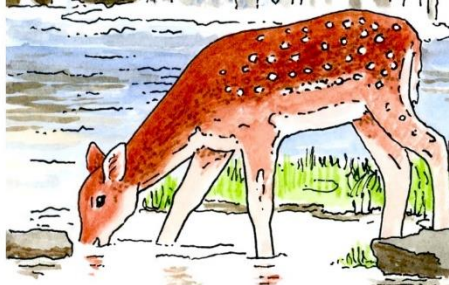


July
2025

Rushen Parish Magazine

**As the deer thirsts
for streams of water**



**So I long
for You,
O God. Ps 42:1**

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From the Editor

We are living in uncertain times. The wars in the Ukraine and the Middle East are beginning to concern us all. We don't know what might be around the corner, and whilst we might feel relatively safe on the Isle of Man, we cannot foresee what the future holds. All we can do is put our trust in God. In Proverbs 3:5-6 it reads, *"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths."*

The 9th July is a day which has had a profound effect on my life. The events that have taken place on three occasions, have been life changing in both a positive and negative way. It was on this date that Pauline, my beloved wife, suffered a catastrophic stroke seven years ago from which she never recovered. In 2003 our granddaughter was born. We had always wanted a girl in our family but had three wonderful boys, which we wouldn't have changed for the world. Amy will be 22 on 9th July this year, and we couldn't have been more delighted when she was born. Another positive event was the fostering of one of the children who attended my school. He was 9 at the time. His mother had died from cancer earlier in the year, and his father was employed by the Royal Fleet Auxiliary and was away for six months at a time, with a break of three months, before having to return to his ship. Sadly we lost contact with Richard when his father retired, and the one thing I would like to do is to meet up with him before I die. His birthday also falls on 9th July.

I began this editorial by referring to the uncertain times in which we are now living, and mentioning two verses from Proverbs. None of us can predict the future, but trusting in God, and having faith in Him is a sure way of helping us through difficult times. The three events I have mentioned could never have been predicted, and yet each one of them changed our lives. Losing Pauline needs no explanation, but giving her the chance to have a granddaughter, whom she adored, was I'm sure God's way of comforting her for 15 years before she became ill. We were both out of our comfort zone when we fostered Richard, especially as his mother's death, and father's absence for long periods, affected his behaviour, and we began to have doubts as to whether we could continue fostering him.

Throughout all of these events, and countless others, neither of us lost our faith. Now, as the years go by, and death becomes another hurdle, I can safely say that whatever occurs in the world, and what God is preparing for me, I will always acknowledge Him, and He will make straight my path, so that when I meet Him I can say, 'Thank you for guiding me through life.'

David



Rushen Children's and Youth Ministry

Hello Rushen Parish,

As we move through this summer term, I've been filled with gratitude for the many ways God is working in and through our young people. So coming up we have ancient abbeys to beach missions, there's so much to be excited about!

LifePath Adventures at the Abbey

This month, I have the joy of helping at LifePath—a special curriculum day for Year 5 students that brings history and faith to life. I'll be joining children from Rushen and Scoill Phurt le Moirrey as they explore the story of the monks at Rushen Abbey. It's a wonderful opportunity for them to discover Christianity in a hands-on, imaginative way, learning how people of faith shaped our island's history and how that same faith is alive and active today.

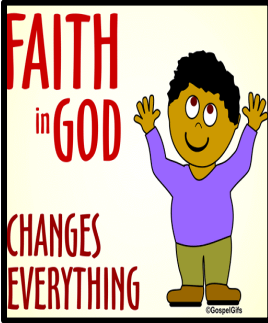


WWJD? Youth Group Grows in Faith Our youth group continues to grow steadily, and it's a real privilege to walk alongside this passionate and thoughtful bunch. Recently, we've been digging into the classic question: What Would Jesus Do? From school friendships to online challenges, our conversations have helped us think about how Jesus might respond and how we can follow in His footsteps in our daily lives.

Beach Mission: Prayers Needed! Looking ahead, Beach Mission is on the horizon. A highlight of the summer for many children and teens across our community. For two vibrant weeks, the beach becomes a place of laughter, friendship, worship, and faith discovery. Please join me in praying for the leaders, the young people who'll attend, and the seeds of faith that will be planted and watered during this time.

As always, thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and support. It means the world to me and even more to the young hearts and lives being shaped by your love and God's grace.

With blessings
Natalie Heaton



'I started noticing they had something I didn't' – students tell how they came to faith

Editor: How do young people first connect with faith and the church? This article reports on a remarkable rise in interest – and how the young people are reached in the first place.

Students have been sharing their experiences of what first drew them to become Christians, and go on to speak about a “noticeable” increase in faith among Generation Z, in a recent national online service.

