



November  
2024

# Rushen Parish Magazine



# DDAY

80th Anniversary Year

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## From the Editor

After much thought I have decided to declutter my house. Whether I am going to start before Christmas remains to be seen, but one way or another I have to bite the bullet and make my decision a reality. Like all things you have to start somewhere, so I thought it would be a good idea to sort through the countless photographs which now fill up to five box files. Little did I know how difficult a task it is proving to be. The photos themselves represent much of my life before I married, cover 51 years of marriage to Pauline, and the lives of three boys. In addition there are photos of children and members of staff at the schools at which we both taught. I can see this being a major project before considering the rest of the clutter that has accumulated.

In Matthew 6. 19-21 we read, *"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

I imagine that I'm not the only one who has stored treasures on earth for myself. I have occasionally watched the television programme called 'Sort Your life out with Stacey Soloman'. It portrays family's who have cluttered their houses so much that they are asked to remove all their possessions, place them into categories in a warehouse, and then reduce them all by fifty percent. Meanwhile a team of three helpers spend time in their home and create spaces for articles that have been kept. Finally the team put the house back to rights and the families return home. They are amazed at the transformation and vow never to clutter their houses again.

I am daunted by the prospect of reducing my clutter because every piece tells a story of how I came across it. As I mentioned earlier, I'm going to continue sorting the boxes of photographs. Let's face it, in these days of smartphones you can take hundreds of photos and store them without having to print them, sorting these is easy, you either keep them on your phone or erase them. Of course the photos I keep will still have to be stored! The rest of the clutter that I find can be given to charity shops or to other establishments willing to take them off my hands. There is so much truth in the proverb, 'one man's trash is another man's treasure'. Let's hope that when I have finished my decluttering I can sit back and know that the things I have discarded will go to somebody who needs them.

**David**



## The Remarkable Usefulness of Allen keys

*All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17*

We all need practical skills, and they are not always easily gained.

I seem to spend a lot of time assembling flat pack furniture of one type or another. The trick is to look and sound as though you know what you are doing, even though any skills are gained through trial and error. It is surprising how many household projects require an Allen key, which if you have not seen one, is an L shaped rod with a hexagon end which fits into an identical sized recess in the top of a screw. You can use the longer or shorter arm depending on the job needs extra force or speed.

The idea of a hexagon *socket* screw was probably thought of as early as the 1860s to 1890s, but such screws were not widely manufactured until around 1910. In 1909–1910, William G. Allen also patented a method of screw heads which had a *hexagonal* recessed die. The key that he lent his name to fits nicely into the head of the screw, is cheap and easy to use.

When you are called on to do some DIY, especially after someone has had a go, the best thing is to refer to the instructions and keep all your Allen keys together in one place so you can easily find them. They come in different sizes.

Bibles come in different sizes, languages, modern and old. They also fit into the hand nicely, are easy to use and contain life-saving instructions on how any and all of us should live.

**David Pickup**

### ***What bishops do***

*We were celebrating the 100th anniversary of our church, and several former pastors and the bishop were in attendance. At one point, our minister had the children gather at the altar for a talk about the importance of the day. He began by asking, "Does anyone know what the bishop does?"*

*There was silence. Finally, one little boy ventured: "He's the one you can move diagonally."*

## Ladies Working Party – St Mary's



We at LWP were all so saddened to hear of the passing of Peta a much-loved friend of many of our group and valued member of St Mary's choir and congregation. Her funeral on 11th October was a wonderful celebration of a well-lived life, a well-travelled lady with many interests and involvements both in the church and around the island, she will be sorely missed. St Mary's church looked stunning that morning having been adorned with a wonderful array of very colourful flowers by our LWP members, and we give special thanks to Nita, Sue and Gloria for their efforts.

When Peta travelled she would always take with her a small yellow, rubber duck and leave it somewhere near a monument or in a public place to be found by a passer-by. In honour of her memory every person attending the funeral was given a miniature rubber duck and asked to place them on their next trip away. At LWP we have agreed that when we place our ducks we will also take a photo and later compile a book containing all our pictures, for Peta's family.

Coffee and Chat on Monday mornings has been going well, and is becoming more popular each week. An unexpected bonus has been that these mornings have resulted in us raising over UKL500 so far, much more than we anticipated.

The LWP members were very busy at Harvest Festival time, decorating the church with flowers and food donations, also making up small bunches of flowers for distribution to housebound members. A big thankyou to everyone involved in preparing the Faith Lunch held in the hall after the service, and to those who brought the delicious plates of goodies, the lunch was a resounding success.

We are currently busy with plans for our annual Christmas Lunch, at 'The Station', Port Erin on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 12.30pm. Members of all our congregations are welcome to come along. Menus and details will be placed at the back of each church. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come-first served basis, so if you snooze, you'll lose.

We will be collecting Christmas jumpers for children again this year. A bin will be set up at the back of St Mary's to accept your donations. These jumpers will be offered to local schoolchildren. This was an initiative of Helen's when she realised that some parents may not be able to buy new Christmas jumpers for their children, as the school had requested. Parents will be invited to pop in and find something suitable for their children.

Please note, we are still collecting used and new stamps for charity. Please leave a 1cm border of paper around the stamps when you cut them off the envelopes, otherwise they cannot be used. There is a collection box at the back of St Mary's. Alternatively you could give them to Gerry Callister. Thankyou

**Rev Ginny Viner**



## St Mary's Sunday School



Following our wonderful Harvest Celebration at the end of September, we started to look ahead to our all-age service in October and the gospel passage in Mark 10:17-31. The rich young ruler asks Jesus what he must do to obtain eternal life, only to be told that despite having kept all the commandments all his life, he would not be able to enter the Kingdom of Heaven unless he sold all his possessions and gave all the money to the poor! What a hard pill to swallow!

