

# Sunday 21st June 2020

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Trinity *also Father's Day*

This is now the fifteenth Sunday when we have been unable to worship together in church – but the good news is that we can begin to think about returning to our churches from next Sunday 28th June following new guidelines from Bishop Peter. Each parish can decide what is best and safest for their churches and congregations. Some people have felt fearful since lockdown in March and returning to Sunday services might seem daunting.

In our churches things will not be exactly as we left them, but we are on the road back to some normality. Our PCC are meeting this Monday (22<sup>nd</sup> June) to consider how and when we can reopen our churches and what measures might need to either remain in place or be adapted. For instance, some people might appreciate space to spread out as they will have been isolating at home for most of the last three months. Higher hygiene standards will have to be met to try and keep everyone healthy, particularly when we start to offer refreshments after services again.

**For this Sunday (21<sup>st</sup> June) Marown Church will be open again for private prayers between 2-4pm and Canon Janice will be in church if you wish to speak to her.**

**If anyone who is not continuing to 'shield' or preferring to keep 'social distance' is able to volunteer for church cleaning at Marown and St Luke's please let me know. Part of our reopening strategy will depend upon our ability to keep our churches clean.**

**Please keep alert for further news which will come via our website and Facebook pages as well as through this newsletter.**

**The last 10.30am Zoom service from the Cathedral will be next week (28th) and all future services will be actual services live streamed via their website [www.cathedral.im](http://www.cathedral.im). These can be viewed on a PC or laptop and 'cast' by Google chromecast to a television on the same wi-fi network to watch it on 'the big screen'.**

**Our Bible readings for today are;  
Jeremiah 20:7-13, Ps 69:8-11, Romans 6:1b-11 & Matthew 10:24-39**

We pray for.....

Fathers and father figures in our lives past and present, those who have nurtured us physically and spiritually, encouraged us and comforted us. We pray that God will be with fathers today as they guide their children through the formative years of life, that they will look to God our Father as their source of wisdom, to Jesus as their saviour and to the Holy Spirit as their life-giving companion

our relationships with those people around us, relationships with our neighbours and relationships between nations, may we try to emulate the divine relationship of our triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

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

all in our Island Community as we seek the new normal and find new and safe ways of continuing to be a caring society.

people across the world still affected by the Coronavirus. We pray for wisdom, generosity, and compassion for all world leaders with responsibility for the logistics of infection control and financial security. We pray for those in the world's poorest communities and we give thanks for the selfless work of aid agencies and churches that are working to support them in their need.

From amongst our own fellowship we continue to pray for; Paul Lemaire, Jenny Ingham, Fleet & Joan Simpson, Bert Winckle, Tanya Thompson, Maud Dawson, Richard Beaumont, Mary Stevenson, Joan Brain, Sally Lister, Eddie Corkill, Wilf Corkish, Les Edwards, Pat Killip, Dee & Mark Whitlock.

**RIP Elaine Quayle whose funeral will take place at Marown Church Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 1.30pm**

Don't forget.....

\*Live streaming from the Cathedral has been broadcast on the internet for the last three Sunday evenings at 6pm. This service has been a Eucharist led by either the Bishop or the Dean assisted by his curate Revd Ruth Walker, with music by Dr Peter Litman. Video and sound quality is very good. Live streaming is to be found at on the cathedral website at cathedral.im, then select 'Live Stream' in the top menu bar. Next Sunday afternoon at the Cathedral (28th June) at 3.30pm all are welcome to come and share in a Choral Eucharist. **Dean Nigel will preside on his 40th anniversary of being ordained priest.**

\* Judith Ley's Sunday morning 9.30am broadcast on Manx Radio- 'At Your Service' continues. It includes music, scripture, prayers, and reflections.

\* Churches Bookshop is now open 2 days per week Wednesday & Saturday 11am-3pm or you can leave messages on 01624 621593 or email churchesbookshop@manx.net

\*The ROOTS community comprises churches, organisations, and individuals, using their own resources to enrich worship and learning. They are offering additional resources to use at home during the pandemic. These are fun, informative, prayerful, and easy to use so give them a go using the links.....

