

### Services at St Peter's

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

#### Vicar:

The Revd Canon Malcolm Convery

*The Vicarage*

*Church Road*

*Onchan*

*IM3 1BF*

*Telephone No: 675797*

#### Parish Clerk:

Mrs Jane Cretney

Parish Office

Office Hours

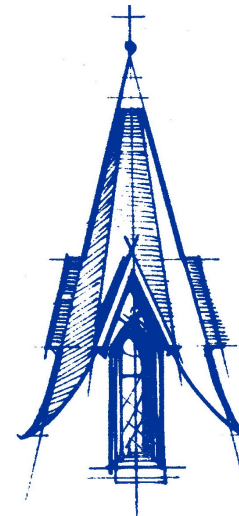
*Mon – Fri 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.*

*Telephone No. 675797*

*e-mail: [enquiries@stpeterschurch.org.im](mailto:enquiries@stpeterschurch.org.im)*

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

# Monthly Review October 2006



*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,

There is tremendous satisfaction in growing crops or plants as any farmer or gardener will tell you.

The field of golden corn perfectly ripened and ready for harvest is a sight to behold or a garden that is a blaze of beautiful colour that catches the eye of passers-by.

Yet both demand an enormous amount of work to produce – preparing the soil, selecting and planting the seed, applying the fertilizer and perhaps water as well, then waiting for things to happen.

New green shoots appear then the heads of grain or buds then the fully developed plant.

Such growth is a miracle of nature. Harvest is a time when our thoughts turn to Jesus and his parables about the growth of seeds and the harvest. Somewhere back in time someone planted a seed in our hearts which has taken root – a spiritual seed – the seed of the gospel.

I thank God for my faithful Sunday School Teacher who, week in and week out, shared the good news of Jesus with a group of lively teenagers. He planted seeds which only later come to fruition.

I was delighted to write to him some 23 years later telling him that I was going to be ordained in Liverpool Cathedral. Needless to say he was thrilled.

But here were seeds that didn't grow and bear fruit in a season but over many years.

Some of us may sow and not see a spiritual harvest. Others of us may do more harvesting than sowing – both are important – sowing and harvesting.

However, we are often better at sowing the seeds than nurturing and harvesting the crop.

Bringing people to a faith in Christ and encouraging them to grow is a very satisfying and joyful experience.

To think someone may be a Christian today who was impressed by your

## DIARY for October

1 <sup>st</sup>	Sun	2.00 pm	Baptism – Florence Catherine Isaline Leigh
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice - Church
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mon	7.30 pm	PCC Meeting – Parish Office
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Tue	2.00 pm	Mothers' Union – Parish Hall
		7.30 pm	Key Group 1 – Lhergy Cripperty, Union Mills
		7.30 pm	Key Group 2 – 42 Groudle Road
		7.45 pm	(Monday) Key Group – 2 Wentworth Close
4 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion
		7.30 pm	Key Group - 76 King Edward Road
		7.30 pm	Cell Group – 56 Groudle Road
		8.00 pm	Ladies Fellowship – Parish Hall
5 <sup>th</sup>	Thurs	12 noon	MU Deanery Lunch – Sefton Hotel
		3.00 pm	MU Deanery Service – St. Georges Church
		7.30 pm	Vicar & Warden's Meeting – Parish Office
6 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	1.30 pm	Mums & Tots – Parish Hall
		6.15 pm	Choir Practice – Church
7 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	9.00 am	Decorate Church for Harvest
		3.00 pm	Wedding: Richard Kenneth Cottee & Zoe Elizabeth Pye
8 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	6.30 pm	Harvest Praise Service – Church
9 <sup>th</sup>	Mon	10.00 am	Distribution of Harvest Gifts
		10.15 am	Peter Bear Club – Parish Hall
		7.45 pm	Key Group – 2 Wentworth Close
10 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	7.30 pm	Key Group 1 – 78 Summerhill Road
		7.30 pm	Key Group 2 – 11 Majestic Drive
11 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion
		12 noon	Friendly Lunch – Parish Hall
		7.30 pm	Key Group – 76 King Edward Road
		7.30 pm	Key Group – 22 Devonshire Road, Douglas
12 <sup>th</sup>	Thurs	7.30 pm	Harvest Hot Pot & Barn Dance – Parish Hall
13 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	1.30 pm	Mums & Tots – Parish Hall
14 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	1.45 pm	Coaches leave Church for Cathedral
		3.00 pm	Nigel's Licensing as a Reader – Cathedral
15 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	12 noon	Baby Goods & Toys Sale – Community Centre
16 <sup>th</sup>	Mon	7.30 pm	Deanery Synod – St. Matthews
		7.45 pm	Key Group – 2 Wentworth Close
17 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	7.30 pm	Key Group 1 – 15 Lucerne Court
		7.30 pm	Key Group 2 – 42 Groudle Road
18 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion
		2.00 pm	St. Luke's Hospital for the Clergy Fayre at Abbey Church, Ballasalla
		7.30 pm	Key Group
		8.00 pm	Ladies Fellowship – Parish Hall
19 <sup>th</sup>	Thurs	12.15 pm	Wedding Blessing: Sam & Diane Skelton
20 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	1.30 pm	Mums & Tots – Parish Hall
21 <sup>st</sup>	Sat		
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sun	4.00 pm	All Age Worship – Parish Hall
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Mon	10.15 am	Peter Bear Club – Parish Hall
		7.45 pm	Key Group – 2 Wentworth Close
24 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	7.30 pm	Key Group 1
		7.30 pm	Key Group 2 – 7 Third Avenue