In order to help us understand the meaning of this passage, we tried a few challenges, eg how far we could jump or from how far away we could hit a target with a ping pong ball. We all agreed that while some tasks were easy, others were rather difficult (at least for some of us), and some were impossible for us to complete. We would find out later from the Bible reading that although certain things are impossible for human beings, all things are possible with God!

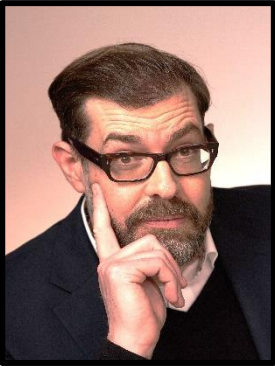
We also spent some time thinking about Jesus' statement that it was easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. As we tried to thread a variety of threads, wool and ribbons through the eye of a large plastic needle, trying to guess which ones would fit through and which wouldn't, we found that with a bit of tweaking (i.e. folding), we were able to squeeze even a broad piece of ribbon through, which had seemed too large to fit. However, a thick braided cord with a tied knot would not fit through... unless we 'transformed' it into its components, i.e. individual strands of thin string. Even a large knitted donkey (almost the size of a camel!) would fit through, if we undid the individual strands of wool and threaded them through...

For the rich young man, selling all his possessions was too big to ask (as it probably would be for most of us), but the point is that while he kept all the laws, he wasn't willing to follow Jesus whole-heartedly and to give up the one thing that stood between him and Jesus. If he had been willing to allow God to change his heart and show love for the poor, the door to the Kingdom of Heaven would have been open to him. That's the challenge for each one of us: To ask ourselves what God wants us to give up (or take on) in order to follow him whole-heartedly, like the early disciples, who had left everything behind for Jesus, and by doing so gained new life in Him.

The children enjoyed 'sewing' a heart-shaped bag (from 2 pieces of card) and putting inside strips of paper with their own ideas for how they can show their heart for Jesus, eg by being kind and helpful, by sharing their toys, by praying every day, by helping people in need etc.

Our October all-age service was led by our vicar Joe, who had brought along a set of Allen keys (from self-assembly furniture) to illustrate the fact that although the rich man had been following God's 'instructions' all his life, there was still something missing (like a missing screw or indeed a missing Allen key). He needed the help and love of Jesus in order for his life to be complete, and he needed to show that same love to others. The Sunday School contributed to the service by acting out the gospel reading, leading the congregation in the Beach Mission song "Follow Me" and by leading the prayers of intercession. As always, they all read, acted and sang very well (from the oldest to the youngest!), and they were also very good at threading a thin cotton thread through the eye of a small metal needle - much to Joe's surprise!

**With love and blessings**  
**Claudia**



## What does 'cosy crime' have to show us?

Richard Osman, game-show-host-turned-best-selling novelist, writes books in the genre called 'cosy crime'. In these stories, a murder has been committed and a sleuth sets out to discover whodunnit. But this isn't gritty noir. There's usually a pleasant rural setting and an amateur detective, and the bloodless murder is rarely dwelt upon. Most importantly, there's a satisfying conclusion in which

the mystery is solved, and justice is served. Osman even speaks about the 'humour and warmth' in his writing – terms not commonly associated with crime.

In a world full of violence, where headlines and TV series alike feature unfathomable crimes, perhaps it's little wonder we're drawn to their cosier counterparts. Osman's stories, and those like them, offer us a version of reality in which order defeats chaos, mysteries can be solved, crimes are met with punishments, and justice triumphs.

It is, of course, God's ultimate justice that motivates our desire for stories that provide resolution. We all long for the perfect combination of comfort and vengeance – and this can only come from the God who hates wrongdoing and loves justice (Isaiah 61:8).

Osman's heroes are a group of pensioners living in an upmarket retirement village. So cosy crimes show us that even the least of us can be part of putting things right.

Few of us will become sleuths, but we can all embed ourselves in our local communities and, through attentiveness, prayer, and discernment, recognise areas of injustice. Indeed, we are both the agents and the beneficiaries of God's plan to bring good news, freedom, restoration, and joy to our world (Isaiah 61:1–6).

So, this Christmas-tide, can you slow down and pay attention long enough to see what's really bothering that friend, colleague, or neighbour? When you read the news headlines, will you pray for justice and mercy to triumph? Or perhaps humour and warmth could change the tone of a conversation this week. In each of these situations, you're living as a sign of God's kingdom – a kingdom that is far from cosy, but that meets the deepest cravings of our crime-consumed culture.

**Rachel Smith**

### ***Cabinet***

*My granddad always said, "When one door closes, another door opens." Lovely man. Terrible cabinet maker.*



## **News from St Catherine's & Kirk Christ**



At Kirk Christ the work of the two skylights has been completed. Similarly, the work at St Catherine's Church is coming along very well with all the lights and heaters now fitted. The decoration of the west wall and the nave is progressing. Work is now centred on the chancel and other parts of the nave. The new glass window in the porch is providing more light.

We are now looking forward to Margaret Galloway's drawing of a Celtic Cross which will eventually be etched on to the glass. The new chairs have arrived and they have been unpacked and stored in the second of the two containers in St Catherine's grounds. We can now look forward to the re-opening of the church in late November.

**Gerry Callister**

***What are you doing on the evening of  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November between 7 – 10.15pm?***

***I am hoping that your answer is, 'Nothing in Particular'  
If this is the case, why not come to the Parish Quiz?***

***I can promise an evening of fun and laughter.***

***All you need to do is to join with 3,4 or 5 of your friends to  
make up a table of quizzers.***

***There will be a Fish or Sausage and Chip Supper, for £15 per  
head. There will also be a raffle.***

***Contact Gerry for more information on 474924***

***You won't regret it***

### ***Died in the services***

*Little Alex was staring up at the large brass plaque that hung on the side wall of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and seemed to fascinate the seven-year-old. "All those names," he said to the minister. "Who are they?"*

*"Well, they were people who used to go to this church," explained the minister. "This is a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the services."*

*Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he finally asked, "Which service, the 9 o'clock, or the 11 o'clock?"*



## Sudoku November 2024

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

### Tractors

A little girl was watching her daddy repair his tractor. She asked her mother, "What happens to old tractors when they finally stop working?" Sighing, her mother answered: "Someone sells them to your father, dear."

