

Services at St Peter's

Holy Communion:	BCP Each Sunday	8.00 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	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

Parish Clerk:

Mrs Jane Cretney

Parish Office

Office Hours

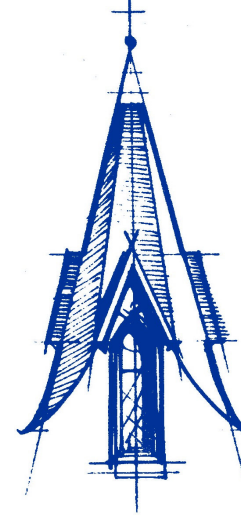
Mon – Fri 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Telephone No. 675797

e-mail: enquiries@stpeterschurch.org.im

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

Monthly Review September 2005



*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,

Rick Warren in his book 'The Purpose Driven Church' writes: 'The key issue for churches in the twenty first century will be health, not church growth' but he continues: 'healthy churches don't need gimmicks to grow – they grow naturally'.

Last September the PCC embarked on the project 'Growing a Healthy Church'. This study has been progressed at each of our PCC meetings and you may remember that the congregation were involved when they were asked to respond following three sermons on the topic. The PCC also had an Away Day at St. John's Mill.

More recently (in last month's Leader) I placed an article on the role of Key Groups on creating a healthy church.

A healthy church is one which seeks to foster the purposes for which the church was created by God, namely fellowship, discipleship, worship, ministry and evangelism.

We should be concerned with each of these areas and strive to strike a balance between them rather than creating a church that only focuses on one or two.

It is not possible to become a healthy church overnight, it has to evolve over a period of time and taking a step at a time.

We are now in a position in our 'Growing a Healthy Church' project to take our first few steps.

We are focusing our efforts upon three areas:

1. Prayer – we want to encourage prayer and grow in our experience of prayer. Prayer should under gird all that we attempt to do.

In the next few months we hope to have a sermon series on prayer, produce a prayer bookmark, have some input on prayer into Key Groups and look to having either prayer breakfasts or prayer suppers.

2. Welcome Pack – we want to produce a series of loose leaflets that together provide information on all that is on offer at St. Peter's and to have these available at the back of the church and also to parents of children, wedding couples, bereaved families, etc.

DIARY for September



1 st	Thurs		Canon Theo Arrives to stay at the Vicarage
2 nd	Fri		
3 rd	Sat	2.30 pm	Wedding: Terry Ditchfield & Louise Smallshaw
4 th	Sun	3.00 pm	Wedding: Paul Hey & Claire Shepherd
5 th	Mon	7.30 pm	Rev. Dr. Rob Frost 'Freedom Fighters' Lecture at St. John's Mill
6 th	Tue		
7 th	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion
		7.00 pm	Key Group Fellowship Meal – Parish Hall
8 th	Thurs		
9 th	Fri	1.30 pm	Mums & Tots – Parish Hall
10 th	Sat	3.30 pm	Wedding: David Babb & Verity Randle
11 th	Sun	11.00 am	Sunday School restarts – Parish Hall
		2.00 pm	Baptism – Keira Mae Dycher
		4.00 pm	All Age Worship - Church
12 th	Mon	7.45 pm	Key Group – 2 Wentworth Close
13 th	Tue	7.30 pm	Key Group 1 - Woodlands
		7.30 pm	Key Group 2 – 3 Alberta Drive
14 th	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion
		7.30 pm	Key Group – 76 King Edward Road
15 th	Thurs		
16 th	Fri	1.30 pm	Mums & Tots – Parish Hall
17 th	Sat	1.00 pm	Wedding: Paul Kelly & Danielle Harvey
18 th	Sun	2.00 pm	Baptisms: Georgia McGevor & Isla Yule
19 th	Mon		
20 th	Tue	2.00 pm	Mothers Union opening Service – Church followed by Afternoon Tea - Vicarage
21 st	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion
		7.30 pm	Midweek Service with Ministry of Healing
22 nd	Thurs		
23 rd	Fri	1.30 pm	Mums & Tots – Parish Hall
24 th	Sat		
25 th	Sun	2.00 pm	Baptism: Frances Elizabeth Loach
26 th	Mon	7.30 pm	PCC meeting – Parish Office
27 th	Tue	7.30 pm	Key Group 1 -
		7.30 pm	Key Group 2 -
		7.45 pm	Key Group – 2 Wentworth Close (Mon Gp)
28 th	Wed	10.30 am	Holy Communion
29 th	Thurs		
30 th	Fri	1.30 pm	Mums & Tots – Parish Hall

