

Sunday 7th February 2021

2nd Sunday before Lent

Services today are:

10.30am Marown - BCP Morning Prayer

11am Foxdale - Messy Church

6.30pm Baldwin - BCP Holy Communion

Services next Sunday are:

10.30am Marown - Celtic Communion & 6.30pm Baldwin - BCP Evening Prayer

This week...

If you have a CMS Box and would like your donations to join those from others in our parish please bring your box to church next Sunday 7th Feb or drop it off at the vicarage, we will then send one joint offering to the Church Mission Society.

Tuesday 9th Feb 7pm Marown Church the PCC meeting again

Friday 12th Feb 1pm the Ministry Team meet at the vicarage.

A message from Bishop Peter

A Date and a Prayer

Friends, here is a Date for our diaries, and a Prayer for our daily use.

The Date: Saturday 27 March, 10 am – 4 pm: A Day of Prayer and Preparation.

On the Eve of Holy Week, in the context of the Eucharist and the Study of God's Word, we pray for God's blessing and guidance for our Diocese and for the Church on the Isle of Man. This will take place at the Cathedral, with a soup lunch provided, and all members of our congregations (and beyond) are warmly invited – indeed encouraged – to attend, together with clergy and lay ministers.

The Prayer, written by Claudia Koenig and the Bishop in preparation for 27 March & for regular use:

Loving God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

who makes all things work together for good,

your ways are higher than our ways and your thoughts are higher than ours.

Fill us afresh with the Holy Spirit, and open our eyes and our hearts that we may clearly see your vision for your Church on our Island.

Help us to let go of anything that prevents your will from being done.

May the Holy Spirit guide and inspire your Church in mission

to bear fruit and to proclaim your kingdom,

In Christ our Lord. Amen.

I invite us to make this prayer our own, and to use it in private devotion and (for example) as an opening prayer at meetings. Let us use it as a means of drawing closer to God and of discerning His will and His purpose.

In Christ,

+ Peter

Coming up...

Sunday 21st February 11.30am Marown Church there will be an election for a casual Churchwarden.

Notices are displayed in our parish churches. We have two vacancies for churchwardens, nomination forms will be available at the back of church.

The Vicar General will be in attendance so those elected can immediately be sworn into office. Those elected will hold office until our next Annual Meeting later this year.

Step Forward

A day for anyone aged 18 to 30 considering ordained ministry in the Church of England. It will include:

Time for worship, prayer and Bible study

An opportunity to find out what being ordained is really like – its highs and lows

Space to look at your own experience and what God might be calling you to in the future

The chance to discover how the selection process and ordination training programmes work

Plans are now well underway for Step Forward 2021. Registration for the event which will take place on the **13th March 2021 from 1pm on Zoom** can be done via the Step Forward website: <http://www.stepforwardanglican.org.uk/>

The Churches Bookshop is moving! After 45 years on the present site, the Island's only Christian bookshop is moving to St Thomas' church, Douglas. The shop is now closed and will reopen in mid-February in their new home. Until then, if you need any church supplies or have urgent enquiries please contact Andrew on 329857. 2021 is their 50th Anniversary year, and they thank all who have supported them over the last five decades and they look forward to the future.

The next PCC meeting will be Tuesday 9th February 7pm at Marown Church or via zoom

There will be a service in Marown Church on 17th Feb 7pm for Ash Wednesday to mark the beginning of Lent. The Church of England's Lent campaign this year is 'God's story Our story' with booklets, mobile phone apps or on-line resources from their website (details of this at the end of the sheet)

Friday 19th Feb Foxdale Church Soup lunches 12noon-2.30pm & after school children's club 3.30-4.45pm

Confirmation - the Bishop intends to hold a confirmation service in the Cathedral on Pentecost Sunday 23rd May for those aged 11+. If interested please speak with Canon Janice.

'Care for the family', the Christian charity concerned with promoting family life, have several on-line events coming up over the next few months. In particular one on parenting during the pandemic. Whilst we hope not to have to restrictions again in the future, perhaps, it is good to be prepared! If you know people with young families then do encourage them to visit our parish website and use the link to 'Care for the family' to discover the many helpful courses and ideas they have produced.

During this week we pray for...

- The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued a call to the nation to pause and reflect to remember the 100,000+ persons who have died after contracting Covid-19 and

all those who know and love them. They invite everyone to pause, reflect on the “enormity of this pandemic” and to pray.

- **A prayer for those who mourn**

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**

- for all who govern the nations of the world in these exceptional times, especially our own government.
- for all who are living rough, that they may be find hospitality and shelter. We pray for the work of Griah, our island homeless shelter and for the Food Bank. And we remember those who are suffering from fuel poverty and struggling to stay warm, that they may be supported.
- for all those in our communities who are vulnerable or struggling: the elderly, the isolated and lonely, single parents, those who are ill or depressed, those stressed and anxious, the poor and needy, those facing financial pressures and insecurity, and those who are grieving the loss of a loved one; and we pray that they may know God’s presence and be comforted.

From amongst our own fellowships, we continue to pray for:

Paul Lemaire, Jenny Ingham, Fleet & Joan Simpson, Bert Winckle, Tanya Thompson, Maud Dawson, Richard Beaumont, Joan Brain, Wilf Corkish, Les Edwards, Pat Killip, Dee & Mark Whitlock, Tom & Willie Cowell, Anne Baillie Searle & Joe O’Hanlon.

Don’t forget...

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.

Daily HOPE is a free phonenumber prayer and worship service (0800 804 8044) with a special greeting from the Archbishop of Canterbury then a choice from a range of options, updated daily from Common Worship, and a 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, again updated daily.

For further information please visit our Facebook page or website www.marownchurch.im or The Church of England website www.churchofengland.org and the diocesan site www.sodorandman.im