

30 November  
2025

# Rushen News

<http://www.rushenparish.org.uk>

Year A  
Advent 1

## Welcome to Rushen Parish



Kirk Christ with  
St. Catherine's (Port Erin),  
St. Mary's (Port St Mary),  
and St. Peter's (Cregneish)

***Our Vision is to be at the heart of the  
community revealing the heart of God***

## Visitor Information

Welcome to church today ! We hope and pray that you will enjoy your time here and that you may encounter the presence of the living God. The following information may be helpful.

- We have a loop system, if appropriate switch hearing aids to the T-position.
- We have large print copies of service sheets and Rushen news – please ask.
- Whatever your tradition, you are very welcome to share in Holy Communion.

A Collection will not be taken during the singing of a hymn, but should you wish to make an offering to the life and worship of this parish there is a basket near the main entrance (it will still be there at the end of the service).

***Frequently refreshments are served at  
the end of the service. You are warmly  
invited to join us.***

## Prayer Focus

In the New Testament, Paul encouraged the believers to pray for one another. In a similar way throughout the year, we continue to pray for the infirm and those who care for them:

Pamela Angus, Peter Atkins, Rena Bottomley, Margaret and Douglas Couper, Jim Dale, Stefan Dalini, June Davies, Sandy Fairest, Margaret Galloway, Liz Gordon, Sue and David Inch, Sally Lewis, Doreen Longton, Sue Maddrell, Peter Manson, Pam Martin, Margaret Moore, Janet Morley, Althea Morris, Gill Porter, Mike Porter, Alex Tawney, Doug Withey.

## Weekly Prayer Meetings

Each week a number of people gather to pray for the needs of our communities, our parish, the island and the world.

### **Tuesdays (10am)**

A small group gather together each week at St. Catherine's Church.

### **Wednesdays (9am)**

Parishes from across the South of the Island gather to pray at different churches. The next two meetings will be:

|        |                          |
|--------|--------------------------|
| 03 Dec | Abbey Church, Ballasalla |
| 10 Dec | Kirk Christ, Rushen      |

### **Thursdays (11am)**

A *Centring Prayer and Meditation Group* at St Mary's Church, Port St. Mary. For more information contact Ginny (341657)

***Please do take this newsletter home !***

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## Christmas Services in the Parish of Rushen

### **Tuesday 9 December @ 7.30pm**

PSM Commissioners' Carol Service at St Mary's Church.

### **Wednesday 17 December @ 7.30pm**

Carols, Candles & Cake at St. Peter's Church. *Come along to sing, eat and share fellowship.*

### **Thursday 18 December @ 7pm**

Port Erin Commissioners' Carol Service at St. Catherine's Church.

*A great way to celebrate Christmas with all the community !*

### **Sunday 21 December @ 6.30pm**

The Parish Carol Service at Kirk Christ – *this one needs no introduction – Come early to get a seat !*

### **Christmas Eve**

Crib Service @ 4pm at St. Mary's  
BCP Communion @ 7.30pm at St. Peter's  
Communion @ 11.30pm at St. Catherine's

### **Christmas Day**

All Age Communion @ 10am at Kirk Christ

### **Sunday 28 December @ 11am**

Joint Communion Service at Kirk Christ

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## Christingle Service

All are welcome to our Parish Christingle Service at St Catherine's on **7<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm**, as we prepare for the coming of the Christ-child at Christmas. We will be preparing the Christingles on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 10am at St Catherine's everyone is welcome to come along and help

**Christingle**

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## Advent Colour and Symbols

Purple is used in Advent because it symbolizes preparation and penance, representing a time of both reflection and the anticipation of Christ's arrival. We are encouraged to reflect on our inner lives and prepare our hearts for the Christmas celebration. As a season of preparation, Advent shares similarities with Lent, another penitential season where purple is also used. Purple also has strong links with royalty; the one who will be born in poverty will come again as King.



The candles in an Advent Wreath are therefore often purple – until the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday is reached. At this point, over halfway through, there is a little light relief, and rose can replace the purple. Then it's back to purple for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday and white for Christmas Day, the arrival of The Light himself.

