

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 Reader:

Nigel Cretney

Telephone Nos: 851060/496109 (mobile)

Parish Clerk:

Mrs Jane Cretney

Parish Office

Office Hours

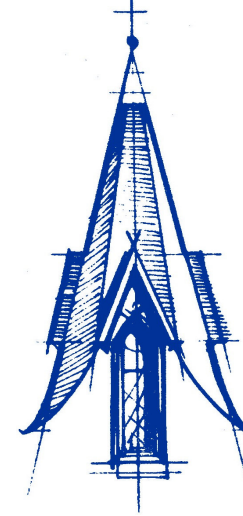
Mon – Fri 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Telephone No. 675797

e-mail: enquiries@stpeterschurch.org.im

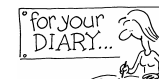
website: <http://www.stpeterschurch.org.im>

Monthly Review March 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,

I am sure we are all familiar with the question Jesus asked the disciples: "Who do people say I am?"

But what about his second question? "Who do you say I am?"

Have we ever answered this question ourselves? Peter gave a short response: "You are the Messiah of God".

Perhaps our response would be just as short and a reflection of how little we know about Jesus compared to how much there is to know and experience.

We all know from human relationships how long it takes to know people and even after many years new insights are revealed. Once we engage through faith with Jesus and commit our lives to following him we discover that there is much to learn about him and the purpose of learning is not so much to fill our heads with facts but to draw closer to God.

Many of the things we do in Lent can help us grow closer to God. They include giving something up perhaps, or making a donation to a charity or doing an additional act of service, or going on a retreat.

There are numerous Lenten disciplines all of which have their value. But they are only of value if they give us a clearer vision of the Lord. May I suggest that we decide this Lent to engage in a deeper way in the life of Jesus and that in turn will deepen our own spiritual lives.

I mentioned in a recent sermon a book I have been reading: 'The Jesus I never knew' by Philip Yancy. Philip Yancy had a deep and persistent hunger for the truth in Jesus. He felt that the image he had gained from his Sunday School days, and even from his days at Bible College, was very superficial. In other words there was more than meets the eye, so he set out on a quest to move deeper into the heart and mind of Jesus.

He found himself snowbound for a fortnight in a mountain cabin during which time he read the whole Bible. He then decided to concentrate on the gospels and in addition to reading them he viewed several films on the life of Jesus. Following this he taught an adult class on 'The life of Jesus'.

He got under the skin of the life and nature of Jesus, as it were, and he

DIARY for March

1 st	Thurs	8.00 pm	Prayer Group – 4 Seaview Road
2 nd	Fri	1.30 pm	Mums & Tots – Parish Hall
		7.30 pm	Alpha Course – Archibald Knox
		7.30 pm	Women's World Day of Prayer – Onchan Methodist Church
3 rd	Sat	2.00 pm	Baptism: Charlie Paul Convery
4 th	Sun	2.00 pm	Baptisms: Sofie & Jessica Thornton (twins) & Sofia Elizabeth D'Amore
5 th	Mon	10.15 am	Peter Bear Club – Parish Hall
		7.30 pm	Wedding Preparation – Parish Office
6 th	Tue	2.00 pm	Mothers' Union – Parish Hall
		7.30 pm	Lent Course - Church
7 th	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion
		12 noon	Lent Lunch – Parish Hall
		7.30 pm	Alpha Course – Archibald Knox
		8.00 pm	Ladies Fellowship – Parish Hall
8 th	Thurs	7.30 pm	Sunday School Team Meeting
9 th	Fri	1.30 pm	Mums & Tots – Parish Hall
10 th	Sat		
11 th	Sun	4.00 pm	All Age Worship – Parish Hall
12 th	Mon	7.30 pm	PCC Meeting – Parish Office
13 th	Tues	7.30 pm	Lent Course - Church
14 th	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion
		7.30 pm	Alpha Course – Archibald Knox
15 th	Thurs	10.30 am	MU Deanery Coffee Morning – Parish Hall
		12 noon	Lent Lunch – Parish Hall
		8.00 pm	Prayer Group – 4 Seaview Road
16 th	Fri	1.30 pm	Mums & Tots – Parish Hall
17 th	Sat	1.00 pm	Wedding: Adrian John Cowin & Catherine Louise Fourie
		5.00 pm	Praying the Keeills Launch – Cathedral
18 th	Sun	11.00 am	Mothering Sunday Family Service with Baptisms: Harriet Clara & William Robert Shooter (twins)
		2.30 pm	Baptism: Callum David Bennett
19 th	Mon	10.15 am	Peter Bear Club – Parish Hall
20 th	Tue	2.00 pm	Mothers' Union – Parish Hall
		7.30 pm	Lent Course - Church
21 st	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion
		12 noon	Lent Lunch – Parish Hall
		2.15 pm	Mothers' Union visit Marown Mothers' Union
		7.30 pm	Alpha Course – Archibald Knox
		8.00 pm	Ladies Fellowship – Parish Hall
22 nd	Thurs		
23 rd	Fri	1.30 pm	Mums & Tots – Parish Hall
24 th	Sat		
25 th	Sun		
26 th	Mon		
27 th	Tue	7.30 pm	Lent Course - Church
28 th	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion
		12 noon	Lent Lunch – Parish Hall
29 th	Thurs	7.45 pm	Evening Mothers' Union – Parish Hall