### October Sudoku Solution

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

### October Crossword Solution

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

## Remembrance and Gratitude



*Editor: Remembrance Sunday this year falls on 10<sup>th</sup> November, and Remembrance Day on Monday 11<sup>th</sup>*

This year Remembrance includes several significant dates from past wars.

**2024** marks the 110th anniversary of the start of World War I.

**2024** marks 80 years since D-Day. The Normandy Landings of 6<sup>th</sup> June were the largest seaborne invasion in history, and began the Allied invasion of Normandy, which led to the liberation of France and laid the foundations of the Allied victory on the Western Front.

**2024** marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Monte Cassino in Italy, the bloodiest battle of the Italian Campaign, when Allied forces finally broke through the Germans' notorious 'Gustav Line' and freed Route Six and the way to Rome.

**2024** marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battles for Kohima and Imphal, where in northeast India the Imperial Japanese Army was held off by much smaller numbers of British and Indian troops. In Kohima alone, the defenders held off a staggering 25 Japanese attacks over 14 days in appalling conditions. When Indian troops arrived to relieve the defenders, the Japanese encirclement was broken. Amongst the liberators was Havildar Major Rajindar Singh Dhatt of the Royal Indian Army Service Corps, from the Punjab.

**2024** also marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Operation Market Garden in the Netherlands, when the Allies managed to free Eindhoven and Nijmegen, but famously failed to capture the bridge at Arnhem. (The story is told in the film *A Bridge too Far*)

As the British Legion says, "While D-Day was fundamental to the allied victory, the Second World War was not won on any single day – or battle – and we will recognise and pay tribute to all who served from the British Armed Forces, Commonwealth and allied nations, such as those who served in the Battles of Monte Cassino, Imphal and Kohima, Operation Market Garden and the Scheldt.

This year the British Legion is also looking beyond the Second World War, to Kosovo and Afghanistan.

It wants to pay tribute to those who served and currently serve in Kosovo 25 years after the deployment of the NATO peacekeeping force, KFOR, and to those who served in Afghanistan, as this year marks 10 years since the end of Operation Herrick.

## A Fun Puzzle

*Editor: Nigel Beeton writes: In November 1924 the Sunday Times printed the first crossword ever to appear in its newspaper. I know I celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the crossword in verse a few years ago, but I love to do the newspaper crosswords to the extent that I ignore everything else in the newspaper (I leave that to Mrs Beeton) and jump straight for the crossword!*

I take my daily papers  
They help to quell my rage!  
(I ignore the usual capers -  
And go to the back page!)

What are the MPs doing?  
I really do not care!  
Who are the pop stars wooing?  
It's not my kind of fare!

What football teams are scoring  
Just tends to pass me by,  
It's not that it is boring  
It fails to catch my eye!

The news, the sport, the weather  
All from my eyes are hid,  
I ignore them altogether –  
And seek that crossword grid!

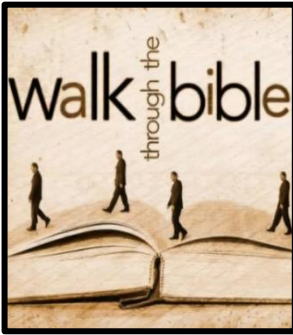
I'm always quite contented,  
Come rain or shining sun,  
I'm glad that they invented  
A puzzle that's such fun!

**Nigel Beeton**

## The Cross in my Pocket

*Editor: The editorial in September's magazine referred to my carrying a wooden cross in each pocket of my trousers, something I have done for a very long time. Following this Robert Gregg, a St Mary's Church parishioner, gave me a poem, written anonymously, about someone else who does the same as me, although in his case he carries one cross in his pocket. It is always lovely to read about someone else who feels as I do that Jesus is with him now and will be forever.*

I carry a cross in my pocket  
A simple reminder to me  
Of the fact that I am a Christian  
No matter where I be.  
This little cross is not magic,  
Nor is it a good luck charm.  
It isn't meant to protect me  
From every physical harm.  
It's not for identification  
For all the world to see  
It's simply an understanding  
Between my Saviour and me.  
When I put my hand in my pocket  
To bring out a coin or key  
The Cross is there to remind me  
Of the price He paid for me.  
It reminds me too, to be thankful  
For my blessings day by day.  
And to strive to serve Him better  
In all that I do and say.  
It's also a daily reminder  
Of the peace and comfort I share  
With all who know my Master  
And give themselves to His care.  
So, I carry a cross in my pocket  
Reminding no one but me  
That Jesus Christ is Lord of my life  
If only I'll let Him be.



## What's the Big Idea? An Introduction to the Gospel of Luke

*Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham continues his series on the books of the Bible, which will run until the end of 2025.*

Luke is the third of the synoptic gospels. The gospel and Acts were both written for Theophilus, a Roman official, who acted as Luke's patron to ensure that his gospel was copied and distributed. It was intended for a wider

audience, to help both Gentile believers and unbelievers understand who Jesus is and that the gospel is intended for the whole world.

Luke's account of Jesus' life and ministry can be divided into 4 main sections: the coming and early life of Jesus (1:1-4:13); Jesus' ministry in and around Galilee (4:14-9:50); His ministry (mainly teaching) *on the road* to Jerusalem (9:51-24:53) and His final week in Jerusalem (19:28-24:53).

