

Patrick, Glen Maye & Dalby

Weekly News Sheet : 10th- 17th Jan 2021

The Baptism of Christ. The 1st Sunday of Epiphany

*We welcome all visitors to our churches this week; it's great to have you with us.
Thanks to everyone who's helped set up our churches and those involved in leading our worship.*

We remember before God all those in our communities who are vulnerable or struggling: the elderly, the isolated and lonely, single parents, those who are ill or depressed, the stressed and anxious, the poor and needy, those facing financial pressures and insecurity, and those grieving the loss of a loved one, that they may know God's presence with them and be comforted.

As our Island goes back into Lockdown at the start of this New Year we hold before God all those who have Covid 19 and those who are showing symptoms of the Virus. We hold their suffering, and the suffering, fear, concern and anxiety of their families and friends in prayer, that they may know the healing, holding, the nurturing and caring of the presence of God with them. We hold our Island's health care team and all working in the medical services before God, and we pray for their safe keeping and protection as they work to save lives,

Our global prayer is for all who are suffering as a result of the Covid pandemic across the world. We pray not only for those who are grieving the loss of loved ones, but those who cry out in fear and pain with no access to health services or medication. For those whose livelihoods have been lost, who have no security or benefits and no means of procuring food . We pray for the universal grief, the mourning and vulnerability of humanity, and we pray for the healing of the Nations, for new beginnings , new consciousness, new generosity and compassion that change may come to our world and we may live in the Unity of God's Love.

We pray for the reawakening of God's people, wherever they may be, that we may sincerely seek His will in our lives and rededicate ourselves to His service through our selfless love of others. At the start of this new year may we pray recommit ourselves to live as the people of His Kingdom.

Today's Readings

**Genesis 1.1-5
Acts 19.1-7**

**Psalm 29
Mark 1.4-11**

new beginnings

The start of a new year is normally the time of new focus, new energy, new commitment. A fresh start, likened to the Manx tradition of "sweeping the cross roads": the opportunity of doing away with the old and focusing on the new. Wouldn't we all love to be able to do just that? Sadly, with the harsh reality of the extremity of the Covid pandemic we find ourselves still carrying the burdens of grief, uncertainty, insecurity, anxiety; for ourselves, for those we know, and for those we have never met. Almost a sense of national mourning for the suffering of our world. And yet, our teaching for today, the first Sunday of Epiphany, the Baptism of Jesus reminds us of the cleansing, the healing, the renewing, that relationship with God brings to our lives. The channelling of the darkness, the pain, the anguish and grief, to the foot of the cross, *and leaving it there* as we look into the Light beyond. We are called to be people of new beginnings, *because* we believe in the transforming power of Love. In times of trial and challenge we are called to be people of prayer, because we believe in the opportunity of new beginnings.

Thoughts to ponder.....

' God became man to turn creatures into sons: not simply to produce better men of the old kind but to produce a new kind of man.
C.S. Lewis

All of God's people are ordinary people who have been made extraordinary by the purpose he has given them.
Oswald Chamber

but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.
Isaiah 40:31

Local Ministers for Patrick: Graham McAll : 840813 & Robert Quayle :842912

Wardens: Mac Beckerson 845385. John Parr 842618

Safe Guarding Officer: Sarah Hedley : 361763

Minister for Glen Maye : Rev'd Andy Fishburne: 842202

Steward: Paul Craker : 845681.

Secretary: Julia Sharples 840801.

Local Minister for Dalby: Cheryl Cousins: 843471

Wardens : Margy Killey:843768. Pauline Killey 843494

Safe Guarding Officer : Neil Evans: 843253

Worship during Lock down

Sadly our church buildings are once again closed to help safeguard the unnecessary spread of infection. But, at the point in time when the need for prayer is at its greatest, the church across the island is active and praying in different and varied ways. At the time when our church Community would usually be gathering we gather in the safety and isolation of our own homes to collectively worship God, to be still in His Presence, to leave our burdens at the foot of is cross and to Know His Spirit dwelling in us. That we may be strengthened that we transformed, that we may Live His Love in this World.

- **The Church of England has a resource: "Daily HOPE"** A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers, a weekly service and daily Morning and Evening prayer, with an introduction from Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury. Tel : 0800 804 8044
- **In The Parish of the West Coast The Cathedral** are continuing with Morning Prayer Monday to Saturday via zoom and for the Sundays during lockdown there will be a 10.30am service via zoom. see website: www.cathedral.im Susan Moroney has once again kindly agreed to host the 10.30am service. If you would like to join the zoom service of Sunday or for Morning Prayer please let VAL GARRETT know by phoning 241227 or email admin@cathedral.im no later than 1pm on the Friday prior to the Sunday worship.
- **Dalby Church has a simple act of worship and reflection** available on the home page of their website : www.stjamesdalby.org which can be delivered to you on request. Please contact Cheryl.
- **St George's Douglas will continue to livestream Compline at 6pm on a Friday evening** and reflections at 10.30am on a Sunday morning. See Facebook Parish of St George and All Saints, Douglas. This is also recorded and available to see after the event.
- **Manx Radio this Sunday at 9.30am is a half-hour programme by Judith Ley.** Judith shows that Christian churches of all denominations on the Isle of Man are alive and well, and doing great things! Join her for inspiring stories, interesting interviews, great music and moments for quiet reflection

If you'd like to have information in this news sheet could you please send it through to me by Thursday each week : *Many thanks*
cherylcousins@manx.net

The Churches Bookshop is moving!

After 45 Years in the current shop, the island's only Christian bookshop is moving to St Thomas' church. To give us them chance to make the move, the shop is now closed, and will reopen in **mid February** in their new home. Until then, if you need any church supplies (for example candles, communion ware), or have urgent enquiries please contact them on **329857**. 2021 is their 50th Anniversary year, and they're excited to be starting the year with a new home. " *Thank you for all your support over the last five decades, and we hope to be there to help you for the next five as well!*"

The Good news of buying Fairtrade & making difference !!

It is so much more than just a shopping choice!

It has helped fuel the fight against the

Coronavirus pandemic: every time you choose Fairtrade you generate Premium funds. The framers and workers behind those products democratically decide how to best invest those funds locally. Throughout the pandemic many co-operatives have used those funds to protect the most vulnerable in their communities. From sending vital supplies to a local elderly people's homes and distributing thousands of face masks, to giving funds to workers to ensure they have enough to get by, the Fairtrade premium you have helped to create has been a real life line.

And it has helped raise the voice of those in the front line of the Climate Crisis as well:

rural farmers and workers in low-income countries have done the least to cause the climate crisis (the average carbon footprint of someone in the Cote' Ivoire is 17 times smaller than the average person in the UK) but *they* are already feeling the worst effects. Because of the current unfair global trade, they aren't earning enough to adapt to the increasingly erratic weather patterns, more rampant plant disease and declining soil quality. But just last week, the Fairtrade Africa representative, Mary Kinyua, joined world leaders at the Climate Ambition Summit as one of the key note speakers for Climate Justice! The Fairtrade movement has created a global platform for those most affected by Climate Change to challenge those more responsible for the Climate Crisis!

Fairtrade is only able to make this change happen because so many of us have now bought into it! This year, over 300,000 people signed petitions in solidarity with cocoa and sugar farmers when Nestle stopped using Fairtrade ingredients in their KitKat bars. And every single day, millions of us choose to stand with farmers and workers across the world, when we take the time to look for a FAIRTRADE Mark when doing our shopping. Whatever else you've done this year, *thank you* for choosing to be a part of all this. Thank you for choosing Fairtrade and choosing a better future for the most vulnerable as well as for the planet.