		8.00 pm	Prayer Group – 4 Seaview Road
30 th	Fri	1.30 pm	Mums & Tots – Parish Hall
		6.45 pm	Alpha Course – Archibald Knox
31st	Sat	10.00 am	Alpha Course – venue to be advised



The flower rota for March is as follows:

4 th		L <small>ENT</small> 2
11 th		L <small>ENT</small> 3
18 th		Mothering Sunday
25 th		L <small>ENT</small> 5

Donations towards the cost of flowers for Easter would be gratefully received by Mrs Christine Sanders
Thank you.



PRAYER DIARY
MARCH, 2007

4 th	The Parish Hall Committees and Parish Hall users	Queens Road, Victoria Avenue
11 th	The Christian Stewardship Scheme	All those participating in the Stewardship Scheme at St. Peter's
18 th	All Mothers in Onchan	Bemahague, Bemahague Avenue
25 th	Kenyons	Ballachurry Avenue, Ballachurry Close

found himself asking some crucial questions:

How would I have responded to this man?
Would I have invited him over for dinner, like Zacchaeus?
Turned away in sadness, like the rich young ruler?
Betrayed him, like Judas and Peter?

The Jesus he discovered in this process was so much more than the one he knew at the outset. He came to know 'the Jesus he never knew' and he wrote:

'No one who meets Jesus ever stays the same. Jesus has rocked my own preconceptions and has made me ask hard questions about why those who hear his name don't do a better job of following him'.

Are we ready to be changed and challenged?

Then let's open our Bibles this Lent and read the gospels, asking God to guide us through his Holy Spirit, and opening our hearts and minds in anticipation of drawing Jesus deeper into our hearts and lives.

If we do this then be ready to witness a transformation in our own lives and in the life of the Church.

Are we ready to risk it?

Yours sincerely in Jesus' Name,

IMPORTANT NOTICE
STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Accompanying the Review this month is my annual Stewardship Update. I recently presented the Church accounts for the y/e 31.12.2006 to the PCC and have had to report to them a significant shortfall in the income we require to cover St Peter's normal annual running costs.

Please take the time to read this important information.

Peter G Cory, Hon Treasurer



THE BISHOP WRITES March 2007

On my desk for the past few weeks has been a small purple-coloured piece of paper. It is the flyer for a day at St John's Mill entitled "LENT..a Positive Season". Each time I have glanced at it I have wondered how positive a time Lent is for most of us.

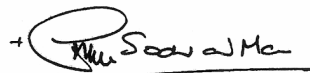
Quite recently I was invited into a school to talk about colours and the church's year. I went armed with a suitcase full of mitres, a cope and a selection of coloured stoles. When we had talked about (and laughed at!) the mitre and what it symbolised, I moved the discussion around to colours and what each colour suggested to the pupils. We were fine on red: blood and fire. We enjoyed white and gold: celebration and joy. Green was easy: grass and nature. But what about purple? Here we got stuck! Somehow the link between times of preparation, Lent and Advent, and the colour associated with them did not seem to ring bells. The sense of purple and the concept of repentance found no resonance in their young lives.

There is a great temptation for us to think of Advent and Lent as "non-times", to think of them as periods that must be endured before we get to the fun times, Christmas and Easter. Advent still retains something of the excitement of a time of building up, but how often do we fill our churches with Christmas trees on the third Sunday of Advent, giving in to the pressure to have carol services early? Lent simply has to be endured-all six weeks of it!

The purple flyer asked me to think of Lent **positively**. It demanded of me that I made something of these six weeks. The early church trained up its new members in Lent. It was a time of instruction and learning. It was a time of deepening of faith and of worship. Our modern society puts great store by "training". We seem to spend more and more time and energy on training our bodies: gym, diets and regimes! How good it would be if we turned that enthusiasm and energy to training ourselves spiritually.

There are many aids available to us in this kind of training: Lent groups; bible reading guides; prayer groups; additional acts of worship. Like dieting, it will need an act of will to achieve an end,

but **BE POSITIVE!** Decide to make something of Lent. Don't give something up: take up something positive. Make the colour purple a sign of active participation in your religious and spiritual journey. Give God a chance!