25 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion
		7.30 pm	Key Group
		7.30 pm	Cell Group – 16 Highfield Crescent
26 <sup>th</sup>	Thurs	10.30 am	Mothers' Union Deanery Coffee Morning – Douglas Town Hall
		7.45 pm	Evening Mothers' Union – Parish Office
27 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	1.30 pm	Mums & Tots – Parish Hall
28 <sup>th</sup>	Sat		
29 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	2.00 pm	Baptism: Harry James Price
30 <sup>th</sup>	Mon	7.45 pm	Key Group – 2 Wentworth Close
31 <sup>st</sup>	Tue	2.00 pm	Mothers' Union – Parish Hall
		7.30 pm	Key Group 1



*St. Peter's Parish Church  
Kirk Onchan*

*Nigel's Licensing  
as a Reader  
at the Cathedral*

*on  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October  
at 3 pm*

*Coach will leave the Church  
at 1.45 pm*

If you wish to travel on the coach  
please contact  
**Elaine Cory 624910**  
or  
**Joan Callister 622379**  
to book a seat

life or by something you said about your own faith.

Indeed that someone may now be a minister in the Church, or a Key Group Leader, or serving God overseas.

Let's never give up planting the good seed of the gospel, and let us create a welcoming environment in which seed can be nurtured and let us never shy away from harvesting, encouraging people to take that step in faith and trust in Jesus – then we will witness a harvest worth celebrating.

Yours sincerely in Jesus' Name,

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES** will begin this month for young people and adults.

Any young people considering Confirmation need to tell their Lazer Group Leader and adults inform the Vicar.

Confirmation will take place on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 11 am when we will welcome Bishop Graeme.



**WELCOME TO PETER BEAR** the newest member of St. Peter's family.

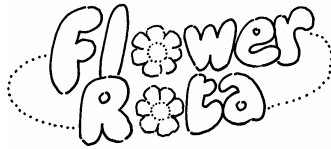
He comes to start a new club which will meet fortnightly on Mondays, from 10.15 to 11.15 am in the Parish Hall. (commenced on 25<sup>th</sup> September).

It's a club for pre-school age children, their parents, grandparents or childminders.

Christian songs and stories will be shared.

There will be craft activities and toys and light refreshments for all.

Do pray for this venture as we seek to help children learn about and experience Jesus and his love for them.



The flower rota for October is as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup>		Mrs A. Foster
8 <sup>th</sup>	HARVEST	Mrs P. Callin
15 <sup>th</sup>		Lady Haddacks
22 <sup>nd</sup>		Mrs E. Paterson
29 <sup>th</sup>		Mrs M. Brownlow



**PRAYER DIARY**  
**OCTOBER 2006**

1 <sup>st</sup>	The Douglas Deanery	Marine View Close, Kirkway, Harbour Road, Harbour View.
8 <sup>th</sup>	The Choir & Choir Mistress	Howe Road, Links View, Howstrake Drive
15 <sup>th</sup>	Onchan Pupils attending Other Schools	King Edward Road, Majestic Close, Majestic Drive, Majestic View
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Onchan Students at College of Further Education	Seacliff Road, Lag Birragh Drive, Groudle, Majestic Apartments.
29 <sup>th</sup>	The Diocese of Sodor & Man	King Edward Close, King Edward Park, Eskdale Road

**BABY GOODS & TOYS SALE**

At the Community Centre, Onchan 15<sup>th</sup> October from 12 noon to 2 pm.