For Luke, the key focus is how God's plan of salvation for the world is fulfilled in Jesus. Therefore, he writes an orderly account ranging from the birth of Jesus to His ascension. He is a strong champion of the outsider. As an outsider himself (a Gentile writer in the NT) he shows how Jesus includes those who are typically seen as outsiders by the religious establishment of His day. This includes women, the poor and *sinners* (incl. tax collectors, prostitutes and shepherds!), as well as showing how Gentiles, Samaritans and Jews are all included in God's plan of salvation. Luke also emphasises the importance of prayer in Jesus' ministry and the role of the Holy Spirit.

A key verse which reflects this perspective is found when Jesus encounters the tax collector Zacchaeus, '*For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost*' (19:10). Whenever we find ourselves on the outside of God's life and love, as Zacchaeus, Jesus comes to find us and welcome us afresh into His kingdom.

### Quiz on Luke's Gospel

1. What was the name of the angel who visited Zechariah?  <b>Michael, Seraphiel, or Gabriel</b>	2. Who had been told by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ?  <b>Simeon, Herod, or Peter</b>
3. Who did Christ raise in the town of Nain?  <b>Peter's mother-in-law, Jairus' daughter, or Widow's son</b>	4. With which parable did Jesus respond when asked by the lawyer "who is my neighbour"?  <b>Sower, Good Samaritan, or Workers in the Vineyard</b>

5. How many loaves did Christ mention when he spoke about a hungry friend arriving at midnight? <b>One, two, or three</b>	6. 'Eat, drink and be merry' is a reference from which parable? <b>Rich fool, Prodigal Son, Great Banquet</b>
7. Who was Jesus referring to when He said, 'go and tell that fox'? <b>Herod, Annas, or Pilate</b>	8. What does Jesus say is of no use if it has lost its taste? <b>Leaven, wine, or salt</b>
9. In the parable of the lost sheep how does the shepherd bring the found sheep home? <b>Follows it home, on his shoulders, or in a cart</b>	10. How many silver coins did the woman have in the parable of the lost coin? <b>Five, ten or twelve</b>
11. What did the Prodigal son ask for in advance? <b>His dowry, his wages, or his inheritance</b>	12. In the parable why was the unjust steward dismissed from his job? <b>Absent from work, wasting goods, or attacked a servant</b>
13. In the parable of the rich man and Lazarus, the poor man was carried to whose side? <b>Isaac's, Abraham's, or Jacob's</b>	14. When Jesus met the ten lepers who did He tell them to go and show themselves to? <b>No-one, families, or priests</b>
15. In the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector how often did the Pharisee fast? <b>Every day, twice a week, or once a month</b>	16. In which city did Jesus meet Zacchaeus? <b>Samaria, Jerusalem, or Jericho</b>
17. What did Jesus tell His disciples to sell their cloaks for if they didn't already have one? <b>Staff, knapsack, or sword</b>	18. Who said, "Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom"? <b>The thief on the cross, Nicodemus, or Mary</b>
19. How many men walked with the resurrected Jesus on the road to Emmaus? <b>Two, five, or seven</b>	20. When Jesus appeared to His disciples after His resurrection what did they give Him to eat? <b>Bread, lamb, or fish</b>

### Answers to Last Month's Quiz connected with Mark's Gospel

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Isaiah (Isaiah 40:3)                          | 11 Moses and Elijah (Mark 9:4)             |
| 2 Levi (Mark 2:14-15)                           | 12 Eye of a needle (Mark 10:25)            |
| 3 Sabbath (Mark 2:23)                           | 13 Colt (Mark 11:7)                        |
| 4 Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit (Mark 3:28) | 14 Resurrection (Mark 12:18)               |
| 5 In a boat (Mark 4:1)                          | 15 (Mark 12:42)                            |
| 6 Daughter (Mark 5:22-23)                       | 16 The mountains (Mark 13:14)              |
| 7 Dust (Mark 6:11)                              | 17 Sung a hymn (Mark 14:26)                |
| 8 Mark 6:38)                                    | 18 Servant of the High Priest (Mark 14:47) |
| 9 Lips (Mark 7:6)                               | 19 Elijah (Mark 15:35)                     |
| 10 Their cross (Mark 8:34)                      | 20 Salome (Mark 16:1)                      |

#### Out West

A devout cowboy lost his Bible while he was mending fences out on the range. Three weeks later a cow walked up to him, carrying the Bible in its mouth. The cowboy couldn't believe his eyes. He took the book out of the cow's mouth and exclaimed, "It's a miracle!"



## Rushen Mothers' Union



We had a very good turnout of members and guests at our recent meeting on 14th October, to hear a talk from Mrs Ali Vondy about the work of the charity "Isle Stand Up to Suicide", with Rev Ginny Viner in the chair. We began with a short service including hymns chosen and played by Mrs Iris Mitchell, and prayers read by Rev Ginny, Mrs Pat Thomson, and Mrs Jane Gunn. We sent our love and prayers to the family of our recently deceased member, and already much missed friend, Mrs Peta Mills, and appreciated the lovely farewell

funeral service which many of us had been able to attend in a beautifully decorated St Mary's church the previous Friday. We also remembered those whose health prevented them from attending today, and also our three indoor members, Mrs Edythe Bridson, Mrs Kathleen Trustrum and Mrs Sue Maddrell. It was lovely to see Mrs Valerie Vaughan with us, taking part and getting enjoyment from the meeting.