The students, Tegan and Gus, had begun their journey to faith because of a simple invitation from friends to attend a church service. For Tegan, it was a conversation with a friend at brunch which sparked her curiosity. For Gus, he needed to call into the church to borrow a camera for a university project. “The first couple of times I came back just because I wanted to chat to the people - like it was a nice place to be,” Gus explains. “And from that community I noticed Jesus in them and that's what I really wanted at the end of it.”

Tegan agrees: “I started noticing that they had something that I didn't and it's why I started going to the Alpha course and learned all about Jesus and who He was and what it meant for me.” Gus admits he had previously struggled with his poor mental health. “Looking back at it now, I see Jesus in those moments, but now I interact with Jesus in those moments,” he says. “He's actively helping me through those things now.” Tegan speaks of the death of her mother since she became a Christian. “I think that is where I've known Jesus's love the strongest - in my grief. I think grief is really dark and I don't know if I would have been able to do it without Jesus. I think He's been my strength through that and also my comfort. “And I think people can see it within you, right? Like they see, wow, you have this sort of peace or joy that, is almost *unreasonable*, like that you couldn't have from anything but Jesus.”

Both also speak about their own sense of growing interest in faith in their generation. “I have noticed since being in a church myself lots more people joining that have never even heard the name of Jesus or don't know much about Him and seeing other people come to Him is just so exciting,” says Tegan. Gus adds: “The amount of people each year has definitely been increasing. It's noticeable each time the new year comes up it's ‘oh we've got even more people now’ it's just so encouraging.”

Church Notices that didn't quite ‘make it’...

The preacher for Sunday next will be found hanging on the notice board in the porch.

Churchyard maintenance is becoming increasingly difficult, so it will be appreciated if parishioners cut the grass around their own graves.

News from St Mary's Sunday School



In early June, we had a fun session preparing for our Pentecost all-age service. After watching a video about the incredible events of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit empowered the disciples to share the Good News in many languages, we acted out the story ourselves, using our own language skills to praise the Lord in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, German, and Manx! We enjoyed making colourful wooden rings with flame-coloured ribbons to wave as we sang the uplifting song “This Little

Light of Mine.” Natalie also shared an inspiring story about how the Holy Spirit continues to work in our lives today.

The Pentecost service itself was a joyful celebration. With flame headbands, streamers, and our ribbon rings, the church was full of colour and energy. Ginny and Joe led the service, and it was a pleasure to be joined by many from St Catherine’s congregation. The Sunday School beautifully re-enacted the story of Pentecost (Acts 2), with everyone joining in to make wind sounds and hold up flames. Jamys from St Catherine’s gave a heartfelt reading from John 14. During “Learning Together,” Joe reminded us how, in the Old Testament, God’s Spirit came upon people at specific times for specific tasks - like Bezalel, who was blessed with divine wisdom and the skill of silver and gold craftsmanship. Today the Holy Spirit is available to all believers because of Jesus’ death and resurrection, and He still gives certain gifts to certain people, such as linguistic skills, musical or sporting skills, creative skills, mathematical, scientific or administrative skills, or the gift of teaching and preaching, or simply listening and caring. Using windmills and an electric fan (representing the power of the Holy Spirit), Joe illustrated that the closer we are to God, the more we can see and feel His Spirit at work.

The Sunday School led a prayer activity, encouraging the congregation to write prayers on flame cutouts, which we put together to form a large colourful flame prayer cross. Several members of the congregation also said the Lord’s Prayer in their native languages, which was a truly moving moment. Many thanks to Natalie and to all our children and their parents for their contributions to this joyful service, as well as to Mike for his beautiful organ playing.

After the service, we all enjoyed a delicious BBQ and faith lunch in the hall. Special thanks to the wonderful Michal Kewley and his willing helpers Brian and Carole Coole, Jane Gunn, and Gerry, as well as to our wonderful team of ladies who served refreshments and handled the clean-up. A big thank you also to Peter, Robert and Joe for helping with the tables.

Our next session focused on preparing our display for the Flower Festival, inspired by Psalm 119:105: “Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path.” We discussed

how God's Word can be a guiding light for us, helping us make good choices for ourselves and for others. We looked at various Bible verses, and the children enjoyed making paper lanterns to remind them that God's Word can light their way, that Jesus is the light of the world and He wants us also to let our light shine. For our Flower Festival display, we made transparent decorations with pressed flowers and clear glue! Many thanks to Wendy for all her help with this. We can't wait for you to see the final display at Kirk Christ from 2nd to 9th July.

With love and blessings
Claudia



Walking is amazing – here's how to get started

Walking is simply good for you. Even a casual stroll can give your overall physical and mental health a boost.

