

# Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2020

## 4th Sunday after Trinity

**Just a reminder that, as of last Sunday 28th June, Marown Church and St Luke's Church Baldwin are both open for Sunday worship and also for private prayer during the week. Some health measures are still in place so please follow the guidelines and signs in the churches, especially regarding the use of hand sanitiser and contact tracing details.**

Our churches are not be exactly as we left them, nor do services follow their old pattern. **Marown Church will have one service per Sunday morning at 10.30am combining both their congregations (please note the change of time) and St Luke's will resume with their usual 6.30pm service Sunday evenings.** The PCC will review the openings in July and consider what measures might need to either remain in place or be adapted. In the interests of greater hygiene, it would be very helpful for the monetary collections to be done by bank Standing Order if at all possible, please contact our Parish Treasurer Mrs Sue Waring if you are able to do this and thank you to all those who have continued to support the parish financially.

**Our Bible readings for today are;**

**Zechariah 9:9-12, Ps 145:8-15, Romans 7:15-25a & Matthew 11:16-19 & 25-30**

### **We pray for...**

- all those people who are vulnerable or suffering in body, mind or spirit, those facing financial pressures or job losses, the grieving, and those still anxious about the coronavirus.
- our Island as we celebrate Tynwald Day and Manx National week. We give thanks for our small nation: for its beauty, its history, its traditions and its culture and for our rich history of democracy, we pray for our Chief Minister and MHks, for our Captains of the Parishes and our Commissioners and all who serve in our communities that we may continue to live in prosperity and peace, that from our security we may continue to serve others.
- our churches and the communities they serve as we worship together again. We pray for God's blessing upon our outreach, pastoral care and fellowship and for guidance and wisdom to chart a new path loving and serving our neighbours.
- healing and restoration from the pandemic and from all ills that would divide us from each other, especially in places where racism has created inequality and injustice

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, Joan Brain, Sally Lister, Eddie Corkill, Wilf Corkish, Les Edwards, Pat Killip, Dee & Mark Whitlock.

**RIP Elaine Quayle & Mary Stevenson**

## Don't forget...

Judith Ley's Sunday morning 9.30am broadcast on Manx Radio- 'At Your Service'

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](mailto:churchesbookshop@manx.net)

The ROOTS community produce resources to enrich worship and learning. These include 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/adultsathome5jul](http://www.rootsontheweb.com/adultsathome5jul)  
For families [www.rootsontheweb.com/familiesathome5jul](http://www.rootsontheweb.com/familiesathome5jul)

\*Daily HOPE is a free phonenumber ( 0800 804 8044) aimed particularly at 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!

## 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](mailto: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)

## Coming up...

**St Paul's Letter to the Philippians** A short course with Gareth Powell and Hueston Finlay Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup> 8pm, each session is 30 minutes with 4 sessions (one per week) all via Zoom  
Join us in this short course to explore a Biblical Letter that might not otherwise be available during these strange lockdown days.

Written from a prison cell, addressed to a congregation in a city known for its patriotic nationalism, the letter contains a hymn or poem about the true King. The poetic account of the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus is the centre of a letter that otherwise offers examples of people—including Paul—who lived lives that have been a living expression of the story of Jesus.

Paul invites the people of Philippi to follow these examples. It is a fondly written letter but it is no less sharp in our own world where the temptation to see human beings as god-like is as great as it was back then. Join us for an insight into the mind and thought of Paul as he probes what it means to be a disciple!

The course leaders:

Gareth is a Methodist Minister who is keen that Christians remember how St Paul speaks of God so that we might live more faithfully in Christ.

Hueston Finlay is a systematic theologian and Anglican Minister. He has a keen interest in the interpretation of Scripture and an understanding of its role as revelation. He is also Warden of St George's House, Windsor Castle.

To join in please email [Hueston.finlay@stgeorghouse.org](mailto:Hueston.finlay@stgeorghouse.org)

## Reflection from Doug Chalk

I admit to being a somewhat lazy fellow. I will put up with quite a lot for a quiet life. Like Bilbo Baggins I prefer to leave adventures to others. But when I look at today's Gospel reading I find that this is not possible. Jesus knocks on the door of my life and asks me to take upon myself his yoke and to learn of him. And if anyone lived an unquiet life, he did. So, what does Jesus mean when he talks about his yoke and his burden and about learning of him? It all sounds a bit ominous.

The Jews used the word "yoke" metaphorically to describe their keeping of God's commandments contained in the Old Testament. It was a kind of learning about God, as if from a distance. Learning about Jesus is not like that. Jesus can only be understood in terms of Relationship. Christianity is not primarily a system: it is a relationship, and that is the point Jesus is making. In my case it is between me and Jesus and in your case it is between you and Jesus. If God exists then Jesus seems to be saying that this is the way we can know him.

But can we really know God? After all, this is God we're talking about here. God is the most concrete, the most individual thing there is. He is basic Fact or Actuality, the source of all other fact-hood. But Jesus is making the claim that we can come to know ultimate reality, not by theological ideas about it but by union with it; through a personal relationship between God and man. It begins with an encounter with God and develops into a union and communion with God such as Paul describes in Galatians 2.20: I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless, I live; yet not I but Christ lives in me. In union with Christ, the whole of man's being becomes hallowed. The body is not merely a kind of container of the Holy Spirit, but rather the body is drawn up into God by the Holy Spirit.

In any true union there must be a coupling of differentiated entities where each enjoys a unique individuality from which he or she is capable of giving and receiving love. After all, one must be distinct and individual to truly love another. By virtue of this being indwelt a person is uniquely 'begotten' by the Spirit of God. And to experience his union is to apprehend the presence of God within us and around us. The most concrete Reality that can be known is so often relegated to the abstract and the theoretical by those who attempt to know it only with the conscious, analytical mind. But our sole avenue to reality does not lie in this direction. It is the way of prayer, repentance, sacrament and worship that is the deep heart's way of knowing Reality. Knowing here is not a simple knowledge about God but a knowledge of God by acquaintance. This tasting of love Himself.

Bearing Jesus' yoke is not burdensome. It is the pathway made specifically for the deep heart to follow. And it leads to a peace that gives birth to joy and understanding.