Charity table in aid of Onchan Parish Hall Appeal – donations please to Dawn Kewley Tel: 677030 Thank you

**HARVEST CELEBRATIONS**

Harvest is not quite the popular celebration that is Christmas or Easter but many people who do not go to church at other times do so at Harvest. Perhaps it is the childhood memories it evokes or the harvest colours and smells and the familiar hymns.

Harvest is a time when we should be celebrating God's goodness in providing a harvest.

It's an opportunity to give thanks to God for the farming community but it is also important to be aware of the problems facing our farmers in the days ahead.

With this in mind we have invited Graham Crowe, a farmer in the Baldwin Valley, to share with us the problems facing the Manx Farmers.

This he will do at the **Harvest Praise Service** on the Sunday evening. Graham will also sing for us. Our choir will also provide items.

As we celebrate a successful harvest we need also to bring to mind those parts of the world where the harvest has failed – whether through lack of rain, or war, or disease. In such areas the harvest is a matter of life and death.

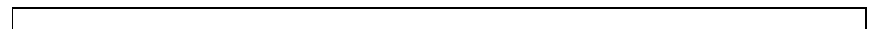
We are sending the cash offertory from the harvest to Christian Aid to be used in such areas.

The harvest baskets presented at the **Family Harvest Service** will be distributed around the parish to people who live alone, or are ill, or have recently been bereaved or facing difficult times. If you can help please come to the Church at 10am on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October.

People appreciate being remembered. It is only a small gift but presented in love it can make a difference.

We also want to enjoy the social aspect of harvest so we have organised a **Hot Pot Supper and Barn Dance** for Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October (details elsewhere in this leaflet). There will be a raffle at this event, the proceeds going to Christian Aid.

Do make every effort to join in the harvest celebrations.



## ALL AGE WORSHIP

**SUNDAY  
22<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER  
at 4 pm  
in the Parish Hall**

**BOOK AND LEAFLET STALL** (at the back of Church).

Do browse through the books and be encouraged to purchase.

The various leaflets are free and cover a range of topics. Please take and pass on to those who may find them helpful.

Let's spread the Word!



*With all the ups and downs of fatherhood, do you sometimes feel like you're making no progress? If so, this fun-filled, fast-paced event is for you.*

Richard Hardy explores some of the lessons he's learned as a dad ... and those he's still learning! In fact, Richard says, "You never get rid of the 'L' plates when you're a dad."

A dad's life is full of joys ... but with plenty of challenges thrown in!

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November at The Sefton Hotel, Douglas  
7.30 – 10.00 pm Tickets £6**

**To reserve a place please telephone 675797**

**PLEASE NOTE CLOSING DATE**

**FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN NEXT REVIEW**

**23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2006**

## FROM THE REGISTERS



*27<sup>th</sup> August, 2006*

Olivia Rose Williams & Thomas James Sutherland

*3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2006*

Harry James Callin, Millie Katharine McCausland  
& Ciara Elizabeth Brown

*10<sup>th</sup> September, 2006*

George Thomas Moore, Poppy Summer Knox  
& Hollie May Robertson

*24<sup>th</sup> September, 2006*

Jasper Clague Duggan &  
Dominic Scott Anthony Reuben Quine-Askew



*26<sup>th</sup> August, 2006*

Lee Worsfold & Karen Whittaker

*27<sup>th</sup> August, 2006*

Neil Cullington & Emma Leece

*2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2006*

Andrew Roger Oram & Jennifer Mary Trimble  
John Johnson & Susan Nelson

*9<sup>th</sup> September, 2006*

Dennis Ray Gelling & Samantha Ann Clague

*23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2006*

Stephen Corrin & Lynette McComish

## Funerals

Emily Hamer, Jean Stirling, Thelma Prescott,  
Charles Oliver Alfred Lawrence, & Martyn Stuart David Heyes



The offertory for August totalled £5,257.66 and was made up of £3,931.88 pledged giving and £1,325.78 of loose plate giving.

Thank you.