So says Britain's leading walking charity, Ramblers.

It also says that the current mantra of 'ten thousand steps a day' need not daunt you, as "you don't need to adhere to this to feel the benefits of getting outside and stretching your legs." Even walking for just 30 minutes five times a week can help ward off back pain, according to a recent study.

So – here's five ways to get going....

Walk in the morning – you are more likely to fit it in before the day takes off.

Start gently, set an easy pace.

Keep it short, to start with. Build up your distances gradually.

Aim to build it up to last for at least half an hour.

Work out some simple local routes that suit you.

Doctors tell us that 'movement is medicine', and this medicine is certainly cost-free.

Parish Pump



News from St Catherine's & Kirk Christ



Kirk Christ is looking forward to welcoming visitors to the Flower Festival from 2nd – 8th July. We are hoping that visitors, and people from our locality, will come along to enjoy the window displays as they did last year. We are fortunate to have groups and individuals who come forward and give their time, effort, and money to make the church look so beautiful. I would like to give my thanks to everyone who has contributed to the displays, bought flowers, provided refreshments, and manned Kirk Christ throughout the festival.

Many visitors came in to St Catherine's during the TT Festival, some commenting on the difference the refurbishment has made from the last time they were here. It is lovely to meet people from many countries during this time and to welcome them into the church for a time of peace and quiet contemplation, as well as offering their prayers to our Lord.

We are now in the summer concert season at St Catherine's Church. The list of the concerts taking place has been displayed on the church notice board, and copies are available for visitors to collect. The programme runs from 19th June until 18th September, fourteen concerts in all. You are most welcome to join us on Thursday evenings.

Gerry Callister

Down the Sound

1. Down the Sound the seals are calling,
down the Sound the seabirds dive,
down the Sound the waves are racing.
What a day to be alive

Chorus

***But there is no bus
to get there my friends
we need a bus to get us there,
but there is no bus, not any more;
restore a bus to us!***

2. Up the Howe and past the chapel
or up the Darragh from the bay
all uphill to Cregneash Village
steep and steeper either way.

Chorus

3. Ancient heritage still calls to
Manx and visitors alike.
Here the Island's heart beats strongly
but not all can make that hike.

Chorus

4. Jutting headland, southern jewel,
land of purple, grey and blue,
the rising Howe, Cregneash, the Meayll
the Calf of Man, the view

Chorus

Annie Kissack

*(With thanks to Margaret Moore who
supplied this item. The music is available to
anyone who would like it – Editor)*

Sudoku July 2025

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

Preaching hazards

Showing your new parish that you are a forceful preacher may not always be a good idea, as the Revd Sydney Smith found out when he first arrived at All Saints Church in Foston in 1806. "When I began to thump the pulpit cushion on my first coming to Foston, the accumulated dust of 150 years made such a cloud that for some minutes I lost sight of the congregation."

Sudoku Solution June 2025

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

Crossword Solution June 2025

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



What do we really know about Mary Magdalene?

Fake news is not new. Perhaps one old example is the assertion that Mary Magdalene was a prostitute. Back in the 6th Century, Pope Gregory is said to have confused her with two other women in the Bible. Medieval Bible scholars also attempted to name an unidentified sinful woman who had washed and anointed the feet of Jesus. As Mary Magdalene is mentioned in the next chapter, they regarded her as the same person! After this, many classical artists painted Mary in various stages of undress, perpetuating a falsehood.

So what do we really know about Mary? The Gospels tell us that she came from Magdala, a town in Galilee, and Jesus healed her by casting out seven evil spirits. After this she followed Jesus, with other women, on His ministry providing resources. Later, Mary watched Jesus die on the cross, and having cared for His needs while He was alive, wanted to care for Him after His death.

It was when Mary went to anoint the body of Jesus at the tomb that the risen Jesus appeared to her. He told Mary to go to His disciples and tell them about His return to Heaven. She was obedient and became the first emissary of the resurrection. In those days, the witness of a woman was worthless. Despite ridicule, Mary had the courage to speak about Jesus in a place of great disbelief. We have to ask, do we have the same courage as Mary? How prepared are we to stand our ground to share Jesus with others in the face of those who mock and scoff at us?

Although we usually associate Mary with the Easter story, this month on 22nd July, the Church celebrates her Feast Day. In this snapshot of Mary's life we know she had experienced great distress and suffering. After Jesus healed her, Mary expressed her gratitude by being utterly committed and devoted to Him.

Jesus can give everyone a new start; a new purpose and direction in life. Like Mary, we can thank Him for blessing us, loving us and forgiving us and moving into practical forms of service. Only Jesus can transform our lives so that we can glorify God in all that we do.

Parish Pump

Day trip?

