

## Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021 ~ 2nd Sunday of Advent

Services this Sunday are; 10.30am Marown BCP MP\*, 11am Foxdale Messy Church & 6.30pm Baldwin BCP HC

\*sadly the Civic Service due to be at Marown has had to be postponed until 30<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Services next week are; 10.30am Marown Celtic Communion & 3pm Baldwin 'Walkers' Carol Service (no 6.30pm service).

### This week...

**Covid advice** – the Bishop has communicated with all Ministers and asked that they bring in urgent safety measures to try and protect worshippers against the new variant - until more is known. Canon Janice and the churchwardens met this morning to discuss and affirm the following guidance:

- Continuing use of hand sanitizer especially when entering a church.
- Wearing facemasks.
- Taking a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) before you come to Church.
- Spacing between rows of seating to increase social distancing.
- Refreshments can continue to be served.
- Holy Communion will be the bread/wafer only, with the priest drinking the wine on behalf of us all.
- Sharing The Peace will be by gesture only rather than physical contact.
- Singing can also continue but with masks.
- Those leading the service, reading lessons and leading intercessions can remove the mask for clarity.

At the moment all services are expected to go ahead but with these guidelines in place, however, depending on the overall Covid situation some changes may be necessary.

Thank you to Rosemary Gibson who has produced posters and fliers for our Christmas services, please pick a flier up in church tomorrow and pass some to family, friends and neighbours.

**\*Wednesday 8th December 9pm at Marown Church, Advent Compline:** a short reflective service as we focus upon John the Baptist this week.

**\* A Christian Aid IOM up-date-** Christian Aid week 2021 - we have almost achieved our target of £42,000, we are hopeful that the pop-up shop will help us with the last £3,000, of course if you could remember us over Christmas that would be fabulous.

Pop up shop - Old churches book shop, (at the side of WH Smiths) in the run up to Christmas the shop has been transformed by Manx, African crafts and Fairtrade goods. All funds raised go to the charity. (& massive thanks to the Prom MC for their help!)

Alternative Christmas gifts - see the catalogue of Gifts. Every gift you buy supports Christian Aid's work and helps transform lives around the world. Every purchase acts as a donation, and our local partners use the money to work on a specific programme or project.

[https://charitygifts.christianaid.org.uk/collections/all?\\_=pf&pf\\_t\\_gifts\\_by\\_person\\_or\\_occasion=Birthday%20Gifts&gclid=EAIaIQobChMIgJOd\\_4jF9AIVpujtCh0QnAf\\_EAAYASAAEgJDg\\_D\\_BwE](https://charitygifts.christianaid.org.uk/collections/all?_=pf&pf_t_gifts_by_person_or_occasion=Birthday%20Gifts&gclid=EAIaIQobChMIgJOd_4jF9AIVpujtCh0QnAf_EAAYASAAEgJDg_D_BwE)

### Coming up...

**\*Christmas Live! The Douglas Town Centre Nativity Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December, the event is free, but you need a ticket to attend, these are available via the website [www.christmaslive.im](http://www.christmaslive.im)**

**If you need help getting a ticket contact Canon Janice**

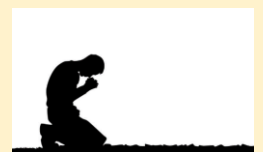
### During this week we pray...

\*for those on our Island who are homeless and sleeping rough; those who face fuel and energy deprivation. We pray for the work of Graih, the IOM Food Bank and Women's Refuge.

\*for all people who find this time of year stressful and a cause for anxiety due either to the weather or the 'pressure' of the season on finances and relationships.

\*for our medical services, our hospital and all who are suffering delays in diagnosis and treatment as well as all suffering from Covid 19 across our island, especially in the face of rising cases and the new variant.

\*for our schools and places of hospitality as rising infection rates cause disruption and cancellation of events.



\*for the bereaved, coping with grief and loss.

From amongst our own fellowships, we continue to pray for those we know to be ill, suffering the frailties of age or disease, friends or family awaiting treatment or operations and those recovering from accident or illness, as well as the lonely, grieving and the anxious. May they know God's presence and peace. RIP Ian Kaighin

Don't forget.....



\*On Manx Radio, Sunday at 9.30am is a half-hour programme by Judith Ley who shares inspiring stories, interesting interviews, great music and moments for quiet reflection across the Christian denominations of our island.

\* for further information please visit our Facebook page or website [www.marownchurch.im](http://www.marownchurch.im) or The Church of England website [www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org) and the diocesan site [www.sodorandman.im](http://www.sodorandman.im)