## LADIES FELLOWSHIP

The group commences on the 4<sup>th</sup> October and all members should have received their programmes by now. "TBA" items in the programme can be filled in at the first meeting. The second meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> October is a talk on the Children's Centre, its past, present and future.

Hazel Johnson



## MOTHERS' UNION

The new programme of meetings and events started with a Holy Communion service in church. Thanks were expressed to the Vicar and to Nigel for taking this service.

Just looking at our programme one can see at a glance that October is a busy month for members. Two meetings in the month are Deanery events and I hope you will give these your support.

5<sup>th</sup> October Douglas Deanery MU Service at St. Georges at 3 pm preceded by lunch at the Sefton Hotel at 12 noon for 12.30 pm.

26<sup>th</sup> October Douglas Deanery Coffee Morning at Douglas Town Hall 10.30 am to 12 noon.

Don't forget our own Friendly Lunch in the Parish Hall 11<sup>th</sup> October at 12 noon.

The Evening Mothers' Union held a surprise buffet supper at the Vicarage on 28<sup>th</sup> September. Mrs Wendy Allan the EMU's administrator was retiring, Wendy had held this position for a number of years and now felt the time was right to step down.

A presentation was made to Wendy for all the love she has shown to the EMU members over the years.

Valerie Convery, Branch Leader

## I'M ALIVE Mission 21<sup>st</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> October

A team of over 100 students from Cliff Theological Collage and the Share Jesus International Mission will be on the Island for a week involved with various churches and chapels.

There are several events in Douglas and also based at the Methodist Church in Onchan to which everyone is welcome. We will make the programme known once it has been finalised. Although not directly involved in the mission we may want to partake in some of the events.

In the meantime we are asked to pray for the team and for the people they will touch.

## PCC AWAY DAY

The PCC spent a fruitful day at St. John's Mill on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September.

The theme was 'Making Connections' with those beyond the Church and 'Fresh Expressions of Church'.

There was a viewing of a new DVD on 'Fresh Expressions' followed by an interesting discussion on new ways of being church.

The group worshipped together and were also introduced to a Christian Labyrinth – which is a symbolic journey through different activity stations, designed to draw us closer to God.

The group work included a discussion on three topics:

- 1) Why do people drift away from the church and how may they be encouraged back?
- 2) How can we make the inside of our church building more spiritually welcoming?
- 3) What can we do to encourage men in the Christian Faith?

The next step is for the PCC to implement some of the ideas put forward.

Watch this space.

## THE BISHOP WRITES.....October 2006



There is at Vierzehnheiligen in Bavaria a magnificent rococo church set high on a hill. It has twin towers facing the valley below, each crowned with a fairytale onion dome in copper. It is a place to which pilgrims flock. The day on which we visited was bright and clear, and we were early in arriving. I must admit that I had put the building on my “must see” list rather for its architectural than its religious qualities! When we opened the door my heart sank: there was a service going on and the building was roped off. We couldn’t do our tourist visit, we simply had to wait!

As we stood in this vast church the atmosphere of prayer and contemplation began to work on us. As the words of the eucharist floated through the building, questions came to mind as to why this structure should be here and why people still came here to find God and to kneel in worship.

I have no German, and so the name of the place had meant little to me. I had noticed the “heiligen” in the name and had remembered singing Schubert’s German setting of the communion service. So “heiligen” must mean “holy”! It soon became clear that the first part of the name was simply the German for fourteen! So, fourteen holy ones seemed to suggest the basis for the pilgrims visiting the shrine. But who were these holy ones?

The guide book soon put us right. Vierzehnheiligen is probably the oldest pilgrimage church based on the experience of a human being having a religious experience on a given site. In this case a shepherd in the fifteenth century had seen apparitions of the Christ Child and fourteen other children. Our twenty-first century minds rebel against such experiences. We are children of the Enlightenment. We have no need for such outlandish ideas, we say. We smile indulgently! Yet why was there a congregation of nearly one hundred people kneeling here in 2006 at 10am if this is the case?