For adults [www.rootsontheweb.com/adultsathome21jun](http://www.rootsontheweb.com/adultsathome21jun)

For families [www.rootsontheweb.com/familiesathome21jun](http://www.rootsontheweb.com/familiesathome21jun)

\*Daily HOPE is a free national phonenumber 0800 804 8044 aimed particularly at older people who don't have access to the internet. Manx Telecom customers will not be charged for the call from either a landline or mobile. Callers will hear a special greeting from the Archbishop of Canterbury before being able to choose from a range of options, including Prayer During the Day and Night Prayer. These will be updated daily from Common Worship, and also recording of the Church of England's weekly national online service. A section called Hymn Line will also offer callers a small selection of hymns, updated daily. An option entitled 'Hymns We Love' provides a hymn and reflection – and an invitation to sing along!

**Bible readings for the coming week.....**

Monday 22nd June Alban 1<sup>st</sup> Martyr of Britain MP= Ps 44, Judges 2 & Luke 13:1-9 EP= Ps 47, Job 19 & Romans 9:1-18

Tue 23rd Ethelreda, Abbess of Ely MP= Ps 48, Judg 4:1-23 & Luke 13:10-21 EP= Ps 50, Job 21 & Rom 9:19-33

Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Birth of John the Baptist MP= Ps 149, Malachi 3:1-6 & Luke 3:1-17 EP= Ps 80, Malachi 4 & Matt 11:2-19

Thur 25<sup>th</sup> MP= Ps 57, Judg 6:1-24 & Luke 14:1-11 EP= Ps 62, Job 23 & Rom 10:11-21

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> MP= Ps 51, Judg 6:25-40 & Luke 14:12-24 EP= Ps 38, Job 24 & Rom 11:1-12

Sat 27th MP=Ps 68, Judg 7 & Luke 14:25-35 EP= Ps 66, Job 25-26 & Rom 11:13-24

### Prayer time up-date.....

Canon Janice keeps regular prayer times (9am & 6pm). Why not join in from your own homes at those times to so our 'private prayer, silence and reflection' coincide.

If you need support please contact her on the usual vicarage number 851378 or by email  
revjaniceward@manx.net

Don't forget our Facebook page or website [www.marownchurch.im](http://www.marownchurch.im)

The Church of England website [www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org) and the diocesan site [www.sodorandman.im](http://www.sodorandman.im)

### Reflection from Canon Janice.....

Our gospel reading today from Matthew 10 is one of the trickier passages of scripture to grapple with. We tend to associate Jesus with loving our neighbours, which we presume include our families also. To now learn that Jesus knew he would bring division to households seems confusing and frustrating, what can Jesus mean?

Perhaps, St Teresa of Avila shared this confusion and frustration. This 16<sup>th</sup> century Spanish mystic and Carmelite nun wanted her reform aspects of convent life. The other sisters were opposed to her ideas. One occasion they ousted her from the convent in the night during a storm. As Teresa rode away in a cart a wheel came off dumping her in the mud. She reputed to have said 'Lord, if this is how you treat your friends, it's no wonder you don't have many!' Despite setbacks and resistance from within her order she didn't give up. Teresa continued to work for her reforms which were eventually adopted by the convent. She persevered because she was faithful and obedient to what she believed was God's call.

St Teresa's ideas included a significant sacrifice and self-denial. She knew these would be unpopular and this was indeed the case initially. Jesus knew his message would be unpopular to some people as well and he warned his disciples to expect this. Hence, his words Matthew recorded and which we have read today. Perhaps, you have experienced resistance from amongst your family or friends when your faith in God and following the teaching of Jesus have divided you. Attending worship interrupts Sunday lunch, caring for a neighbour in need means mixing with someone regarded as an 'outcast', donating money to charity means less spent on a family outing, actually believing in God is thought to be ridiculous or dangerous.....

Whilst Jesus did not suggest we court division for its own sake he did emphasise the need to be faithful to God. For this is the purpose of our lives, to love God and glorify His name. Following God's call on our lives is the most important part of our earthly existence. But when we put God at the forefront then we receive freedom from sin that entraps us spoiling our relationships with all creation (humanity and the environment) and the gift of eternal life. We learn that we are precious to God and that any sacrifice we might make will be rewarded.

As so we pray

*Faithful God,  
Whose mercy never fails:  
Deepen our faithfulness to you  
And to your living Word,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen*