

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

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

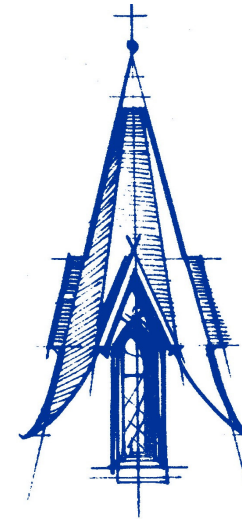
Mon - Fri 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Telephone No. 675797

e-mail: enquiries@stpeterschurch.org.im

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

Monthly Review November 2009



*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,

The news that I will be leaving St. Peter's on Sunday 31st January has probably reached you by now.

It is with mixed feelings that Valerie and I have taken this decision. On the one hand it is with sadness that we depart but on the other we can say it has been a very enjoyable and fulfilling 5½ years.

Some people have been asking 'Why are you going, you are not 70 yet? It feels right to hand over the baton to someone else having taken St. Peter's as far as I am able, and still having good health and energy I want some free time. What the Lord has in store I am not sure at this stage.

Priests don't retire – once a priest always a priest. They just take on a reduced workload and give up charring meetings. So they are free to be what they were called to be.

Valerie and I will be moving to Kirk Michael, going back west into the Peel Deanery where it all started in 1987 as Vicar of Marown.

The warmth of your ovation at the Harvest Service was very moving and an occasion we will never forget.

During the next few months it will be a matter of making sure things are in order and able to continue.

You have a good set of Wardens, a supportive PCC and many committed workers.

Keep up the good work but above all make time for prayer. Prayer connects us with God. Puts us in tune with his will. This is most important in discerning the person called to be your next Vicar.

Don't compare your new Vicar with the previous one. We all come with our strengths and weaknesses. We come in response to God's call and it is God who anoints us for the task.

For 5 years 8 months we will have journeyed together, growing in our faith and seeing God at work amongst us. Thank you for sharing the journey. Be ready to journey with your new leader and may God richly bless you all and use you in his service that through the ministry of

DIARY for November, 2009

1 st	Sun	2.45 pm	Annual Masonic Service – All Welcome
		6.30 pm	All Souls Service – All Welcome
2 nd	Mon	10.15 am	Peter Bear Club – Parish Hall
		7.30 pm	'Everybody Welcome' Course – In Church
3 rd	Tue		
4 th	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion - Church
		6.30 pm	Ladies Fellowship-Tracey Bell's, Kensington Rd
		7.30 pm	HomeGroupSix - Vicarage
5 th	Thurs	6.30 pm	Synod - Peel
6 th	Fri		
7 th	Sat	7.30 am	Men's Breakfast – Hilton Hotel
8 th	Sun	10.00 am	Remembrance Service - Church
9 th	Mon	7.45 pm	HomeGroupOne – 2 Wentworth Close
10 th	Tue	2.00 pm	Mothers' Union – Parish Hall
		7.30 pm	HomeGroupTwo – 5 Bay View Road
		7.30 pm	HomeGroupThree
11 th	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion - Church
		7.30 pm	HomeGroupFour – 76 King Edward Road
		7.30 pm	HomeGroupFive
		7.30 pm	HomeGroupSix
12 th	Thurs		
13 th	Fri	9.00 pm	BUZZ – Sleepover in Church
14 th	Sat		
15 th	Sun		
16 th	Mon	10.15 am	Peter Bear Club – Parish Hall
		7.45 pm	HomeGroupOne – 2 Wentworth Close
17 th	Tue	2.30 pm	Vicars visit to Heywood Court
			HomeGroupTwo – 55 Highfield Crescent
			HomeGroupThree
18 th	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion – Church
		7.30 pm	HomeGroupFour – Fairy Cottage, Laxey
		7.30 pm	HomeGroupSix
19 th	Thurs	7.30 pm	PCC Meeting – Parish Office
20 th	Fri		
21 st	Sat	11.00 am	Footsteps Social Walking Group
22 nd	Sun		
23 rd	Mon	7.45 pm	HomeGroupOne – 2 Wentworth Close
		7.30 pm	'Everybody Welcome' Course – In Church
24 th	Tue	2.00 pm	Mothers' Union – Parish Hall
25 th	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion - Church
		7.30 pm	HomeGroupFive
		7.30 pm	HomeGroupSix
26 th	Thurs	7.45 pm	Evening Mothers' Union - Vicarage
27 th	Fri		
28 th	Sat	7.30 pm	Night at the Musicals – Parish Hall
29 th	Sun		
30 th	Mon	10.15 am	Peter Bear Club – Parish Hall
		7.30 pm	Advent Meeting (1) – St. Peter's



The flower rota for November, 2009 is as follows:

1 st		Mrs E. Cory
8 th	Remembrance Sunday	
15 th		Mrs A. Cox
22 nd		Mrs M. Cooper
29 th		Mrs J. Cory



**PRAYER DIARY
NOVEMBER 2009**

1 st	The Bereaved	King Edward Close, King Edward Park, Eskdale Road
8 th	Armed Services & The British Legion	Sunningdale Drive, Falkland Drive, Douglas Bay Apartments
15 th	The Diocese of Sodor & Man	Central Drive, Furman Close, Furman Road, Greeba Drive
22 nd	The Mission of St. Peter's	Abbeylands & Tromode
29 th	The Recently Baptised	Creg-ny-Baa, Begoade, Whitebridge, Little Mill.

On returning home from Back to Church Sunday service Elizabeth Adams was inspired to write this poem –

Back to Church Sunday what a great success
lots of people turning up feeling they are blessed
from the youngest to the oldest
each reaching out a hand
a building brick to friendship
a feeling that's so grand.
May the fellowship of St Peter's continue to grow
encompassing more souls from the seeds we sow.

St. Peter's people may come to a knowledge and experience of the Lord.

Yours sincerely in Jesus' Name,

Malcolm Convery

Vicar

P.S. I've not gone yet!

There is still some more of the journey to share.

HEARTFELT THANKS

My mother Valerie and I would like to thank all our friends at St Peter's for your cards, messages of support, hugs and genuine kindness which you have shown to us over the last few weeks. Your support has helped us to deal with my brother Neil's serious illness and untimely death and we are truly grateful for your love and prayers. God bless you all.

Elaine Litherland and Valerie Jaundrill

MOTHERS' UNION



At our meeting on the 29th September, Michaelmas Day we heard all about the Feasts and Legends that surround this day. Several members brought along friends and it was good to welcome them to our meeting. A few of our members are not enjoying good health at the moment. We hope that they will soon be feeling better and back with us.

Clare Faulds was our next guest speaker and Clare was to give us a slide show of her visit to the Falkland Islands. It was unfortunate that her equipment failed so we were unable to see any pictures, but Clare kept us entertained with many stories.

Evening Mothers Union meet on the 29th October in the Parish Office for their first meeting of the new programme.

Valerie Convery, Branch Leader

THE FOOTSTEPS
SOCIAL WALKING GROUP
the October and November Walks



.....follow in the footsteps of many others as we walk the highways and byways of our beautiful Island home.

Now we're into our Autumn and Winter walks – just one walk each month beginning on **SATURDAY 31st OCTOBER**. A gentle stroll down south – *Earystane, Scard and Lamode..* **BRING A PICNIC LUNCH.**

Assemble at St. Peter's Church car park at 11 am – note the earlier start!!!. Don't be put off if you don't have transport – book in with Nigel (496109), Elaine (416669) or Peter (496395). Hopefully there'll be spare car seats. If you have a car and a spare seat or two please let Nigel, Elaine or Peter know – *Thank you.*

THEN SATURDAY 21st NOVEMBER – *another walk in the beautiful Manx countryside of Ballaugh and Kirk Michael. The intention is to stop off for a slurp and a spot of lunch either at the Mitre or the Raven during the walk – just to keep the chill out, of course!*

INCLEMENT WEATHER – *if in doubt check with Nigel, Elaine or Peter.*

REMEMBER THE KEY WORDS

'SOCIAL AND ENJOY' – *Why not bring a friend or two!*



SUNDAY 22nd NOVEMBER

11 am

YOUTH SERVICE

*(Remember the last one!
Then don't miss this one)*

FROM THE REGISTERS



BAPTISMS

27th September, 2009

Leah Suri Larkman, Abigail Hope Sayle-Lowes,
Catherine Anne Hardinge

4th October, 2009

Milly Amy Brownlow

11th October, 2009

Nathan James Horsfield, Alesha Rose Corran
Bobby Andrew Corran

Funerals

Thomas Ian Dobson



OFFERTORY

The offertory for September totalled £6,558.93 and was made up of £4,948.50 pledged giving and £1,610.43 of loose plate giving.

Thank you.

ADVENT COURSE

Monday 30th November

St. Peter's Church

Monday 7th December

St. Anthony's Church

Monday 14th December

Onchan Methodist Church

All at 7.30 pm

ROBIN WATSON

CMS Mission Partner from the Sudan

Illustrated Talk in Church

Wednesday 28th October at 7.30 pm

ALL WELCOME

EVERYBODY WELCOME

is a new 5 part Church of England Course which trains congregations to be more welcoming.

We probably all know from experience how important it is to feel welcomed in a Church.

I am sure we have been to different Churches on our holidays and have found the welcome varies.

This course can help us grow the Church.

