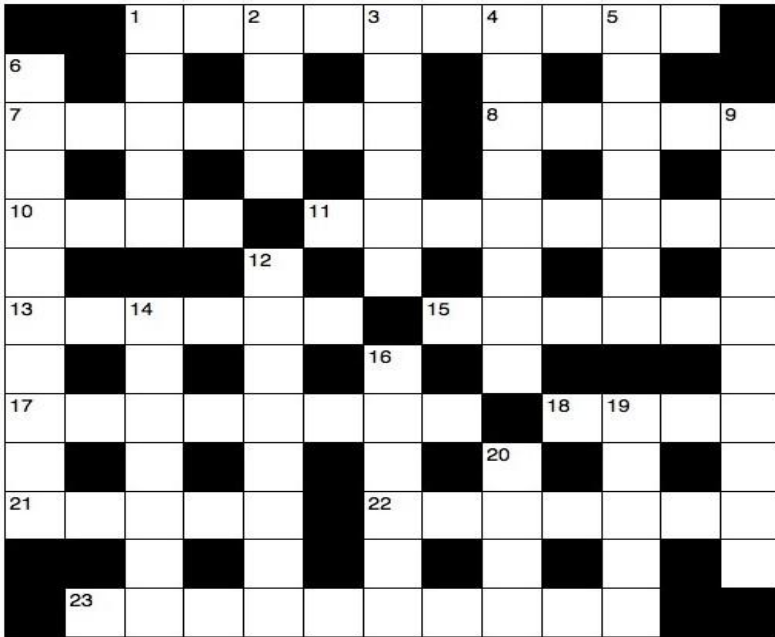
Parish Director of Music:

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

Churchyard Enquiries:

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

Crossword July 2024



Across

- 1** Relating to the Jewish day of rest (10)
7 Point of view (Matthew 22:17) (7)
8 20th-century Brethren philanthropist whose construction company became one of the UK's biggest, Sir John — (5)
10 Girl's name (4)
11 Peter was accused of being one in the courtyard of the high priest's house (Luke 22:59) (8)
13 The fifth of the 'seven churches' (Revelation 3:1-6) (6)
15 'Now the famine was — in Samaria' (1 Kings 18:2) (6)
17 Banned by the seventh Commandment (Exodus 20:14) (8)
18 Insect most closely associated with itching (1 Samuel 24:14) (4)
21 Bantu tribe which gives its name to tiny landlocked country in southern Africa (5)
22 Familiar material in churches that use an overhead projector (7)
23 Last book of the Bible (10)

Down

- 1** The young David's favourite weapon (1 Samuel 17:40) (5)
2 'Your vats will — over with new wine' (Proverbs 3:10) (4)
3 Once yearly (Exodus 30:10) (6)
4 Milled it (anag.) (3-5)
5 Region north of Damascus of which Lysanias was tetrarch (Luke 3:1) (7)
6 Comes between Philipians and 1 Thessalonians (10)
9 Lake where the first disciples were called (Luke 5:1-11) (10)
12 Abusive outburst (8)
14 Are loud (anag.) (7)
16 Printing errors (6)
19 'Take my yoke upon you and — from me' (Matthew 11:29) (5)
20 Jacob's third son (Genesis 29:34) (4)