A north country choirmaster was rehearsing the hymns for Sunday, telling the choir the hymns they were to sing, and the tunes to which they were to sing them. He concluded the list and said, "Now then, 'Come ye that love the Lord', to Southport!" A moment later a voice called out, "Where are you tekking t'rest of us then?"



The July 2005 bombings of London

Twenty years ago, the 7th July (2005) London bombings took place. A co-ordinated series of four suicide bomb attacks on London's transport system during the morning rush hour killed 56 people and injured more than 700. It was the worst-ever terrorist attack on Britain, and the country's first attack by suicide bombers.

Three of the Muslim bombers, who all died in the attacks, were resident in England, British-born but sons of Pakistani immigrants. The fourth was a convert from Jamaica. It was reported later that three of the four had spent three months in Pakistan between November 2004 and February 2005.

The first three bombs were on the Underground, near Aldgate, Edgware Road and King's Cross, on the Circle and Piccadilly Lines. About an hour later a fourth bomb went off on the top deck of a bus in Tavistock Square, travelling between Marble Arch and Hackney Wick.

Understandable chaos ensued on the Underground and in London streets nearby, not helped by an initial belief that the Tube explosions had been caused by power surges. Indeed, this is how it was reported for some time by the BBC.

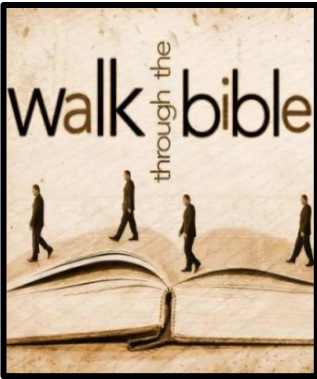
About two weeks later, further attempted attacks in the London area failed to cause injury or damage. However, a day after that, on 22nd July, police shot and killed an innocent 27-year-old Brazilian man, Jean Charles de Menezes, at Stockwell tube station, after he was wrongly identified as one of the failed suicide bombers.

It was later determined that the original attacks had been carried out using cheap, easily available materials, which made detection of the plot by authorities in advance an extremely remote possibility. This forced a dramatic change in British counterterrorism policy, which had previously been focused on foreign threats.

Tim Lenton

Prayer for July 2025

Lord, in this month, we, your church, remember Thomas, who asked questions and doubted when he didn't see You with his own eyes. And Lord, You walked through those locked doors of his questions and doubts specifically to meet his needs. Help us to come to you, honestly, with our questions and doubts, knowing that You understand and will meet our needs too. Help us to recognise You with eyes of faith - the only One who can help us. May we declare, with Thomas, in humility, devotion and thankfulness, 'My Lord and my God!'. We pray in your powerful name, Lord Jesus. Amen.



What's the Big Idea

An Introduction to the Books of the New Testament: Romans

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

'Paul's letter to Rome is the high peak of Scripture...all roads in the Bible led to Romans, and all views afforded by the Bible are seen most clearly from Romans' (J I Packer)

Paul probably wrote his letter to the Christians in Rome around AD 57 at Corinth, on his third missionary journey. The original recipients of the letter were predominantly Gentile, although Jews would have constituted a substantial minority of the congregation.

Paul set out to explain the relationship between Jew and Gentile in God's plan of salvation, as the Jewish Christians were being rejected by the larger Gentile group in the church. Paul begins by showing that both Jews and Gentiles are sinners in need of salvation. He shows how the life, death and resurrection of Jesus eternally affects both world history and every person.

This salvation, secured by Jesus, must be received *by faith*, as the example of Abraham shows. As salvation is not just about starting the Christian journey, Paul goes on to show how believers are freed from sin, law and death. This is made possible both through their union with Christ in His death and resurrection and by the indwelling presence and power of the Holy Spirit.

The theme of the book centres on the Gospel of Christ, which brings us into a right standing with God through faith: *'I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."*' (Rom. 1:16,17).

It's cool

I was at summer scout camp where the final service was to be taken by a bishop. It was a very hot, humid day and the clergy from local churches were slowly melting in their various heavy robes. Finally, one snapped: "When is that flipping bishop going to turn up?"

Whereupon a man close by, dressed in Scouts shirt, tie and short trousers, said mildly: "I'm already here."

Reflecting Faith: Saying 'Hello'



Editor: The Revd Dr Jo White considers ...

Last month we considered how, when we are invited by the priest to come and receive Holy Communion, our immediate response is one of being overwhelmed with the enormity of what we are being offered. We recognise how unworthy we are, to even be in God's presence, never mind taking Him in our hands and making Him part of ourselves.

Now, for the next few months, let's consider some other key moments in our church services. Let's start at the very beginning.... Just saying hello!