PLEASE NOTE:

THE PARISH OFFICE
will be closed 26th August to 4th September incl.
Urgent enquiries to The Vicarage



The flower rota for September is as follows:

4 th		Mrs A. Foster
11 th		Mrs J. Cretney
18 th		Mrs H. Hinds
25 th		Mrs L. Briggs



PRAYER DIARY
SEPTEMBER, 2005

4 th	Teachers & Pupils Onchan Primary School	Buttermere Drive, Ennerdale Avenue, Thirlmere Avenue
11 th	The Alpha Course	Groudle View, Groudle Road, Church Road
18 th	Onchan Pupils at St. Ninian's School	Turnberry Avenue, Wentworth Close, The Fairway
25 th	Onchan Pupils at Ballakermeen School	Fairway Close, Banks Howe, Manor Park

PLEASE NOTE CLOSING DATE

FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN NEXT REVIEW

26th September, 2005

3. Focus on families and encouraging a growth in the Sunday School. We need to look at what we offer families and how we can involve them in the church or assist them in parenting. If the Sunday School is to grow we need extra teachers, so please pray that we may find this help.

These areas will occupy us during the next few months and we will be assessing their progress throughout the next year.

We all have our part to play in growing a healthy church and I pray that we will be open to the work of the Holy Spirit who will gift and empower us for the task in hand. Let's work towards and anticipate St. Peter's growing towards a healthy church so we can experience the joy of giving God the glory.

Yours sincerely in Jesus' Name,

VISITING PREACHERS:

11 am Sunday 11th September

Rev. Philip Kuruvilla from Kerala in India. Philip is particularly interested in working with Aids Victims.

6.30 pm Sunday 18th September

Harry Carling – Reader at St. Thomas'

Canon Theo Kikoso from our link diocese of North Mbale in Uganda will be with us from 1st to 14th September. This will be Canon Theo's fourth visit to the Island. He first came in 1993.

KEY GROUPS begin this month with a Fellowship Meal in the Parish Hall at 7pm on Wednesday 7th September.

The Groups will be studying the Early Church in the Acts of the Apostles and there will be two sessions on Prayer.

Key Groups are open to all.

SH..... **SILENT AUCTION
IN AID OF THE PARISH HALL APPEAL
THURSDAY 6TH OCTOBER
IN THE PARISH HALL**

7.30 pm – 9 pm
Do you have any items for Auction?
**If so, please contact Jane or Nigel at the
Parish Office (675797)**

A great success last year, what fun and oh what bargains!

If you missed the auction last year then don't miss this one –
and if you don't know what a silent auction is then now's your
chance to find out - so come along on the night.

Those bargains are just waiting to be snapped up!
Could it be your lucky night?

Able to help in setting up the hall and/or on
the night then please let Jane or Nigel know.
Thank you.

PARISH HALL – Pimms & Ploughman's Lunch

A repeat success – was the lunch even better this year? We simply have
the best ladies don't we! The sun shone, the Pimms flowed and the
music made everything go with a swing.

Thanks go to the Vicar and Valerie for letting us use the Vicarage garden,
the Appeal Chairman Harvey and Laura for donating the Pimms, the
ladies for supplying the salads and for helping out on the day, the
organists, and not forgetting the 'team' that helped to put up and take down
the gazeboes.