Mrs Lesley Scott had attended the Autumn Council Meeting and had asked Pat to pass on the following information:

1. Revd Jeanette Hamer, Diocesan President, sent the following message and arranged for Mrs Ann Corlett, Diocesan Secretary, to attend as her representative; "Ann has kindly forwarded the details of Peta's funeral to me as I am off island and will be unable to attend. Please pass on my condolences to everyone. Peta will be missed; she was such a character and enjoyed life. I am glad that I happened to be visiting a parishioner that day and saw her, to have a chat, pray with her and give her a little wooden cross to hold. One of life's God-incidents that seem to come along. Regards to you all at this sad time."
2. Safeguarding has to be on the agenda for every meeting to ensure that members are vigilant and aware of action that should be taken if there are any safeguarding concerns. If so, talk to Rev Joe or to Rhiannon, or ring 999 in an emergency.
3. Thank you to Joe for our Communion Service; it was lovely, with a wonderful atmosphere.
4. Rise Up Campaign against Domestic Abuse – at every meeting we shall pray for all those affected. It has been suggested that Victim Support should be our charity for 2025, to work alongside, and for the Advent Collection.
5. MU 2024-25 Programmes available and newsletters. Lesley will now lead in November and Pat in January.

6. 13th – 19th October is Prisons Week. Posters and prayers on the notice board, with thanks to Gerry for photocopying. Please keep prisoners and their families in your prayers.
7. MU Christmas Catalogue here or on website, for diaries, calendars and cards. Please let Lesley (or Jane) know asap and they will contact Joyce about an order.
8. Years of Service Certificates. At the next meeting, Lesley will ask us for year of joining MU.

Mrs Ali Vondy's talk was both informative and inspiring. Having had an extensive background in teaching, Ali increasingly became involved in mental health and wellbeing promotion in schools and the community. She has trained people across the IOM and globally in a wide variety of sectors and in 2022, along with Ms Paula Dunlop, founded "Isle Stand up to Suicide" to work to reduce the number of lives tragically lost on the IOM to suicide. They offer a phone helpline which anyone in a suicidal crisis can call, and an option is given to access a phone counselling service to help them through their darkest time; short term interventions rather than long term solutions. They also offer expert Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) training to allow the Manx community to obtain the skills and confidence to have conversations around the topic of suicide. Ali also impressed on us that reaching out to just one person could make a difference.

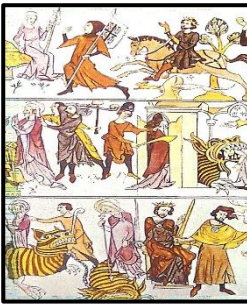
After a good discussion, we all enjoyed tea and biscuits provided by Mrs Sue Bould, with Pat giving the Vote of Thanks, and a small gift to Ali.

## **Dates for Diaries:**

- 11th November Our next branch meeting in St Catherine's Hall at 2pm, when Lesley will be in the chair. Our speaker will be Mr David Shirliff talking about Thie dy Vee.
- 28th November Christmas Craft Day, Fundraiser for AFIA 1030-1530, at St Thomas's Church, Douglas. Craft demonstration, followed by a light lunch, then make a Christmas Decoration in the afternoon. Raffle prizes welcomed. Max 35 places and cost £20 to include lunch and craft materials. Contact Mrs Jacqui Frear 615066.
- 5<sup>th</sup> December Closing date for collection of costume jewellery. Items to be taken to MU meetings or given to MU members. This in preparation for a jewellery sale and coffee morning early 2025, for AFIA
- 5th December Advent service in St Peter's Church, Onchan, 7pm.

**With love and very best wishes to everyone,  
Pat Thomson**

## Reflecting Faith: Wall paintings



Prior to the Reformation, English churches were highly decorated with interior wall paintings. As one author wrote, *'They were aglow with colour and images covering every flat surface'*. Painting pictures seems to be a basic part of people. We see that in newly discovered caves where people from the distant past have made sketches and created art works. Pictures are more than just communicating a

'flat' story. Just as we all have our preferred ways of learning – listening, watching, reading, practising – so I suspect we also have for explaining. How much more so, then, when we want to get across really important information; and it doesn't get much more serious than telling others about God. Of course, we know the Early Church, at the very beginning, followed the Jewish tradition of not drawing a likeness of God and hence they used signs and symbols. But that didn't stop them from drawing pictures about everything else: stories from the Bible, lives of the saints, and so on. There was no shortage of pictures to be drawn.

There are not many English churches which still have wall paintings, but if you visit an Orthodox church in the UK or if you get the opportunity to enter one when on the Continent, you will see that every inch (centimetre) of the inside plaster is likely to be covered in wall paintings. Quite literally, painting on the wall! Today, instead of painting on the wall in the UK, we seem to be increasing the number of banners that hang on them, and changing them often, to match the church calendar.

**This month:** Have a look at the wall paintings or banners in your own or a different church. What do you think the designers were trying to say? What message do they give you that words alone could not have accomplished?

**Rev Jo White**

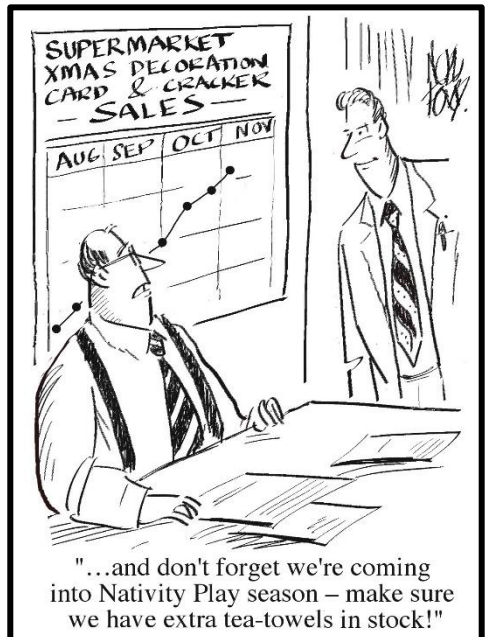
### Safeguarding

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](http://www.sodorandman.im/safeguarding_inclusion)



## All in the month of November



**250 years ago, on 22 Nov 1774** Robert Clive, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Clive (Clive of India), died. He was the British general who helped found the British Empire in India.

