

7 December  
2025

# Rushen News

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

Year A  
Advent 2

## 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:

10 Dec Kirk Christ, Rushen

17 Dec St Mary's on the Harbour

### 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

### **TODAY @ 4pm**

Christingle service at St Catherine's Church

### **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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## 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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## 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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## 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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## 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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## 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 continue playing these at St Catherine's Hall on the following **Fridays: 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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## A reading from the book of Isaiah

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,

and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek

of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

*[Isaiah 11.1-10]*

*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 !**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the

people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

*[Matthew 3.1-12]*

*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

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## Services for Next Sunday

**Kirk Christ**

9.30am – Holy Communion

**St Catherine's**

11.00am – Holy Communion

**St Mary's**

11.00am – All-age Service

**St Peter's**

3.15pm – BCP Holy Communion

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## 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