Each session lasts 1½ hours and each member of the course will receive a small course booklet which contains material to read prior to each session.

There is also input using a DVD.

Everybody is welcome to join this course.

The first two sessions will take place in Church at 7.30 pm on:
Monday 2nd and Monday 23rd November

Please make a note in your diary.

This course could make a vital contribution to the growth of St. Peter's

CMS BOXES

The CMS boxes are due in this month. Please hand them in before the end of the month. Thank you.

HARVEST COLLECTION

The Harvest raised £673.52 for the Disaster Emergency Committee's (which includes Christian Aid) appeal for Somoa, Sumatra and the Philippines.

Thank you to all who contributed and also thank you for the harvest produce which was delivered in over 65 parcels throughout the parish.

The BUZZ and LAZER Harvest Mouse Drive raised £158 for Church funds.

LADIES FELLOWSHIP

A good number of ladies attended the first meeting on the 7th October and two new ladies came for a 'sight'. Several members said they would be going on the Ghost Walk (*having now taken place*) hope they survived.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 4th November which is a visit to Tracey Bell's Reinvention Clinic (Old Hospice) in Kensington Road. Please note this is a 6.30 pm start.

Our second November meeting on the 18th is also 'out' – this being a visit to the Observatory.

Christmas Shoe boxes can be left at the back of church or delivered to me by the 4th November.

Hazel Johnson

NIGHT AT THE MUSICALS



7.45 pm
in the Parish Hall
on
Saturday 28th November



A Brand New Show

featuring the Island's top Artistes
including Stage One Drama School &
the Christine Wild Theatre School

IN AID OF ONCHAN PARISH HALL

RAFFLE

Magical Entertainment

TICKETS ONLY £5

Available from Jane 675797

COMMUNION BEFORE CONFIRMATION

In 2006 the General Synod of the Church of England produced regulations permitting the receiving of Communion by children before Confirmation and they issued a set of guidelines to follow.

Bishop Graeme adopted these in the Isle of Man in the same year. Bishop Robert is keen for parishes to consider this issue.

During the past few months the PCC have discussed the matter on more than one occasion. The Sunday School Teachers and Parents have been consulted and now it is the turn of the congregation to have a say if they so wish.

The basic premise guiding this issue is:

- that Baptism is the universal sign of complete initiation into the life of the Church.
- Confirmation and other rites of affirmation are in no way seen as the completion of Baptism or as necessary for admission to Communion.

We have been brought up believing that Confirmation is the gateway to Communion whereas Baptism should be the only requirement.

Baptised children (and adults) should be able to receive Communion and Confirmation should come later as an affirmation of their faith.

The guidelines advocate a period of preparation before admission to Communion and children and parents should decide whether it is right for their child to receive.

For some families it may be right but others may feel 'not yet'.

The PCC will make a decision whether to ask the Bishop's permission to proceed at their meeting on 19th November and they would value any comments from members of the congregation. These can be directed to the Vicar.

In permitting baptised children (and baptised adults) who are not Confirmed to receive Communion is enabling them to participate as full members of the Church family, which they are through Baptism.

Please include this matter in your prayers.

Vicar

PCC MEETING 23rd SEPTEMBER, 2009

The meeting started with prayers and a reading from Philip Yancey's book – 'Finding God in Unexpected Places'.

The Bishop's recommendations for mission and ministry were extensively discussed with agreement overall but with certain reservations. More discussions to follow after the imminent Synod at Peel on the 26th September where it is hoped things will be clarified.

Communion before Confirmation: Favourable response from parents, Sunday School teachers, and youth leaders. The views of the congregation to be considered. Draft Parish Policy considered.

The Vicar's reforms of Morning Prayer which will see the psalm sung to different tunes and sung in a responsorial format, with the choir singing the verses and the congregation singing the response; the replacing of the canticle with a hymn and with the exception of the Lord's Prayer the modern Common Worship wording used throughout were after considerable debate approved.

Back to Church Sunday, with increased publicity Island-wide was eagerly looked forward, and plans to broaden the appeal of the Home Groups were welcomed.

Another Buzz & Lazer Group 'sleepover' in church was agreed and the intended Youth Service, once again organised by the teenagers, on Sunday 22nd November was welcomed. Further youth services are planned. A financial report was given by the Treasurer, Heather Reynolds.

The Vicar confirmed the ecumenical Advent Course over three evenings with the congregations from Onchan Methodist and St. Anthony's; emphasised the importance of mission and welcome if the church is to grow and the need to look to future services.

The Council is to consider a Fair Trade stall at the back of church.

The Christmas Fayre is to be held on Saturday 5th December in the Parish Hall with the proceeds divided between the Hyperbaric Chamber and the Church.

Meeting finished at 9.30 pm with prayers and the Grace.

Elizabeth Adams