**150 years ago, on 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov 1874** Thomas Hardy's novel *Far from the Madding Crowd* was published. It was his first major success.

**100 years ago, on 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 1924** the first crossword puzzle to appear in a British newspaper was published in the Sunday Express.

**90 years ago, on 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 1934** the British steam locomotive, *Flying Scotsman*, became the first train officially to reach 100 mph.

**80 years ago, on 12<sup>th</sup> Nov 1944** the British RAF bombed and sank the German battleship *Tirpitz*, sister ship of the *Bismarck*, off Norway.

**70 years ago, on 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov 1954** Henri Matisse died. This French artist was leader of the Fauvist movement and is seen as the most important French painter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Also on 13<sup>th</sup> Nov 1954 the first Rugby League World Cup Final was held, in Paris, France. Great Britain beat France 16 – 12.

**65 years ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> Nov 1959** the first stretch of the M1 motorway opened in Britain. Britain's first motorway service station also opened at Watford Gap.

**60 years ago, on 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov 1964** the Second Vatican Council allowed the use of vernacular languages (such as English) in Roman Catholic sacraments and rituals, including the Mass. It had insisted on using only Latin for several hundred years. Most people welcomed the change, and the use of Latin quickly dwindled.

**50 years ago, on 20<sup>th</sup> Nov 1974** British politician John Stonehouse faked his death by leaving a pile of clothing on a beach in Miami, Florida. He was found alive and well in Australia on 24<sup>th</sup> Dec, and was arrested on suspicion of being Lord Lucan. **Also on 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 1974** South African heart surgeon Dr Christian Barnard performed the world's first double heart transplant. The original heart was left in place and a donor heart was connected to it to support its workload.

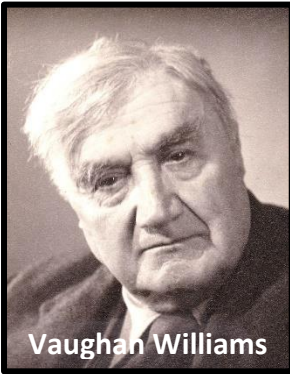
**40 years ago, on 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 1984** that 36 musicians gathered in London to record the Band Aid single *Do They Know It's Christmas* to raise money for famine relief in Ethiopia.

**30 years ago, on 14<sup>th</sup> Nov 1994** the first fare-paying passengers travelled through the Channel Tunnel linking England and France. **Also on 19<sup>th</sup> Nov 1994** Britain's first National Lottery draw was held.

**15 years ago, on 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2009** the Murphy Commission of Inquiry published its damning report on the abuse of children by Roman Catholic priests in Dublin during 1975 - 2004. It was found that church leaders had conspired with the Garda to cover up the abuse.

**10 years ago, on 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov 2014** the One World Trade Centre officially opened in New York City. It replaced the World Trade Centre that was destroyed in the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001. **Also on 27<sup>th</sup> Nov 2014** P D James, British novelist, died. Best known for her crime novels featuring the detective, Adam Dalgliesh.

## 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’ “Valiant-for-Truth’**

“What a composer has to do is to find out the real message he has to convey to the community and say it directly and without equivocation...if the roots of your art are firmly planted in your own soil, and that soil has anything individual to give you, you may still gain the whole world and not lose your own souls.” Those are words of the composer, Ralph Vaughan Williams, from a lecture of 1932.

Over 90 years later, we rejoice that the message of his music still speaks to us from those deep roots, which included folksong, poetry and the heritage of Tudor composers, that nourished his own compositions. It is difficult to imagine church life and worship without his glowing hymn tunes of *Down Ampney* (‘Come down, O Love divine) and *Sine Nomine* (‘For all the saints’), without his rapturous settings of George Herbert and the mass, and without the Oxford Book of Carols, Songs of Praise and the English Hymnal of which he was the musical editor.

Vaughan Williams was born in 1872, the son of Margaret and Arthur, the vicar of Down Ampney in Gloucestershire. He began collecting folk songs and composing after studying in London. Although he made such an important contribution to Christian music, he remained an agnostic throughout his life, albeit an agnostic of great visionary fervour. Poetry and prose were powerful sources of inspiration, and he set Shakespeare, J M Synge, Edmund Spenser, Walt Whitman, and, for this month’s article, John Bunyan.

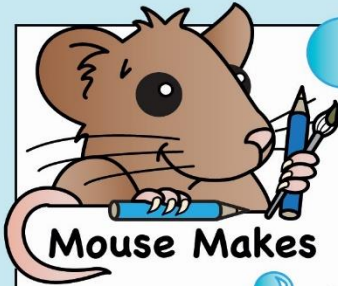
Bunyan was imprisoned in Bedford gaol in 1660 for his preaching. Confined to a cell for 12 years, he wrote a powerful allegory on the Christian journey, *The Pilgrim’s Progress*. It prompted several works by Vaughan Williams: a cantata, a large opera, and a short, but intense choral work, *Valiant-for-Truth*. The opera took more than 40 years to complete, and Vaughan Williams used the name Pilgrim for the hero, rather than Bunyan’s Christian, for he wanted the work to speak to people of all beliefs. Within that long period of germination, he focussed on one particular pilgrim, Mr Valiant-for-Truth, in a motet composed in 1940 on the death of a friend, Dorothy Longman.

The motet is certainly not as well-known and well-loved as one of his more popular works, *The Lark Ascending* of 1914. There the music traces the journey of the bird as its flight weaves ever higher and higher, dissolving into the shimmering skies above. The motet is a much surer pilgrimage that arrives at the Eternal City. It is a glorious piece of word painting. We hear the hero telling his friends that the final stage of the journey has arrived. He gives away his sword, his courage and his skill, but he keeps the scars of life to witness to his discipleship. As he crosses the river of death, the music moves magically from major to minor. The trumpets begin to sound, quietly and distantly to begin with, but growing louder and louder, as they welcome him to the other side, when the fanfares in Bb major move triumphantly to the final G major.

In this month of All Souls, we remember with thanksgiving all those who like Mr Valiant-for-Truth, have crossed that river to reach the heavenly Jerusalem. We pray for that quality of valour for truth in our own pilgrimage, and we give thanks for the remarkable vision of truth, and its companions, beauty and goodness, that we find in the music of Vaughan Williams.



# Children's Page



**READ**  
the story in  
**John 13:1-17**

## "DO AS I HAVE DONE FOR YOU."

The disciples had met with Jesus in an upper room to share a meal together, but there were no servants to wash their dusty feet. Jesus got up from the table, took off his outer clothing, wrapped a towel around his waist and began to wash the disciples' feet just like a servant would do.

Then Jesus said:

*"Do you understand what I have done for you?  
Now that I, your Lord and Teacher have washed  
your feet, you also should wash one another's feet.  
I have set you an example, that you should  
do as I have done for you."*



By washing his disciples' feet, Jesus showed that as God's people we are never too important to serve and care for others.

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

JESUS  
DISCIPLES  
PASSOVER  
FEAST • SUPPER • MEAL

PETER  
SCRIPTURES  
LORD • TEACHER  
SERVANT • MASTER

GARMENTS • CLOTHING • TOWEL • WAIST • WATER • BASIN • WASH • FEET • WIPE  
CLEAN • UNDERSTAND • OTHERS • EXAMPLE • DO • LOVED • CHOSEN • BLESSED

## The Story Behind the Hymn



The song is a contemporary version of a classic worship song making the case for "10,000 reasons for my heart to find" to praise God. The inspiration for the song came through the opening verse of Psalm 103: "Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name". It is also based on the 19th-century English hymn "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" written by Henry Francis Lyte.

Redman recalled the writing of the song was through an initial idea or suggestion from co-writer Jonas Myrin. Redman told Worship Leader magazine: "He [Myrin] played me an idea for some of the chorus melodies, and I found it immediately inspiring. In fact, it felt like a perfect fit for a song based on the opening of Psalm 103. The song came together really quickly — a good chunk of the song was actually a spontaneous moment", adding that the song reiterates how "we live beneath an unceasing flow of goodness, kindness, greatness, and holiness, and every day we're given reason after reason why the Lord is so completely and utterly worthy of our highest and best devotion".

### **Chorus**

*Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
O my soul, worship His holy Name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul.  
I'll worship Your holy Name.*

### **Verse 1**

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;  
It's time to sing Your song again.  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,  
Let me be singing when the evening comes

### **Chorus**

### **Verse 2**

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,  
Your Name is great and Your heart is kind;  
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing,  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

### **Chorus**

### **Verse 3**

And on that day when my strength is failing,  
The end draws near and my time has come;  
Still my soul sings Your praise unending,  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

### **Chorus sung twice**



LET US  
PRAY

## Rushen Parish Prayer Diary

*Help me to live each day, quietly, easily,  
To lean on your great strength  
Trustfully, restfully,  
To await the unfolding of Your will  
Patiently, joyously, To face tomorrow  
Confidently, courageously **Amen***



LET US  
PRAY

### November 2024

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

- 1<sup>st</sup> All saints, known or unknown, now in heaven
- 2<sup>nd</sup> People we have known and loved, but no longer see
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Christians around the world
- 4<sup>th</sup> Those who intercede at our services throughout the parish
- 5<sup>th</sup> Safety for all those involved in firework and bonfire celebrations
- 6<sup>th</sup> Our congregations throughout Rushen meeting in fellowship and faith each Sunday
- 7<sup>th</sup> The work of the British Legion in preparation for Remembrance Sunday
- 8<sup>th</sup> Older people who need warmth as winter approaches
- 9<sup>th</sup> The refugees seeking better opportunities for themselves
- 10<sup>th</sup> Babies born today and the families into which they are born
- 11<sup>th</sup> The Armistice which is remembered today
- 12<sup>th</sup> The work of charities both at home and overseas
- 13<sup>th</sup> Those who died in two world wars and subsequent conflicts to give us freedom
- 14<sup>th</sup> The Ladies Working Party and the work it does for the parish
- 15<sup>th</sup> Couples who are preparing for marriage at some point in the future
- 16<sup>th</sup> Those who are ill, or in hospital, and the people who look after them
- 17<sup>th</sup> Our PCC Treasurer, Stephen Curtis, for maintaining the parish finances
- 18<sup>th</sup> Fishermen who risk their lives to provide us with food to eat
- 19<sup>th</sup> The PCC meeting taking place in St Catherine's Church Hall this evening
- 20<sup>th</sup> Preparations for Christmas in shops and other retail outlets
- 21<sup>st</sup> Those continuing to suffer the effects of Covid, or are still receiving treatment
- 22<sup>nd</sup> People in prison seeking to improve their lives
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Preparations throughout the parish for our Christmas services
- 24<sup>th</sup> The importance of the Bible as a teaching aid for all Christians
- 25<sup>th</sup> People who are suffering hardship through loss of earnings
- 26<sup>th</sup> Christ the King – the last Sunday of the church year
- 27<sup>th</sup> Those recovering from operations, or medical procedures, at Noble's Hospital
- 28<sup>th</sup> Children who are affected when families break up
- 29<sup>th</sup> Voluntary helpers in schools who give their time to help the children
- 30<sup>th</sup> Saint Andrew, Patron Saint of Scotland, and brother of St Peter the Apostle

## Services November/December

3 <sup>rd</sup> November <b>(4<sup>th</sup> Before Advent)</b>	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)
10 <sup>th</sup> November <b>(Remembrance Sunday)</b>	10.45am	Kirk Christ Civic Service (CW)
	10.55am (*)	St Mary's & St Catherine's Joint Holy Communion
	3.15pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
17 <sup>th</sup> November <b>(2<sup>nd</sup> Before Advent)</b>	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)
24 <sup>th</sup> November <b>(Christ the King)</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> December <b>(Advent Sunday)</b>	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)
8 <sup>th</sup> December <b>(Advent 2)</b>	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's All-Age Service (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
15 <sup>th</sup> December <b>(Advent 3)</b>	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)
22 <sup>nd</sup> December <b>(Advent 4)</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)</b>
	6.30pm	Kirk Christ Parish Carol Service
24 <sup>th</sup> December <b>(Christmas Eve)</b>	4pm	St Mary's Crib Service.
	7.30pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
	11.30pm	St Catherine's Midnight Communion (CW)
25 <sup>th</sup> December <b>(Christmas Day)</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Kirk Christ Joint Christmas Day Service (CW)</b>
29 <sup>th</sup> December <b>(Christmas 1)</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Kirk Christ Joint Service (CW)</b>

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

Services and times may be subject to alteration

(\*) Format could be altered

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

### St Mary's Sunday School Leader:

Mrs Claudia Koenig, Fois Fraon, Fistard, Port St Mary      832974/495630

### St Mary's Ladies Working Party

Mrs Lesley Scott, 20 Rhenwyllan Close, Port St Mary      832919

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

### St Catherine's Hall Bookings:

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

### Web Site/E-mail:

www.rushenparish.org.uk      rushenparishorg@gmail.com

### Magazine Editor

Mr David Bowman, The Old Bakery, Qualtroughs Lane,      837117/260539  
Ballafesson, Port Erin

*e-mail:* dbow43@manx.net

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

### Parish Director of Music:

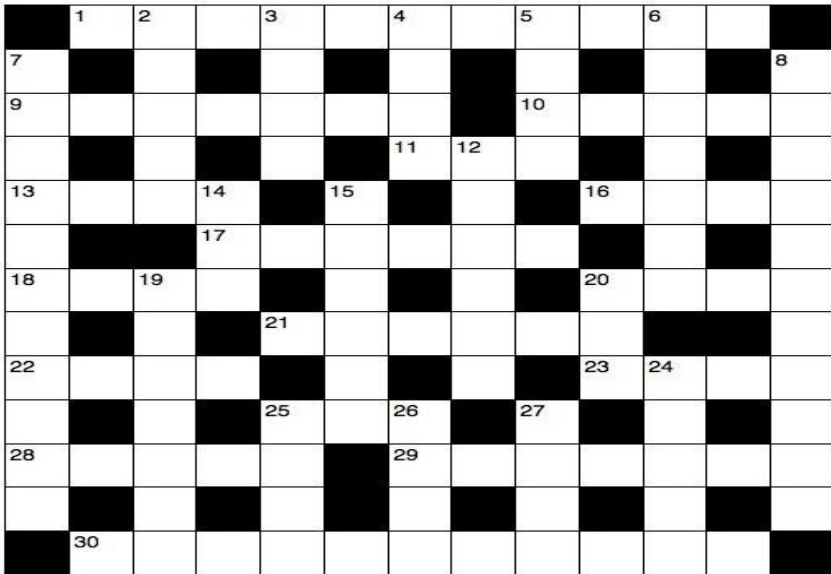
Mr M D Porter, 10 Fairway Drive, Rowany, Port Erin      832143

### Churchyard Enquiries:

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



# Crossword November 2024



## Across

- 1** In David's battle with the Arameans, 700 of these were killed (2 Samuel 10:18) (11)  
**9** 'No — , impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the kingdom of God' (Ephesians 5:5) (7)  
**10** City on the banks of the River Nile (5)  
**11** Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1)  
**13** Taverns (4)  
**16** 'Be on your guard; stand — in the faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13) (4)  
**17** 'He will not always — , nor will he harbour his anger forever' (Psalm 103:9) (6)  
**18** **and 27 Down** Where the magi came from and what guided them (Matthew 2:1-2) (4,4)  
**20** Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4)  
**21** She married Esau when he was 40 years old (Genesis 26:34) (6)  
**22** A great-grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:7) (4)  
**23** Title accorded to certain Roman Catholic clerics (abbrev.) (4)  
**25** 'My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it a — of robbers' (Luke 19:46) (3)  
**28** Annie (anag.) (5)  
**29** Plead with (Zechariah 7:2) (7)  
**30** Tenth foundation of the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:20) (11)

## Down

- 2** 'We have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by — hands' (2 Corinthians 5:1) (5)

- 3** Uncommon excellence (Proverbs 20:15) (4)  
**4** 'You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine — have been poured upon me' (Psalm 92:10) (4)  
**5** — Homo ('Behold the Man') (4)  
**6** 'He has given proof of this to all men by — him from the dead' (Acts 17:31) (7)  
**7** 'Our — is in heaven' (Philippians 3:20) (11)  
**8** 'This is a day you are to — ' (Exodus 12:14) (11)  
**12** Assault (Psalm 17:9) (6)  
**14** 'Jesus found a young donkey and — upon it' (John 12:14) (3)  
**15** Liverpool dialect (6)  
**19** 'Remember the — day by keeping it holy' (Exodus 20:8) (7)  
**20** Nineteenth-century German physicist after whom the unit of electrical resistance is named (3)  
**24** Nazirites were not allowed to eat this part of a grape (Numbers 6:4) (5)  
**25** 'If anyone would come after me, he must — himself and take up his cross and follow me' (Mark 8:34) (4)  
**26** Evil Roman emperor from AD54 to 68, responsible for condemning hundreds of Christians to cruel deaths (4)  
**27** See 18 Across