

# Patrick, Glen Maye & Dalby

News Sheet : 7<sup>th</sup>- 14<sup>th</sup> March . 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

**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, those grieving the loss of a loved one and those struggling with the insecurity and fear of infection, isolation, and the lack of family contact due to Covid. We pray that they may know God's presence with them and be comforted.

**We particularly remember all those affected with Covid across the Island** and all those currently in isolation awaiting testing. We pray for all of the Island Covid Community Support Team, NHS Staff, 111 volunteers, the Food bank, and all those in our churches and villages who are managing to help and support friends and neighbours whilst working within the Covid restrictions. We give thanks for their resilience.

**Our global prayer continues to be 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 hold the grief, the mourning and vulnerability of humanity before God and we pray for a just distribution of the vaccine to all nations.

**We continue to hold before God the people of Yemen** where it is estimated that 85,000 children have starved to death, unable to get enough food or medical care during the devastating civil war. Half of all medical facilities have been destroyed or forced to close, and 80% of the population including 12 million children need urgent humanitarian aid -- The situation is critical : we can't suddenly end the war, but we can pray-- and give generously to help save lives.

## Today's Readings

**Exodus 20.1-17**

**1 Corinthians 1.18-25**

**Psalm 19\***

**John 2.13-22**

## *Priorities .....*

In the "old days", before the time of the mobile phone/camera, it always used to be said that in the case of a house fire the majority of people would grab family photos and their children's keep sakes over their household luxuries. It seems that emergencies have a way to focusing our priorities in life. Maybe being locked down in a Covid pandemic does the same? In our teaching today we read of Jesus' reaction to the violation of the temple. Jesus has returned to Jerusalem, he has set His focus on the way of the Cross, he has chosen the priority of the Journey of selfless love. In the light of His personal commitment to *living* Gods Kingdom, His anger is at the contempt of the Scribes and Pharisees, in theory the very people who are keepers of Gods Law, who have belittled the sanctuary that, for the Jews, represented God' presence on earth. Righteous anger that will not tolerate injustice, contempt, indifference or apathy. Our Lenten pilgrimage gives us time to re-evaluate what are our priorities in life. Our Covid lockdown strips away so many of the things that divert us and keep us in our busyness..... maybe we have the time to reflect if the way of God is still our priority and focus in life?

## *Thoughts to ponder .....*

*It is as if a king had sent you to a country to carry out one special, specific task. You go to the country and you perform a hundred other tasks, but if you have not performed the task you were sent for, it is as if you have done nothing at all.* Rumi

*Whatever we focus our attention on is what will dominate our thoughts.* Proverbs 23:7

*I want to take my focus off myself and focus on God. It's like setting your spiritual compass so no matter which way you turn during the day, whatever comes up, then my thoughts go back to Him and whatever He said that morning.* Anne Graham Lotz

***Please contact us if you are struggling or have any concerns and we will do our best to help, our thoughts and prayers are with you and all our church communities.***

**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

*In the absence of worship in Church there is a varied range of alternative worship available .....*

**The Western Mission Partnership:**

**At the Cathedral:** There will be a Zoom service from the Cathedral on behalf of the Western Mission partnership at 10.30am. If you are already on the list for Zoom services, you will automatically receive an invitation from Susan to join tomorrow's service at 10.30am. If not and you would like to join, please contact Val Garrett [garrett.val3@gmail.com](mailto:garrett.val3@gmail.com).

**Dalby** will have a church at home service sheet for a reflective time for private prayer available on their home page of their website: [www.stjamesdalby.org](http://www.stjamesdalby.org) or this can be mailed to you if you contact Cheryl

**Patrick** will have a zoom service at 10.30 am, please contact Graham McAll.

**Glen Maye Chapel :** See: Stie and MAST services by searching for "Isle of Man Methodist Church" at [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

**MMAST :** The services will continue to be posted on YouTube each Sunday morning, along with ones for the young people.

**Stie:** is switching back to its lockdown pattern. Stie worship service videos posted Sunday mornings.

**Facebook Watch Parties:** If you use Facebook you're encouraged to give the watch party a go if you haven't tried yet. They provide a great way to feel connected to the wider church family in these times .

**Thursday Bible Study** at 7pm

**Sunday Worship** at 10.30am or 6.30pm

**YouTube:**

Flipped Preaching videos posted Monday mornings

**Manx Radio this Sunday at 9.30am** has a half-hour programme by Judith Ley called 'At your service'. 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

**Please also see : Guided Prayer :** a new, free, online guided prayer series, which draws its inspiration from the Anglican monastic traditions, called [Rhythm of Grace - Lent](#) see the 'Discovering Prayer' website

**BBC1 11.30am this Sunday:** The Rev Kate Bottley introduces a service for the season of Lent from All Saints Church in Hale Barns, led by the Rev Clair Jaquiss. Sarah Small talks about finding courage to do seemingly impossible things.

**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](mailto:cherylcousins@manx.net)

**Songs of Praise Sunday 7 March BBC1 1.15pm –**

Katherine Jenkins explores the theme of personal prayer with young Christians living at Ashburnham Place in East Sussex, a Christian prayer centre. She hears how resource director Hannah Latty and her team incorporate different forms of prayer into their community life, and how they experienced answered prayers. Gemma Hunt meets Pete Greig from the 24-7 Prayer movement to find out how prayer changed his life. **To mark the upcoming International Women's Day** Katherine Day hears the remarkable story of two Christian sisters, Eglantyne Jebb and Dorothy Buxton, whose pioneering work led to the formation of the charity Save the Children, as well as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. In Leeds, community campaigner Marvina Newton reveals how persistent prayer helped to save her from poverty and homelessness.

**Godly Play :** This month the plan is to meet for a story and wondering on Zoom so we can all stay safely at home. Sue will tell the story called "Jesus in Jerusalem" which goes through the events in the Easter story. Hopefully this will give you a chance to explore and wonder in preparation for Holy Week.

You are invited to join us on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 7:30 – 8:30pm**. Please email [hub@sumt.im](mailto:hub@sumt.im) for the Zoom link.

**A Christian response:** *"Our core approach to life must be to love our neighbour as ourselves. During these unusual times we can show our love by: doing what we can to prevent the spread of COVID Showing care praying for each other and joining for worship online, if we have the capacity.*

Rev Andrew Fishburne.

**A message from SUMT: "We know how to do this now!"** That was the remarkable response immediately verbalised by a young person last Saturday, when we explained that we would have to cut short our long-awaited residential and send everyone home.

**Resilience** has been the theme of our secondary assemblies for this term and, as we have told hundreds of teenagers, *"Resilience is something developed in difficult times that makes you stronger for next time you face a similar challenge."* Well, here we are in Lockdown #3 and despite so many disappointments, SUMT can truly thank God that "We know how to do this now!" It has been wonderful to see God at work throughout the month of February, as we were welcomed back into schools for all of our usual activities and even managed to run a holiday club in half term! March looks very different now, but there is certainly a lot to pray for as the team continue working to bring Faith Within Reach... from home. *We would also ask that you keep all of the Island's teachers, school staff, pupils and parents in your prayers throughout the Lock down, as they once again navigate home learning and supporting vulnerable and key worker children.*