How do you say 'hello' to the people you meet? We don't use the same words, gestures and tone to each person, nor on each occasion.

When we meet a very senior person in our workplace; we tend to be deferential and formal. By the time we have worked together for some months, we will still hold them in high regard and with respect, but we are probably more relaxed in their presence.

As for members of our close family, there's a time for huge hugs and explosions of laughter, such as at the arrivals desk of the airport, but such a greeting is probably not so appropriate when we meet them in a formal restaurant for lunch.

So it is on a Sunday morning, when we meet with the members of our church in the setting of a church service.

By meeting together for worship, we have come deliberately into a consciousness of God's presence. It's not that He hasn't been with us on the way there, but this is a specific and intentional thing.

So, when the person leading the service says 'hello' at the start of the service, they are not just welcoming you as an individual but rather acknowledging that we are meeting together in the presence of God, to worship Him.

This is special. This is amazing. This is huge.

This month: When you next go to a church service take note of the leader's opening words and your expected response to them. What is your acceptance to that wonderful invitation?



All in the month of July

175 years ago, on 2nd July 1850 Robert Peel, Prime Minister (1834-35, 1841-46) died. He founded the Metropolitan Police Service and is seen as the father of modern British policing.

125 years ago, on 2nd July 1900 the premiere of Finnish composer Jean Sibelius's tone poem *Finlandia* (*Opus 26*) was given in Helsinki.

100 years ago, on 21st July 1925 racing driver Malcolm Campbell became the first person to travel at over 150 mph. He set a new land speed record of 150.87 mph at Pendine Sands in Wales in a Sunbeam 350HP. He also went on to break the 250 mph and 300 mph records, in 1932 and 1935.

80 years ago, on 5th July 1945 WW2 leader Winston Churchill lost the General Election to Clement Attlee's Labour Party.

75 years ago, on 11th July 1950 the first episode of the BBC children's TV show *Andy Pandy* was broadcast in the UK.

70 years ago, on 16th July 1955 Stirling Moss became the first British driver to win the British Grand Prix. **Also 70 years ago, on 23rd July 1955** racing driver Donald Campbell broke the world water speed record and became the first person to break the 200-mph barrier at Ullswater in Cumbria.

65 years ago, on 9th July 1960 US President Dwight D Eisenhower and Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev traded threats over the future of Cuba.

60 years ago, on 8th July 1965 Great Train Robber Ronnie Briggs escaped from Wandsworth Prison in London. He lived in Brazil until 2001, when he returned to London and was re-imprisoned. Released in 2009, he died in 2013.

40 years ago, on 13th July 1985 the two Live Aid concerts were held simultaneously in London and Philadelphia, as well as at other venues such as Sydney and Moscow. They raised millions of pounds for famine relief in Africa.

30 years ago, on 16th July 1995 Amazon.com first opened its website to the public.

25 years ago, on 23rd July 2000 American golfer Tiger Woods, then 24, became the youngest player to win the Grand Slam. **Also 25 years ago, on 25th July 2000** an Air France Concorde crashed outside of Paris, shortly after taking off for New York. It killed all 109 people on board, along with four people on the ground.

20 years ago, the 7th July (2005) London bombings took place. The coordinated series of four suicide bomb attacks on London's transport system during the morning rush hour killed 56 people and injured more than 700. It was the worst-ever terrorist attack on Britain, and the country's first attack by suicide bombers.

10 years ago, on 14th July 2015 NASA's New Horizons space probe, launched in 2006, completed the first-ever flyby of the dwarf planet Pluto, and returned close-up photos.

**LORD, HEAR MY
PRAYER,
LISTEN TO MY CRY
FOR MERCY;
IN YOUR
FAITHFULNESS AND
RIGHTEOUSNESS COME
TO MY RELIEF.
-PSALM 143:1**

Praying With the Prayers of the Bible: the Prayer of National Confession

Daniel 9:5, 'We have sinned and done wrong ... turning aside from Your commandments and ordinances.'

In this chapter the prophet Daniel, an exile in Babylon, prays one of the Bible's truly great prayers of national repentance.

Knowing that Judah and Jerusalem had fallen to the enemy and that 70 years of exile lay ahead (v.2), Daniel set himself

to seek God on behalf of his own people. With fasting and sackcloth and ashes (v.3) he turned to God in fervent prayer. Our nation, wherever we live, is in need of intercessors like Daniel. His praying has much to teach us.

For Daniel, prayer was a daily habit. Earlier, in chapter six, we read the well-known story of how he was thrown into the lions' den. This happened because nothing could stop him having his daily devotions! When King Darius decreed that no one in the land should pray to any god except him for 30 days, Daniel ignored the order. As he had always done, he opened his window facing Jerusalem and prayed three times every day. For this disobedience he was sent to the lions' den. So here in chapter 9 the great prayer of national intercession is prayed by a man whose prayer life is sustained by daily devotion.

We also see that Daniel knew the character of his God. He is great and awesome, keeping covenant and steadfast love (v.4). To him belongs righteousness, mercy and forgiveness (vv.7, 9); He confirms His word (v.12) and He is the Lord who brought His people out of Egyptian slavery (v.15). Across the years, even in exile, Daniel's consistent prayer life has revealed to him Who God is. With this confession of His glory and majesty and power is the glad acknowledgement of a personal God. Note 'the Lord my God' (v.4); five times 'the Lord our God' (vv. 9, 10, 13, 14, 15,); 'my God' (v.19).

Daniel's knowledge of the one, true God is matched by his love of God's people, his own nation. He identifies himself with his people, facing national judgement because they have forsaken the Lord. 'We have sinned and done wrong' (v.5). 'We have not listened to Thy servants the prophets' (v. 6). 'To us, O Lord, belongs confusion of face'(v.8). 'We do not present *our* supplications before Thee on the ground of *our* righteousness, but on the ground of Thy great mercy' (v.18). Daniel makes himself confessor and spokesman and intercessor for his whole nation.

It is not surprising that this great prayer of intercession, grounding its confidence in God, received a speedy answer. Even while Daniel prayed, the angel Gabriel was sent to him with a message from God (vv.20-23). What an encouragement for all of us to become intercessors for the nation!

Revd Dr Herbert McGonigle

A former Senior Lecturer in Historical Theology & Church History, Nazarene Theological College, Manchester

From the Registers

Funerals June 2025:

16 th June	11.30am	Frederick Lockey	Service & Burial	Kirk Christ & RBG
17 th June	2pm	Edythe P Bridson	Service & Burial	Kirk Christ & RBG
		RBG	Rushen Burial Ground	

St Catherine's Summer Concert Season - July 2025

3 rd July	Meadowside Choral Society
10 th July	QE11 School Wind Band
17 th July	Musicale
24 th July	The Blue Train Saxophone Quartet
28 th July	Lon Vane Ladies Choir



Concerts Commence at 7.30pm

Admission Free

Retiring Collection

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, Email
psorushen@sodorandman.im. 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



God in the Arts: John Martin's 'Manfred on the Jungfrau'



In July we start looking with eager longing to holidays, a chance to get away from it all - to rest and recharge the batteries of life. Holidays are also a time to explore and visit new places. It might be the wild splendour of the Northumberland coast or the serenity of the Italian lakes, the vastness of the Grand Canyon or the magnificence of the Lake District.

This month's artist had a gift for creating paintings that expressed this epic quality of landscapes. John Martin was born in 1789, and as an artist was drawn to religious and historical scenes on the grand scale. He illustrated the Bible and Milton, and his final works were on the theme of the Last Judgement. These are in the Tate Gallery in London, but for this July we visit the Art Gallery in Birmingham with its amazing collection of over half a million items, including many Pre-Raphaelite treasures. The entrance to this Victorian building is beneath the clock tower known as Old Brum.

The Art Gallery is home to John Martin's watercolour of 1837, 'Manfred on the Jungfrau.' It is a large work, almost 5 feet by 3 feet, capturing the rugged, imposing glory of the Jungfrau. Now a railway takes tourists to the summit in the Bernese Alps in Switzerland. In the 19th century climbers had to navigate glaciers, high passes and steep precipices. John Martin captures the grandeur of all this in his painting of snow and sky, crags and torrents, mountains and pine trees. Against that immensity we see two characters: Manfred, tortured by guilt and about to throw himself off the edge, and the mysterious hunter who leads him to safety.

Byron's poem 'Manfred' inspired the music of Tchaikovsky and Schumann, as it inspired John Martin. They were each attracted by the romanticism of man and nature in the poem. Like Manfred and the hunter in the watercolour, we look at this grace and nobility and feel humble and insignificant. Byron wrote:

Continued on Page 18

‘How beautiful is all this visible world!
How glorious in its action and itself!’

Manfred seeks redemption, but, sadly, finds only the solace of death. As we look at this painting, we see reflections of the landscapes we shall visit on our holidays. Such beauty, such glory, evoke for us those feelings of wonder and awe that inspired John Martin.

Manfred sees life in its true perspective as he gazes on the majestic scenery of the Bernese Alps. Holidays help us to put life into perspective. Away from the pressure of responsibility and duty, we often realise what is essential in our lives and with those around. We behold the majesty and glory of creation; we see this world as the handiwork of God; and we ask ourselves how we might make our way through it and be always alert to its mystery and its beauty.