+ 



MOTHERS' UNION

Following a quiz afternoon for our last meeting in January the afternoon group have been out and about in February. We had a visit to the Methodist Church to hear all about the Leprosy Missions work in Uganda. The second meeting was out to Tynwald Mills to shop and have tea at the Neb Café. Both these outings have been enjoyed by the ladies.

Evening Mothers' Union Burns Night supper was a great success and the haggis was delicious.

Our meeting in February was taken by one of our own members Mrs Celia Marshall, when she presented a most interesting power point presentation of her son's time at Sandhurst, right from his first day to his Passing Out Parade. Celia told us something of the history of this famous college. Thursday March 15th sees St. Peter's Mothers' Union hosting the Deanery Coffee Morning and Lent Lunch in the Parish Hall. Do come along and support the Deanery.

We go out and about again on the 21st March when we are guests at Marown Mothers' Union meeting at 2.15 pm followed by tea.

We look forward to these events it is always good to meet up with other Mothers' Union members.

Valerie Convery, Branch Leader

LADIES FELLOWSHIP

A very good evening was had at 'Coasters' – 23 members enjoyed good food and a good natter. The first February meeting was an enlightening talk on Reiki given by Mrs Martina Reid. Our second meeting 'A Flower Workshop' with Mrs G. McAdam will be reported on next month.

Hazel Johnson



RONSAHGEY CREE VANNIN
EXPLORING THE HEART OF MANN

A SERVICE OF LIGHT FOR ST PATRICK'S DAY

SATURDAY 17TH MARCH 2007

A SERVICE TO PREPARE FOR
PRAYING THE KEEILLS 2007

IN THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST GERMAN, PEEL
at
5.00 p.m.

Music by CAARJYN COODJAGH

ALL ARE WELCOME

Collect your Prayer Booklets, Events Leaflets
and DVDs for
Praying the Keeills Week 19 – 26 May 2007

www.prayingthekeeills.org

THE LEPROSY MISSION

Many thanks to the holders of the little Red Leprosy Boxes. These have been emptied and £386.72 has been banked. If you have not received your box back please look on the table in church to see if it is there.

Thank you again.

Hazel Johnson

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals

John (Jack) Wilfred Kelly, Vera Lawrence,
David Thomas Moore, Marjorie Ada Hannay



The offertory for January totalled £4,893.00 and was made up of
£4,128.13 pledged giving and £764.87 of loose plate giving.

Thank you.

ALL AGE WORSHIP

SUNDAY
11th MARCH
at 4 pm
in the Parish Hall



PETER BEAR CLUB

We will meet on Monday 5th and 19th March
10.15am to 11.15am
in the Parish Hall, Royal Avenue, Onchan

ALL WELCOME

TICKETS (ONLY 80) ARE AVAILABLE NOW:

You are invited to celebrate an
ITALIAN EVENING

Saturday 14th April
(Doors open 7 pm for 7.30 pm)

at

ONCHAN PARISH HALL
Royal Avenue



Italian Wine



Mouthwatering Food
(Vegetarian option available on booking)
4 Courses

Marvellous Entertainment
(Incl. the 'Manx' Three Tenors)

Quiz on Arrival

Italian Themed Raffle

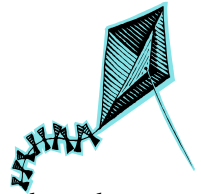
Tickets £20

Proceeds in aid of Onchan Parish Hall

Tickets available from
Jane at the Parish Office, Church Road, Onchan, IM3 1BF
(cheques payable to Onchan Parish Hall) or telephone 675797 –
Elaine 624910 – Mildred 625349 – Joan 622379

Think Freedom!

.....Lets go fly a kite!!



On March 25th 1807 Parliament made the slave trade illegal....

... .. today there are between
12 / 27 million people still in slavery.

- Slaves are currently being trafficked from 127 countries around the world, they are being “received” by 137 countries.
- The trade is equivalent to the illegal arms and drugs trade worldwide, raising over \$10 billion a year.
- 43% of the global market in slavery is within the sex trade.

Think Freedom is an initiative by the One World Centre working in conjunction with Amnesty international IoM to raise awareness of issues of contemporary slavery across the world. It seeks to encourage people to make their voice heard against a growing human trade by both campaigning and by making positive life style choices that will enable others to work their way out of the slavery of poverty

Think Freedom is being launched on Freedom day, March 25th, with community kite flying on Peel Hill at 3pm. 12 kites will be flown to symbolise the 12 million people still in slavery.

Anyone and everyone who is concerned about this issue is encouraged to come to fly a kite to celebrate the remarkable achievement of Wilberforce in 1807 and to show their commitment in working towards eradicating slavery in 2007.

If you would like more details of our slavery campaign, or details of kite making workshops please contact Katie on 825464, or email Katie@owciom.org . www.oneworldcentreiom.org