



Patrick, Glen Maye & Dalby

Weekly News Sheet : 31st Jan- 7th Feb 2021

Candlemas. The presentation of Jesus at the Temple

*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 now and be comforted.

We give thanks for the lifting of the lockdown restrictions here on the Island, holding in our prayers those still with symptoms, and the vaccine program as it's rolled out across the island. And we pray for the safe-keeping of our Island community as we return to work, school, worship and leisure that we may remain vigilant and compassionate to the needs of others.

During this cold weather we pray for all who are homeless, living rough or who are suffering fuel poverty and we give thanks for the work of Griaah and the food bank in all that they do to support others.

Our global prayer is for all who are suffering as a result of the Covid pandemic 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.

Gratitude is not an easy thing to practice at times like these. World-spanning issues such as coronavirus, extreme poverty and the climate crisis can be difficult to engage with, because they feel so disempowering. But what if gratitude did not need to be a casualty of these difficult days, but instead could be a remedy for them? When it feels as though we have the least amount to be thankful for, giving thanks can be one of the most powerful things we can do.

Today's Readings

**Malachi 3.1-5
Hebrews 2.14-18**

**Psalm 24.[1-6]7-10
Luke 2.22-40**

Light into our lives.....

This week we heard the sad news that over 100,000 people in the UK have died with the Covid Virus. A tragic reality that will affect hundreds of thousands of people as they struggle to come to terms with their personal grief and loss. It is a time for national mourning, a time for national prayer. The news comes at the very time of hope as the vaccination programme is beginning to be rolled out. In our teaching today we hear of the infant Jesus being presented at the temple, 40 days after his birth; of the Purification of Mary, and of Simeon's prophecy to her, of future tragedy and pain. It is the end of the season of Christmas and Epiphany, and we turn towards the journey of lent, Holy Week and Easter. The Bible recognises that we live in a world of contradictions; blessings and pain. Hope and sorrow. Light and darkness. This is the Sunday of Candlemas, where, to represent the purity of Mary, the first snow drop would have been brought into church. And where the people long ago would have brought their candles for the year ahead to be blessed. *In the knowledge* that the Light of God is not confined to the Church; it reaches out into the everyday lives and activities of humanity, it can be the light and strength and hope in the darkness, at all times and to all people.

Thoughts to ponder.....

My way to God lies in the daily and the ordinary. If I cannot find God here and now, in my home and in my work, in my daily routine, in the things that I handle in the kitchen and in the office, then it is not good looking for him anywhere else.

Most of us need help to unearth God in our midst, to practice being aware of His constant presence..... The Benedictine life is undramatic and unheroic, it simply consist of doing the ordinary things of daily life carefully and lovingly, with attention and reverence that can make them a way of prayer, a way to God.

Esther de Waal

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

An Invitation from the Archbishops:

This is our last Sunday in Lockdown and Island Life will return to "normality" again on Monday. But across England over 100,000 people have lost their lives and the Archbishops invite the nation to call on God in Prayer. Starting on 1 February we are invited to set aside time every evening to pray, particularly at 6pm each day. More than ever, this is a time when we need to love each other. Prayer is an expression of love. We remember before God those who have died and we pray that God's love will surround all who mourn them, now and always :

Gracious God,
as we remember before you
the thousands who have died,
surround us and all who mourn with your strong
compassion.

Be gentle with us in our grief,
protect us from despair,
and give us grace to persevere
and face the future with hope
in Jesus Christ our risen Lord. **Amen.**

- **In The Parish of the West Coast The Cathedral** are continuing Sunday Worship during lockdown with a 10.30am service via zoom. This video sharing platform is free to download and use— see website www.cathedral.im. You can join them for the service <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81447751848?pwd=d1BvNVk0T0JPWS91RE9MU3E0T3ROQT09> **Meeting ID: 814 4775 1848 Passcode: 154324**

If you haven't already registered, could you please contact Val Garrett on admin@cathedral.im by 6pm on Saturday. To enable the service to start on time, the host Susan Moroney will mute everyone at 10.28am – it is possible to join the meeting from 10.20am so please join early if you can as this will assist Susan who can only let people in one at a time. Attached is a copy of the Cathedral 'Link' service which is based on listening and talking to God..

- **Dalby Church also has a simple act of worship and reflection** available on the home page of their website : www.stjamesdalby.org or it can be delivered to you as a hard copy on request. Please contact Cheryl.
- **Patrick is meeting each Sunday on Zoom at 10.30am;** please contact Robert Quayle for more information.
- **Songs of Praise this Sunday is back at 1.15pm on BBC1** with the semi-final of the Gospel Singer of the Year 2021 competition.

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*
cheryl cousins@manx.net

Message from Bishop Peter :Resuming Public

Worship Following the announcement of the easing of all restrictions from Monday, 1st February, we may now open churches and parish halls for all purposes from that same date. Sunday worship may take place as normal from 7th February, with no restrictions on singing, receiving communion in both kinds, or any other aspect of worship, and with no requirement for physical distancing or wearing masks (although of course there may be individual personal preferences to be respected.) Candlemas on 2nd of February is the festival which, exactly 40 days after Christmas, marks the end of the greater season of Christmas and Epiphany and turns our attention towards Lent and Holy Week and Easter. Let us give thanks to the Lord who calls us back into the holy place that is His Temple to meet with Him again in the life of prayer and worship and sacrament.

NB> From The IOM Constabulary : *We have been*

*made aware that members of the Public have been receiving calls and emails from scammers about making Covid vaccination appointments. The correct process is:- You will initially only get a letter about your vaccination. You will then ring 111 to make an appointment there and then, OR after your call they will ring you back, this could take a few days. Any unexpected calls about vaccinations could very well be from scammers. If you have had a letter but are not sure about the call put the phone down and ring 111. Emails will be a scam. You would never be asked to give bank details. Only ring 111 if you have had a letter. Forward scam emails to sers@ocsia.im the IOM Government suspicious email service. Report scam calls via the IOM Government cyber reporting service, details about both services in the below link. *If you look after any people likely to fall for this scam please speak to them. *www.gov.im/ocsia Further information on the vaccination program is below:- [https://covid19.gov.im /general-information/covid-19-vaccination-for-the-isle-of-man/](https://covid19.gov.im/general-information/covid-19-vaccination-for-the-isle-of-man/)*

An Eco Thank you from A Rocha ! : Five years ago, when Eco Church was launched, we set a target to reach 10% of churches (or about 4,500) across England and Wales in 10 years. The idea was that 10% would be a 'tipping point' after which churches practically caring for creation would seem increasingly normal and it would gain its own momentum. So, how are we doing and what are our plans for the next five years? *We're well over half way there:* a total of 3,100 churches have registered for Eco Church, over 1,000 awards have been achieved, and Eco Church has become a national community learning together and stretching across all sizes and styles of church. It has also gained the strong support of many denominations as a key tool for them to achieve their own increasingly ambitious carbon-reduction goals. *We are delighted, and deeply grateful for the hundreds of dedicated individuals taking this forward— in Anglican dioceses, Methodist Circuits, URC synods etc. A Rocha UK simply could not achieve this on our own!*