

Services at St Peter's

Holy Communion:	BCP Each Sunday	9.00 am
	CW 1 st , 3 rd & 5 th	11.00 am
	BCP 4 th Sunday	6.30 pm
	Wednesday	10.30 am
	Holy Days (as announced)	
Morning Prayer:	CW 2 nd Sunday	11.00 am
Family Service:	4 th Sunday of each month	11.00 am
Evening Prayer:	BCP 1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd & 5 th Sundays	6.30 pm
Midweek Service with Ministry of Healing:	<i>Every two months (Sept, Nov, Jan, March, May & July) date as advertised on noticeboard</i>	7.30 pm
All Age Worship:	2 nd Sunday of each month (in the Parish Hall, Royal Avenue)	4.00 pm

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals – By arrangement.

Vicar:

The Revd Canon Malcolm Convery

The Vicarage

Church Road

Onchan IM3 1BF

Telephone No: 675797

Licensed Readers:

Nigel Cretney

Telephone Nos: 851060/496109 (mobile)

Carole Bairstow

Telephone No: 628629

Parish Clerk: Mrs Jane Cretney

Parish Office

Office Hours

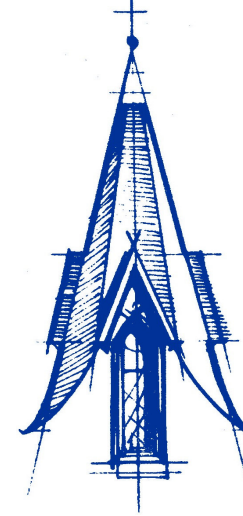
Mon – Fri 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Telephone No. 675797

e-mail: enquiries@stpeterschurch.org.im

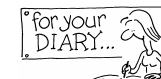
website: <http://www.stpeterschurch.org.im>

Monthly Review December 2007



*St. Peter's Parish Church
Kirk Onchan*

To be central to the life of Onchan,
Providing a Christian Witness,
Worship and Welcome to all.



Dear Friends,

It will not be long before we will be hearing the words from Luke's gospel:

'And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because, there was no place for them in the inn' Luke 2 v 7

We can picture the scene because of the familiar carols we sing, the nativity plays we have attended, and the Christmas card scenes we have seen.

Was it really like this?

Actually it may not have been an inn. The reason for believing this is in the word Luke uses for inn in the Greek translation – he uses the word 'Kataluma'. He only uses this word in one other place in his gospel with reference to the guest or upper room where the Last Super was celebrated.

In the story of the Good Samaritan, Luke uses the word 'pandocheion' for inn.

There is no mention of a stable but simply of an animal feeding trough or manger.

It seems likely that Joseph and Mary stayed in a house in Bethlehem that may have belonged to relatives of Joseph – he was returning back to his family roots for the census. Such a home would be in two levels – the lower lever where people lived in the day and the sleeping quarters upstairs. At night the animals were brought into the lower level. So perhaps there was no room for Joseph and Mary in the upper room so they bedded down with the animals.

Imagine what it was like: dirty, smelly and cramped – and a poor household.

This makes the incarnation even more wonderful for this baby of a poor, teenage, peasant girl is none other than the Son of God, who is judge, redeemer, promised saviour, suffering servant, anointed one, King of glory, child of Bethlehem, Son of Man, Word made flesh, light of the world, lamb of God, incarnate Son of God.

Have we grasped this?

DIARY for December

1 st	Sat	2.00 pm	Christmas Fayre – Parish Hall
2 nd	Sun	6.30 pm	Advent Service – Church
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice – Church
3 rd	Mon	10.15 am	Peter Bear Club – Parish Hall
		7.45 pm	Key Group – 2 Wentworth Close
4 th	Tue	7.00 pm	Onchan Community Christmas–Community Centre
		7.30 pm	Mothers' Union Advent Carol Service – Cathedral
		7.30 pm	Sunday School Team Meeting
5 th	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion – Church
		6.30 pm	Girl Guide District Carol Service – Church
		7.30 pm	Key Group – 76 King Edward Road
		7.30 pm	Cell Group 1 – 7 Third Avenue
		8.00 pm	Ladies Fellowship – Parish Hall
6 th	Thurs	7.00 pm	Barn Rehearsal – Church
		8.00 pm	Prayer Group – 4 Seaview Road
7 th	Fri	1.30 pm	Mums & Tots – Parish Hall
8 th	Sat	3.00 pm	Sunday School Nativity Rehearsal – Church
9 th	Sun	11.00 am	Sunday School Nativity – Church
		2.00 pm	Baptisms: Matthew Harold Eisen & Max William Vernon
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice - Church
10 th	Mon		Synod Meeting – Port Erin
11 th	Tue		Mothers' Union Christmas Lunch - Welbeck
		7.30 pm	Key Group 1
		7.30 pm	Key Group 2 – 11 Majestic Drive
12 th	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion - Church
		7.30 pm	Key Group – 76 King Edward Road
		7.30 pm	Cell Group 1 – 22 Devonshire Road
13 th	Thurs	6.00 pm	Barn Rehearsal – Kerrowdhoo Farm
		7.30 pm	Carol Singing at Heywood Court
14 th	Fri	1.00 pm	Mums & Tots in Church Followed by Party in Parish Hall
		7.30 pm	Evening of Christmas Music–Parish Hall–tickets £1
		7.30 pm	Teenage Group – 4 Groudle Road
15 th	Sat	10.30 am	Carol Singing – Onchan Shoprite
		4.00 pm	Barn Nativity – Kerrowdhoo Farm
		7.00 pm	Barn Nativity – Kerrowdhoo Farm
16 th	Sun	11.00 am	Sunday School Party – Parish Hall
17 th	Mon	10.15 am	Peter Bear Club Service & Party – Church
		7.30 pm	Christian Aid Alternativity Service - Church
18 th	Tue	7.00 pm	House Groups Christmas Get Together at 15 Lucerne Court, Little Switzerland, Douglas
19 th	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion - Church
20 th	Thurs		
21 st	Fri		
22 nd	Sat	1.00 pm	Wedding: Anthony John Cross & Katrina Garrett
23 rd	Sun	2.00 pm	Baptism: Jacob Thomas Ashcroft
		6.30 pm	Nine Lessons & Carols Service - Church
24 th	Mon	9.00 am	Make Christingles – Church
		5.00 pm	Christingle Service – Church
		11.30 pm	Christmas Communion - Church
25 th	Tue	10.00 am	Family Communion - Church

26 th	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion - Church
27 th	Thurs		
28 th	Fri		
29 th	Sat		
30 th	Sun		No Evening Service
31 st	Mon		



The flower rota for December is as follows:

2 nd	<i>In Memory-Mort Family</i>	<i>Mrs S. Brew</i>
9 th		<i>Mrs J. Cory</i>
16 th		<i>Mrs J. Nivison</i>
23 rd		<i>Mothers' Union</i>
30 th		<i>Mrs E. Cory</i>



**PRAYER DIARY
DECEMBER, 2007**

2 nd	<i>The Recently Baptised</i>	<i>Creg ny Baa, Begoade, Whitebridge, Little Mill</i>
9 th	<i>Youth Organisations within Onchan</i>	<i>Hawthorne Close, Poplar Close, Sycamore Close</i>
16 th	<i>Hospital & Hospice Esp. Doctors, Nurses & Health Visitors</i>	<i>Glen View Road, Snaefell Crescent</i>
23 rd	<i>The Sidesmen</i>	<i>Members of the Church who live outside the Parish</i>
30 th	<i>Residential & Nursing Homes</i>	<i>Wybourn Drive, Wybourn Grove, Wybourn View</i>

If we have then our God is too small. All we can do is stand in awe and survey that humble scene in Bethlehem and try to grasp its significance in God's plan of salvation.

If we are finding it difficult to express how we feel about the birth of Jesus then we should rejoice for we have sensed something of the miraculous nature of the event – it is so ordinary and yet so extraordinary.

The apostle John summed it up when he wrote in his gospel:
'And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory of the father's only son, full of grace and truth'. John 1 v 14

My prayer this Christmastime is that all who hear the Christmas Story may see it as more than a story, not just a fairy tale, but that they and we, may be touched by the glory of God made manifest through the Christ-child.

May we praise Jesus as Lord and Saviour this Christmastime.

Yours sincerely in Jesus' Name,

Malcolm Convery

Vicar

CMS (Church Mission Society)

The boxes are now due in.

If you have a box please return it to church. Thank you.

CHILDREN IN NEED

Thank you to those who supported the Children in Need Appeal at FISS.

The face painting and the retiring offertory raised £100, the teenage group added £40 from their icing of Christmas cakes project.

MOTHERS' UNION



For our last meeting in October, Rev. Cyril Rogers came along and told us all about the New Homeless Charity that is being set up on the Island. It was a most interesting and informative afternoon and by the end we all felt we had learned and understood better the reasons behind why so many are homeless.

My Journey to the Isle of Man was the title given to the talk by Major Lynne Collins from the Salvation Army. Lynne led us on a journey from Salvation Army hostel to hostel around Britain before coming to the Isle of Man.

A Video Night was the title for the EMU's meeting held in the Parish Office on a very wet and windy night. After a time of worship built around media we looked at one form of media video's and in particular we looked at how these are used to promote the work of MU here and abroad.

Both groups worked hard at the Friendly Lunch to celebrate the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of H.M. The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh. The hall and tables looked lovely decorated in red, white and blue, and a wonderfully decorated cake was cut and a toast was drunk to our Patron and her husband.

The money raised at the lunch goes to our own branch funds.

Thank you to all who helped make this event a happy occasion.

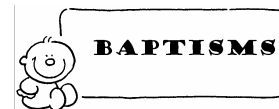
Valerie Convery, Branch Leader

SATURDAY 1st DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS FAYRE



Stalls this year will include cakes, gifts, raffles, bottle, chocolate, & Christmas items, but we are not having second hand bric-a-brac or books. Please see what you can donate to stock the stalls, and all offers of help to set up on Friday 30th November at 7 pm will be much appreciated. Any items for the stalls including bottles, chocolates, and raffle prizes can be left at the back of Church or dropped into the office. *Thank you.*

FROM THE REGISTERS



4th November, 2007

Darcy Michelle Donegan

Isaac Quayle

18th November, 2007

Katie Leigh Brew

Jamie William Ball



10th November, 2007

Declan William Murphy & Penelope Campbell

Funerals

Jessie Thompson Coward, Jack Stanworth,
Charles Joseph Brownless, Dulcie Hogwood,
Doreen Vickers, Peter Dodsworth, Richard Leventhorpe,
Elizabeth Griffiths, Doreen May Quirk,



The offertory for October totalled £7,424.37 and was made up of £6,078.38 pledged giving and £1,345.99 of loose plate giving.

Thank you.

CAROL SINGING

Tuesday Key Group (1) are arranging again this year to go Carol Singing on Thursday evening 13th December at Heywood Court (7.30 pm) and Saturday 15th December at Onchan Shoprite (10.30am to 12.30pm). They are planning to distribute leaflets highlighting the Christmas Services at St. Peter's, Onchan Methodist and Abbeylands Chapel and they hope that other 'carollers' will join them. Collections will be taken in support of the children's charity - Isle of Man Adoption Society.

LADIES FELLOWSHIP

Our first November meeting was a jewellery party which was a great success, with our members being swelled by 'outsiders'. We received a proportion of the monies from the sale of the jewellery and this will go into our funds and will be given to good causes at a future date.

At our second meeting Mr Alan Wilcocks came to talk about some of his 'Music Memories'. We listened to tales of his musical life and to a small choice of his favourite records.