The lunch raised £900 towards the Appeal – again thanks to everyone.

Nigel Cretney

WHOLENESS AND HEALING

After being discussed by the PCC and having asked the congregation for
opinions it has been decided that the Wholeness and Healing Service on a
fifth Sunday will be replaced by Evening Prayer.

The Wholeness and Healing ministry will still be offered at a mid-week
service which will be bimonthly and on a different evening each time.

There will be no Key Groups the week of the mid-week service.

The first of these services is on **Wednesday 21st September at 7.30 pm**
in Church.

Be encouraged to come along and invite friends.

The Vicar

UNDERSTANDING PRAYER

Most prayers offered to God are asking prayers and many of the irregular
prayers offered are cries for help in a time of crisis.

However, prayer is much more than this and as Christians we should be
willing to learn more about prayer and to broaden and deepen our
experience of prayer.

The heart of prayer should be communion with God. Prayer tunes us in
to God and brings us into his presence. Nothing draws us closer to the
heart of God than prayer.

A Russian mystic wrote: 'To pray is to descend with the mind into the
heart, and there to stand before the face of the Lord, ever present, all
seeing, within you'.

It is not so much that prayer changes situations but it changes us, although
William Temple said: "Coincidences are much more frequent when we
pray".

Prayer changes us. It is the central avenue God uses to transform us.

There is also the danger that we think prayer is all talk. It is not – listening is just as important.

Soren Kierkegaard wrote: 'A man prayed, and at first that prayer was talking. But he became more and more quiet until in the end he realised prayer is listening as the psalmist reminds us: 'Be still and know I am God' (Psalm 46 verse 10)

Experiments in Prayer

"Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him" (Psalm 37 verse 7)
Silence, stillness, solitude, simplicity: how do you react to these words?
For some people they conjure up images of ancient convents and monasteries and long hours spent in contemplative prayer, an unattainable ideal far removed from the reality and rush of our action-packed lives. Perhaps we long for a taste of this other reality – a reality characterised more by 'being' than by 'doing' – but we don't quite know how to start. Here's an idea, using a verse from Psalm 46: "**Be still and know that I am God**". Try repeating the words slowly, gently, quietly, with your heart as well as your mind. Then drop the last word: "Be still and know that I am." Take time to know God's presence in the present moment, then drop another word: "Be still and know". Let the words lead you deeply into God's peace. Then reduce them to "Be still". Notice how it feels to be still inside Finally, just use the one word: "Be...."

*Thanks to Rev. Salley Dakin,
a deacon in Oxford Diocese, for this material.*

ALL AGE WORSHIP

**at 4 pm
on Sundays**

11th September: Theme: Prayer

***23rd October (Bible Sunday): Theme: The Bible**

**13th November: Theme: Remembrance
(Holy Communion)**

* Not the second Sunday

MUMS AND TOTS

Mums and Tots finished at the end of July for the summer holidays.

This year we were very pleased to welcome Freda Black as a helper. Sharing the load makes it easier for everyone. We would be very happy if anyone else would like to come and lend a hand, it doesn't have to be every week! Why not pop in when we restart in September and see what goes on.

In November member Annette Murphy raised over £60 from a baby goods sale and this money paid for the books which we gave to the children at the Christmas party.

Our Christmas celebration was a great success. Many thanks to the Vicar for telling the story. This year we asked the children to dress up – we may not have had a Mary or Joseph but we did have a Christmas pud!!

Member Janet Slinger did a sponsored swim and raised £1,075 for the charity Well Being. Janet donated the money for ovarian cancer. Well done Janet. Janet was well supported by the other members of the group.

£100 was raised in sponsorship for Angie Aire who took part in the 'Big Bra Dash' which was held in aid of breast cancer.

Another member Dawn Kewley has held several baby goods sales and donated the proceeds to the Parish Hall Appeal.

One of the highlights of this year was the Parenting Course ran by Canon Convery which everyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed. We intend to run the course again in the autumn.