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## Bishop's Advent Reflections

Bishop Tricia has created a series of videos reflecting on Advent. These are available on the Diocesan website: [sodorandman.im](http://sodorandman.im) and we will also be playing these at St Catherine's Hall on the following **Fridays: 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2pm.**

Please do come along to reflect together on the Bishop's message. We will follow the video with a discussion. Everyone welcome.

Joe Heaton

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## Digital Giving

There are a number of ways to give to the life and worship of this Parish. There are giving stations at two of our churches (Kirk Christ and St. Peter's) located at the back of each church. In addition, online giving is available using the above QR code. A huge thank you for your donation, small or large.



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## Food Bank Appeal

As Christmas approaches, please consider donating to the IOM Foodbank, they help many families in need and all donations are gratefully received. **There are several drop off points in the south, particularly Tesco, the Co-op and The Good Health Store in Port Erin and the Co-op and Clear Pharmacy in Port St Mary.** Long-life items are best, there is a full list of accepted items on their website, please visit:



<https://isleofmanfoodbank.wordpress.com>  
for more information

Thank you

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## Soup Inn

A fantastic opportunity to get together with people from the South over a simple meal. Whether you're a parent at home with a young child, someone who works from home/in the South, retired or having time out - all welcome at the Soup Inn. Come and relax over a home cooked lunch of Soup, and Pudding with Tea / Coffee. Pop in when shopping. Join us on **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December** (12.00 'til 1.30pm) at St. Catherine's Hall. Please share this with anyone you think likes to nosh and natter!

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## A reading from the book of Isaiah

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,

and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,  
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,

to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,

and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into  
ploughshares,

and their spears into pruning-hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

[Isaiah 2.1-5]

*After a Reflective Silence*

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God !**

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## Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus according to Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord !**

'But about that day and hour no one knows,  
neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son,  
but only the Father. For as the days of Noah  
were, so will be the coming of the Son of

Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

*[Matthew 24.36-44]*

*After a Reflective Silence*

This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, O Christ !**

Scripture quotations are from *The New Revised Standard Version* of the Bible © 1989



The Parish of Rushen is part of the Church of England, in the Diocese of Sodor and Man.

## Services for Next Sunday

### Kirk Christ

9.30am – Morning Prayer

### St Catherine's

11.00am – Morning Prayer

4.00pm - Christingle

### St Mary's

11.00am – Holy Communion

### St Peter's

3.15pm – BCP Evening Prayer

## Contact Information

**Parish Website:** [rushenparish.org.uk](http://rushenparish.org.uk)

 **Find us on Facebook** (Rushen Parish)

**Vicar:** Rev. Joe Heaton (832275)  
[rev.joeheaton@gmail.com](mailto:rev.joeheaton@gmail.com)

Please note that Joe's day off is **Monday**

### Parish Administrator:

Rhiannon Manning (832275)  
[rushenparishorg@gmail.com](mailto:rushenparishorg@gmail.com)

Office hours: Tuesday 9.30 – 4.30  
Friday 9.30 – 4.30

### Wardens:

Kirk Christ: Gerry Callister (474 924)  
St. Catherine's: Gerry Callister (474 924)  
St. Peter's: Harry Dawson (835 770)  
St. Mary's: Peter Hayhurst (832 974)

### Parish Safeguarding Officer

Our safeguarding officer for children and vulnerable people is Rhiannon Manning. Please email [psorushen@sodorandman.im](mailto:psorushen@sodorandman.im) or call 832275/464117 if you need to contact her. The Diocesan Safeguarding Support Officer is Lisa Morris (494688)

### Pastoral Care Group:

If you are in need of help or support, or know someone who is unwell or in hospital, please contact the Vicar.

### Rushen News Contributions:

Please send all items for Rushen News to Joe Heaton. The deadline is **Tuesday @ 6pm.**

### Parish Magazine Contributions:

Please send all items for inclusion to the editor, David Bowman (837117) or preferably by email to [dbow43@manx.net](mailto:dbow43@manx.net). (Please copy all items to the vicar). The deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the Month