As time elapsed the interpretation of the vision developed. The “fourteen” came to be seen as fourteen known saints: the 14 Holy Helpers. In the centre of the church of today there is an altar depicting the fourteen in statues form. They surround the altar in attitudes of prayer and supplication. So, at the table where our Lord’s command “Do this in remembrance of me” is carried out day by day, there is the visible

reminder that we are not alone in our earthly pilgrimage. The simple act of prayer is corporate by its very nature. We are in need of **help** in our pilgrimage. One way that this form of help is delivered is through prayer: prayer for the church, the world, our neighbours, our friends, the sick and the dying. So often we hear of the feeling of isolation and loneliness that grips people in time of crisis or despair. The underlying power of the Vierzehnheiligen apparitions is that they display the truth that God promises that we are not alone. However you interpret the phrase “the communion of saints”, whether they be the saints of old or the body of Christ in our own day, in prayer we experience **communion** with a body of fellow travellers that none can number.

We left the hilltop shrine with a great feeling that in this spot there was truly an experience of the unity of “the church militant here in earth” with “the church triumphant in heaven”! The “fourteen” were but a shadow of the countless souls offering prayer and praise throughout the world, and reminding us that we had a part to play in that call to be **helpers** through our own prayer life.

## PCC REPORT

Meeting held in the Parish Office 18<sup>th</sup> July. Vicar opened the meeting with a bible reading and prayers.

The Vicar had received a letter from the Anglican Church of St. George in Baghdad asking churches nationwide if they would sponsor St. George's for one day – daily running costs are £300 – the Council agreed to send a £300 donation from our charitable giving.

The Council reflected on a very positive and encouraging visit from the Church Mission Society with it's emphasis on people to the Island. Possibility of a return visit next year.

The members then addressed four issues, brought to the Council by the Vicar, in a 'brainstorming' session –

- Families with pre-Sunday school children;
- Men and Church;
- Reaching those beyond the Church;
- Buildings. To what extent do they hinder or help us in meeting our objectives?

The Vicar undertook to look into a proposal that something in addition to the Sunday services should be provided for pre-Sunday school children. Perhaps a meeting during the week to provide for fellowship, prayers, playtime and activities for the children and music – such as action songs. Watch this space for more news. Ideas for consideration including men's breakfasts, working parties, reforming the Men's Fellowship with a greater emphasis on father & son/daughter activities, a father orientated playgroup and socials where men could be encouraged to attend were suggested. Increased opening of the church, services on the Village Green and people focused activities – prayer trees, corners for reflection, bibles in the pews and areas set aside for prayer were also suggested.

The Vicar's initiative in providing a book with a Christian message to every child going from Onchan to Secondary School covering such things as bullying, homework and teachers was welcomed. The change of venue to the Parish Hall for the All Age Worship had proved popular. Suggested aims included providing for a crèche and a new kitchen in Church. The Vicar and Wardens were already looking into possible improvements to the Church but the congregation would need to be involved.

The Vicar reported on a very successful all day Synod held at King Williams College. The Council agreed to support the work of the Non-Denomination Scripture Union with young people on the Island with a donation of £500 from our charitable giving. Improved lighting for the church had moved a step closer, and the success of the recent Alpha Course was welcomed.

The Vicar made an appeal for leaders and helpers for the Sunday School and the Lazer Group. Robert Simpson after several years was to take a break from leading the Lazer Group. The Council expressed their gratitude to Robert for all his hard work.

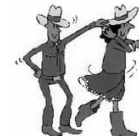
The meeting closed at 9.20 pm with The Grace.

#### **PARISH HALL – A Date for your diary:**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November is the date for the next VICTORIAN EVENING.

Wendy McDowell is busy arranging another group of artistes to entertain us – it promises to be another roaring success – so dust off your Victorian attire in readiness – more details later.

**FRIENDLY LUNCH**  
**Home made soups-desserts-coffee**  
**12 noon to 1.30 p.m.**  
**on**  
**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October**  
**in**  
**The Parish Hall, Royal Avenue, Onchan**  
**£3 – All Welcome**



*St. Peter's Parish Church*  
*Kirk Onchan*

**HARVEST**  
**HOT POT SUPPER**  
**& BARN DANCE**

*on*  
**THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**  
*at 7.30 p.m.*  
*in the*  
**Parish Hall, Royal Avenue**  
**TICKETS £5 (children £2)**  
*Bring your own drinks*



**TICKETS FROM THE PARISH OFFICE Tel 675797**

#### **DECORATING CHURCH FOR HARVEST**

The ladies decorate the Church for Harvest on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 9am. Any donations of flowers/greenery to assist would be much appreciated - buckets will be placed in the porch on Friday morning 6<sup>th</sup> October for any flowers/greenery. Thank you.