Revd Michael Burgess



Anne and Joachim, parents of Blessed Virgin Mary

One thing is certain – Mary the mother of Jesus must have had parents. Beyond that, nothing is certain – but church tradition offers some details.

The first mention of Anne and Joachim as being Mary's parents was found in the apocryphal Gospel of James (second century) which has no historical validity. James says that after years of childlessness, Joachim was praying in the desert one day when an angel appeared to Anne to tell her that she would conceive. Anne then promised to dedicate the child to God, as Hannah had done with Samuel.

Certainly Anne, mother of Mary, has been honoured from as early as the sixth century, when a church was built in her honour in Constantinople. Other relics and pictures of her found in Rome date from the 8th century.

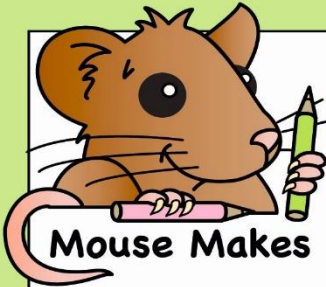
The sad truth is that, as the Bible is silent on the subject, we will never really know about Mary's parents. But one thing we can assume, because it is based on the character of Mary herself. Her gentle humility and graciousness and informed knowledge about her faith point to a childhood spent among devout believers in God.

Parish Pump

Vote carried

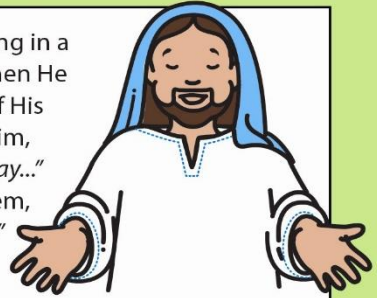
The vicar was ill in hospital and so the churchwarden went to visit. Trying to cheer him up, the churchwarden said: "We missed you at PCC last night. We even put forward a resolution to wish you a speedy recovery. It was passed by 14 votes to 12."

Children's Page



Mouse Makes

"Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray..." And He said to them, "When you pray, say...."



Our _____
in _____,
hallowed be your
_____, your
_____ come,
your _____ be done,
on _____ as it is in
_____.

Give us today our daily
_____.
_____ us our
S _____ as we forgive
those who sin against us.
Lead us not into

_____ but _____
us from _____.

For the kingdom,
the _____ and
the _____ are
yours now and forever.
Amen



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



Fill in the missing words of the Lord's Prayer then find them and these extra words in the word search:
LORD'S PRAYER
DISCIPLES
JESUS
GOD
WORLD
NEEDS
FORGIVENESS
TRESPASSES
PROTECTION
REPENTANCE



The versions of **The Lord's Prayer** we say today come from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.
Which version do you use in your church?



Read
Matthew 6:9-15
and
Luke 11:1-4



The Story Behind the Hymn

William Whiting



Eternal Father, strong to save

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless
wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!

O Christ! Whose voice the waters
heard
And hushed their raging at Thy word,
Who walked'st on the foaming deep,
And calm amidst its rage didst sleep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!

Most Holy Spirit! Who didst brood
Upon the chaos dark and rude,
And bid its angry tumult cease,
And give, for wild confusion, peace;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!

O Trinity of love and power!
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and
sea.

The author of these words, William Whiting, was an Anglican clergyman in Winchester, which is hardly a seaside town. Yet Whiting had not only grown up by the sea, but had nearly died in it. As a young man he had been on a ship that got caught in a violent storm, and afterwards he felt certain it was only God who had saved the ship from sinking that night.

Some years later, as headmaster of the Winchester College Choristers' School, Whiting was approached by a student in distress. The student was due to sail to the USA and was simply terrified at the thought of 3,000 miles of ocean. To try and reassure the student, Whiting decided to share his experience. And so, he wrote this poem, basing the description of the power and fury of the sea on Psalm 107.

It is not known if it helped the nervous student or not, but within a year the poem had become a hymn, and soon sailed into the influential first edition of *Hymns Ancient and Modern* of 1861.

Another Anglican clergyman, John B Dykes, wrote the music for it. He was already a successful composer, with 300 hymns to his name. Dykes named this tune 'Melita', after an old name for Malta, where St Paul was once shipwrecked. Whiting released two more versions of the lyrics, in 1869 and in 1874.

During the rest of the 19th century the hymn became a favourite with the Royal Navy and the United States Navy. Other Services adapted it, including the Royal Marines, the Royal Air Force, the British Army, and the United States Coast Guard. Above all, it became known as the Royal Navy Hymn.

Well into the 20th century, it was the favourite hymn of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who had served as Secretary of the Navy during the Second World War. In 1963 *Eternal Father* was played by the Navy Band, as President John F. Kennedy's body was carried up the steps of the U.S. Capitol to lie in state. (Kennedy had been a PT boat commander in World War II.)

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

July 2025

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 situation in the Middle East and those trying to find a peaceful outcome
- 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 2025

6 th July (Proper 9)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer & Baptism (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Morning Prayer & Baptism (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
13 th July (Proper 10)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's All-age Service (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
20 th July (Proper 11)	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)
27 th July (Proper 12)	11am	Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)
3 rd August (Proper 13)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
10 th August (Proper 14)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's All-age Service (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
17 th August (Proper 15)	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 th August (Proper 16)	11am	Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)
31 st August (Proper 17)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)

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

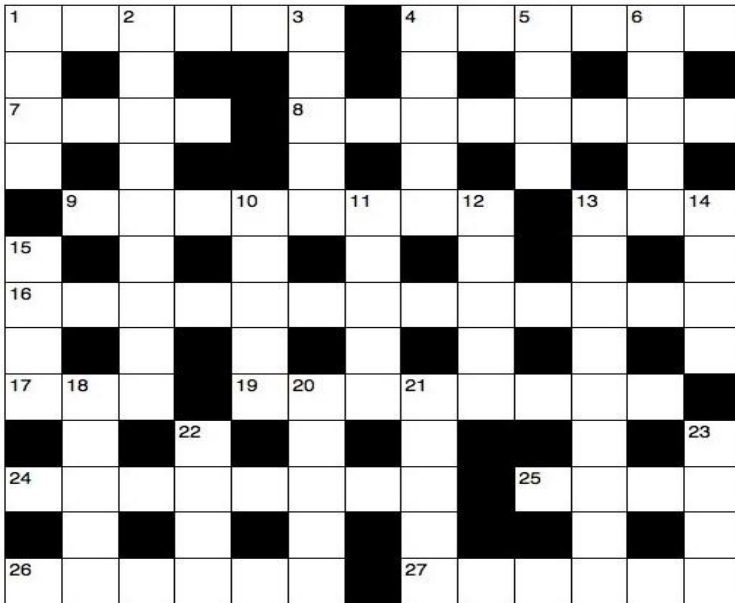
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Churchyard Enquiries:

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

Crossword July 2025



Across

- 1** 'I pray that out of his glorious — he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being' (Ephesians 3:16) (6)
- 4** 'Saul's father Kish and — father Ner were sons of Abiel' (1 Samuel 14:51) (6)
- 7** 'Praise the Lord, O my — ' (Psalm 103:1) (4)
- 8** **See 5 Down**
- 9** Laws (1 Kings 11:33) (8)
- 13** 'Who of you by worrying can — a single hour to his life?' (Luke 12:25) (3)
- 16** Artistry (Exodus 31:5) (13)
- 17** 'Your young men will see visions, your — men will dream dreams' (Acts 2:17) (3)
- 19** How David described his Lord (Psalm 19:14) (8)
- 24** 'If this city is built and its — — restored, you will be left with nothing in Trans-Euphrates' (Ezra 4:16) (5,3)
- 25** 'The holy Scriptures, which are able to make you — for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus' (2 Timothy 3:15) (4)
- 26** Intended destination of arrows (Lamentations 3:12) (6)
- 27** Eve hit (anag.) (6)

Down

- 1** 'For I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find — for your souls' (Matthew 11:29) (4)
- 2** Where Peter was when he denied Christ three times (Luke 22:55) (9)

Down (continued)

- 3** Remarkable early 20th-century Indian evangelist, a convert from Hinduism, — Sundar Singh (5)
- 4** 'Now the king had put the officer on whose — — leaned in charge of the gate' (2 Kings 7:17) (3,2)
- 5** **and 8 Across** The Lover describes this facial feature of the Beloved thus: 'Your — is like the tower of Lebanon looking towards — ' (Song of Songs 7:4) (4,8)
- 6** 'Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled — your waist' (Ephesians 6:14) (5)
- 10** Trout (anag.) (5)
- 11** Easily frightened (1 Thessalonians 5:14) (5)
- 12** The ability to perceive (Ecclesiastes 10:3) (5)
- 13** One of the clans descended from Benjamin (Numbers 26:38) (9)
- 14** "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who — bread into the bowl with me" (Mark 14:20) (4)
- 15** Resound (Zephaniah 2:14) (4)
- 18** Traditional seat of the Dalai Lama (5)
- 20** Precise (John 4:53) (5)
- 21** Build (Ezekiel 4:2) (5)
- 22** Beat harshly (Acts 22:25) (4)
- 23** Darius, who succeeded Belshazzar as king of the Babylonians, was one (Daniel 5:31) (4)