We held our annual trip to the Mooragh Park on the 15th July. We were blessed with glorious weather and everyone had a great day out. Our members would like to thank the Mothers' Union for donating the proceeds of their strawberry tea to pay towards the coach. It was truly appreciated.

I think that you will agree that we have a very special group of Mums and Tots of which Mildred, Freda, Heather and myself feel very privileged to support.

Jill Dugdale

The Vicar then gave his report which included working with groups on Growing a Healthy Church, All Age Service, Midweek Service with Ministry of Healing and special services for Harvest, All Souls and Christmas.

Harvest Services on 2nd Sunday in October – 9th October – 11am Family Service and 6.30 pm Harvest Songs of Praise.

Margaret Kinley

PARISH HALL – Dates for your diary

- **SILENT AUCTION:** Thursday 6th October in the Parish Hall – don't miss out on the bargains and its good fun as well!
- **VICTORIAN EVENING:** Friday 28th October in the Parish Hall. When the tickets go on sale get yours early for what hopefully will be another sell out.
- **40'S NIGHT:** Friday 11th November in the Parish Hall where sixty years ago Onchan celebrated the end of the Second World War.
Nostalgia!

and

- **MANX CHRISTMAS AT WOODLANDS:** Saturday 10th December at Woodlands, Alexander Drive by courtesy of Mildred Cooper. Another sell out like last year – lets hope so! Don't miss your ticket when they go on sale.

**Watch out for tickets going on sale.
Don't miss out!**

NEWS FROM:

St Mark's Vicarage,
458A Southport Road,
Scarisbrick L40 9RF

“The end of the beginning”

- It was Winston Churchill who coined that phrase when defining where he thought the events of the Second World War had reached in 1942.

And it seems to apply to our progress in this new ‘House for Duty’ calling that Sylvia and I have, in coming to St. Mark's Scarisbrick.

We've had a rather long and, in some respects, difficult “beginning” to our ministry here, in that we only finally moved into our own vicarage in the parish at the end of July, after those well-publicised difficulties with the large family who were living here before us. They for their part are still awaiting re-housing and are living in tents on a campsite in the parish. *

However, despite all that we have received a very warm welcome from parishioners who have been without a ‘vicar’ for more than two years; and the house has been given a fresh coat of paint throughout and various other improvements that might not have otherwise been done if we had moved in as soon as we arrived. - Our God knows what he is up to, even if it seems to puzzle or frustrate us at times!

Sylvia is settling well into her new role and has already taken on some ‘external’ duties within the diocese. Our daughter by some God-given chance now lives close by so lots of ‘mother-daughter’ chat now takes place face to face rather than always on the phone!

The congregations at the two churches are small by St. Peter's standards, - so the only way is ‘up’; but the Church Primary School [next door to St Mark's] offers ‘ready-made’ opportunities to build for the future.

We live totally in the countryside – except for the trunk road running past our front door - enjoying the upside and downside of it all.

The upside? The proximity of both Southport and Liverpool whilst being surrounded by fields and nature itself. We have rabbits in the garden, the occasional visits of both red and grey squirrels, with woodpeckers and other birds we can't name enjoying the seeds, nuts and fat balls hung out for them.

And the downside? Well maybe the lack of a single shop or Post Office within the parish would be the most noticeable one. And in church the lack of a full time organist, with the use of taped music for the service - and of course the precious resource of Key Groups – but who knows what much prayer may bring.

We have two spare bedrooms if anyone happens to be in the area, and we do still pay regular visits to the Adjacent Island you have now become, so we look forward to staying in touch, one way or another.

We think of you all often and hope that our prayers are reciprocated.

Every Blessing

Les & Sylvia

* The family have now been re-housed.

MOTHERS' UNION



Our new programme starts on 20th September with an Opening Service in Church at 2.00 pm followed by Tea in the Vicarage.

New members are always welcome to join us.