Thank you to everybody who donated a shoe box to the 'Drop in Ministries' appeal. I am not sure how many boxes there were, as they were taken to Ramsey in two batches and some being delivered to Ramsey by the donors. I think there would be about 30 boxes in total.

Thank you again.

Hazel Johnson

BARN NATIVITY

Following the success of this event 2 years ago it has been decided to do it again on Saturday 15th December at Kerrowdhoo Farm, Little Mill Road, Onchan. No admission charge – retiring collection for charity.

This time there will be two performances: 4 pm and 7 pm.

Ashley Hill School Choir will be present at 4 pm and Onchan School choir at 7 pm. Onchan Silver Band will be playing carols.

It promises to be a memorable celebration – EVERYBODY WELCOME.

PLEASE SUPPORT ST. PETER'S PARISH CHURCH CHRISTMAS FAYRE

**IN
ONCHAN PARISH HALL, ROYAL AVENUE
ON
Saturday 1st December**

**OPENING AT 2.00 pm by
Major Lynne Collins
of the Salvation Army**

LOTS OF STALLS AND RAFFLES

ADMISSION ONLY £1

**Proceeds to
Salvation Army Christmas Appeal &
Onchan Parish Hall Fund**



ST. PETER'S PARISH CHURCH

*Everyone is welcome to join us for our
Christmas Services*

<u>December</u>		
Sunday 9th	11.00am	Sunday School Nativity
Saturday 15th	4.00 pm & 7.00 pm	Barn Nativity at Kerrowdhoo Farm
Sunday 23rd	9.00 am 11.00am 6.30 pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Nine Lessons & Carols
Christmas Eve	5.00 pm 11.30pm	Christingle Christmas Communion
Christmas Day	10.00am	Family Communion
Sunday 30th	9.00 am 11.00am	Holy Communion Holy Communion
<u>January, 08</u>		
Sunday 6th	11.00am & 6.30 pm	Thanksgiving Services for 175 years of St. Peter's Parish Church

**AN EVENING OF
CHRISTMAS MUSIC
Coffee & Mince Pies
IN THE PARISH HALL
on
Friday 14th December
at 7.30 pm**

IN AID OF THE PARISH HALL FUND
Raffle & Cake stall ORGANISER: GORDON ASTILL
TICKETS ONLY £1 (children 50p)

PARISH HALL

An EFFERVESCENT EXTRAVAGANZA that was the Onchan Parish Hall as it resounded to the sights and sounds of a 'Good Old Days' style Victorian Music Hall – and what a concert it proved to be raising over £700 towards the Hall. And what a good laugh it was too! Did you see the size of those nappy pins? Ouch!

With the concert so marvellously organised by Wendy McDowell (*who broke her wrist just the night before*) and featuring some of the Island's top artistes – Val Kissack, Matthew McBriar (*Young Singer of Mann*), Royce Callister, Joe Wylde, Alan Wilcocks, Linda Corkish, Graham Platt, Simon Bampton and Master of Ceremonies Chris Caine, not forgetting our very own 'Triplets' – it couldn't fail could it. Any they didn't disappoint.

Thank you to everyone who supported the concert, the artistes, to Wendy, to those who provided raffle prizes and especially to everyone who made the effort to dress for the occasion. Not forgetting the award winning scrumptious ice cream, and the prints and original paintings by the very talented local artist Elsa Bridson which sold very well.

A special thank you to Kath Blackburn who with Wendy down to one arm stood in at the very last moment to accompany the artistes on the ivory keys – thanks Kath.

Ideal Christmas presents

We still have some CD's (£10) left, prints and cards by Elsa Bridson and don't forget the prints (£35) by the late Norman Sayle – leave your shopping worries behind you – visit the Parish Office for one stop shopping! Open Monday to Friday 9.30am to 12.30pm (tel: 675797).

*A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
from the Parish Hall Committees,
and a big thank you to everyone who has supported
the Hall.*