

14 December  
2025

# Rushen News

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

Year A  
Advent 3

## 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 meeting will be:

17 Dec St Mary's on the Harbour

**No meetings for the following 2 weeks.**

### **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

### 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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## Food Bank Appeal

As Christmas approaches, please consider donating to the IOM Foodbank.

**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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## 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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## Bishop's Advent Reflections

Bishop Tricia has created a series of videos reflecting on Advent. These are available on the Diocesan website: **sodorandman.im**. We will still be playing these at St Catherine's Hall on **Fridays 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2pm** so if you haven't yet had the chance, 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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## Mailing List

If you would like to receive an electronic copy of Rushen News every week, please email [rushenparishorg@gmail.com](mailto:rushenparishorg@gmail.com) to be added to the mailing list. Thank you.

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## Coffee and Chat

Coffee and Chat meets every **Monday** morning (from 10 to 11.30am) at St Mary's Church.



Contact Lesley Scott (832919)

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## **Ladies' Working Party**

The Ladies' Working Party meets **every Tuesday** at St. Mary's Church. The meetings start at 2pm.

Ginny Viner (836943)

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## **Adult Confirmation Class**

There will be a confirmation class beginning after New Year for those who would like to be confirmed. Day and time to be advised. So if you would like to get confirmed, please do contact me.

*Joe Heaton*

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## **A reading from the book of Isaiah**

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,  
and rejoice with joy and singing.  
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the LORD,  
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
'Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the

wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way;  
the unclean shall not travel on it,  
but it shall be for God's people;  
no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.  
No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.  
And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

*[Isaiah 35.1-10]*

*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 !**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way before you."

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force.

*[Matthew 11.2-12]*

*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 CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

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

### 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