CMS AFTERNOON TEA

St. Peter's was well represented at this event.

Everyone enjoyed a lovely tea in beautiful surroundings and on a glorious summer afternoon.

The afternoon raised £586 (including donations) and this will go towards paying for a holiday on the island for our Mission Partners Cyprian and Jayne Yobera and family.

Thank you for all who supported us.

The Vicar, Chairman of CMS

PCC

News in brief from the meeting on Wednesday 27th July, 2005.

The Vicar opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, with a bible reading and prayers. The last meeting minutes were approved and apologies for absence recorded.

Positive remarks were made on the Flower Festival and the good support for the candidates at the Confirmation Service with the Bishop.

Following a discussion it was agreed by the Council to move the Coffee tables to the other side and therefore have more space for the very young children on the other side.

The Vicar put forward the question of the present format for the Wholeness and Healing Service. Following a discussion it was agreed that the fifth Sunday will be Evening Prayer and that a Service with Ministry of Healing will be held every two months, on a different evening each time, and that the Key Groups will not meet that week to enable members to attend the service.

Lazer Group to restart in September, it was noted that helpers are required to 'sit in', at both Lazer Group and Sunday School.

The Council then spent time discussing A Healthy Church. The Vicar presented a leaflet based on The Purpose Driven Church by Rick Warren and read a passage from Acts 2. The three areas of Prayer, Mission and Welcome were discussed in more detail and objectives and plans of action set. The Vicar is to meet with each group. Updates to be presented at the next meeting.

The Secretary gave the Treasurers report in his absence on holiday.

It was agreed that the Vicar and Wardens would look at storage cupboards and book shelf designs for the back of Church.

Nigel gave a brief report on the building works in Church and the Churchyard including the completion of the disabled ramp and paths, exterior and interior painting, noticeboard and lighting. He also gave brief reports on the Vicarage and Parish Hall works.

FOR THE GARDEN OF YOUR DAILY LIVING

PLANT THREE ROWS OF PEAS:

Peas of mind
Peas of heart
Peas of soul

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF SQUASH:

Squash gossip
Squash indifference
Squash grumbling
Squash selfishness

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF LETTUCE:

Lettuce be faithful
Lettuce be kind
Lettuce be patient
Lettuce really love one another

YOU CAN'T HAVE A GARDEN WITHOUT TURNIPS:

Turnip for meetings
Turnip for service

Turnip to help one another

**TO CONCLUDE OUR GARDEN WE MUST HAVE
THYME:**

Thyme for each other
Thyme for family
Thyme for friends

**WATER FREELY WITH PATIENCE AND CULTIVATE
WITH LOVE!**



CONGRATULATIONS TO

NORMAN & LOUISE BROWN

WHO CELEBRATE THEIR

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

ON



21ST SEPTEMBER, 2005

FROM THE REGISTERS



BAPTISMS

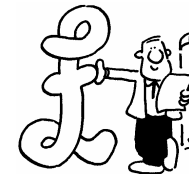
Millie-Rose Hebden, Joseph Jack Quinn,
Lawrence Oscar James Riekstins,
James Douglas Bucknall, Keira Louise Gray,
Emma Maddison, Duggan,
Kirree Rose Moore & Shannon Francesca Moore



Jason Douglas Coole & Amy Louise Scott

Funerals

Nora Doreen Wilson, Christina Corkhill,
Jenny Kinvig,
Patricia Josephine Fayle



OFFERTORY

The offertory for July totalled £4,953.94 and was made up of £3,922.38 pledged giving and £1,031.56 of loose plate giving.

Thank you.

NEWS FROM WYN SYKES

We have received a phone call from one of our members – Wyn Sykes – who recently moved to England to be nearer her family. It was a big decision to make but she is happy to tell us that it was the right one and that she would like to thank Canon Convery and the members of St. Peter's for all their love, prayers and support, especially the members of Tuesday Key Group 2. Wyn sends Gods Blessings to us all.