

FREE *December '21 - January '22*
St George and All Saints, Douglas
Parish Magazine



The Parish of St George and All Saints, Douglas
Part of the Douglas Group Ministry

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	Interregnum

The Parish Office at St George's Church is open between
 9am and 12noon, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
 St George's Church is open daily between 9am and 5pm for
 private prayer and reflection.

 **Facebook:** *Parish of St George & All Saints, Douglas*
www.sgaschurch.im

Thought for the Month

Advent:

In the headlong rush towards a commercialised Christmas, it is too easy to lose sight of the coming celebrations of Christ's birth. The word Advent implies a movement towards something and that is sometimes simply what we do. We march towards celebrating the historical anniversary of the birth of our Saviour. This movement towards or looking towards in anticipation is also an 'advent' of the second coming of Christ. The four weeks of Advent allow us time to step aside in preparation for both a celebration of history and a future 'long expected' event. Remember the Jewish longings and hopes for the Messiah Ps 27.14 and the expectation of Ps 62.5. We as Christians must be prepared. We are warned in Revelation Rev.3.11 "Behold I come quickly."

It is not for us to be diverted from our preparation for Christ's coming. We need to follow the Epistles 1Cor. 16.13 and Col 4.2 where we are urged to both watch and pray. Some parts of our Communion do not observe Advent because there is no scriptural reference for such a season. Nor is there a scriptural reference to Christmas or Easter! Advent well observed allows us time in a busy period of the secular parts of our lives to live in prayer and expectation.

Think as we light our candles – hope - love – joy - peace and Christ as our light we are moving forwards to Christ's coming.



Many traditions look at the candles as having a specific meaning and why not?

1. The hope in Isaiah's prophecy of Christ's birth
2. The love of Christ born in poverty
3. The Shepherd's candle symbolising their joy at the news
4. The Angel's candle showing the peace of the hosts of heaven
5. Finally, Christ's candle as the light of the world

Lighting the candles is of course not just a 'Sunday job'. Bringing the steps to Christ's coming into our homes is easy with our own candle wreaths. Whilst an advent calendar may have a chocolate incentive, think how much more – hope - love – joy and peace could bring to our troubled world. The power of prayer in a time of preparation, waiting and watchfulness will bring so much more.

"Wait for the Lord"

May we all enjoy a holy and blessed

Mass of Christ



From Sunday, 5th December

Carles Wilson

Prayers for our Parish

During the following weeks, please pray for...

- ♦ All struggling families, the homeless and all charity workers
- ♦ Especially remember the southern hub of the Food Bank;

may our Lord be close to all of them

- ♦ The residents of the parish who live on Devonshire Road and Mount Havelock

From Sunday, 12th December

- ♦ Our primary schools as they anticipate Christmas and embrace the season with excitement, carols and well-wishing
- ♦ The residents of the parish who live on Myrtle Street and Nelson Street

From Sunday, 17th December

- ♦ The message of Christmas to be more real than the glitter and hype, especially for young people
- ♦ The Blessing of all Crib, Christingle and Carol Services
- ♦ The residents of the parish who live on St Barnabas' Hill and Westbourne Drive

From Sunday, 26th December

- ♦ All those who will be alone this Christmas. Help them to be strengthened by memories of Christmases past and in particular share the joy of Mary at the birth of her first-born - the Saviour of the World.
- ♦ The residents of the parish who live on Western Avenue and Westminster Drive

February Magazine

Please forward any items for the February edition to cath.neil31@gmail.com by Sunday, 23rd January, 2022. Thank you.

Who Cares?

Who will care when we grow old?
Will we have an arm to hold?
Will there always be a hand,
There to help us walk or stand?

Please don't worry, we are told,
You'll be safe when you grow old.
There will be support for all,
No task too large and none too small.

But the stories that I read,
Show there's no-one there to heed.
None to help us should we struggle,
To the bathroom – too much trouble.

Don't forget the frail and old,
Like the stories we've been told.
Don't forget to help us feed,
Should we prove to be in need.

One day this will come to all
No matter rich, poor, big or small.
Help us not to dread old age,
As we approach life's final page.

*Maggie Morse,
Brynnamman, Dyfed*

Did you know?

It is sad to see the former All Saints Church sitting empty on Alexander Drive, Douglas, whilst remembering all the love former parishioners had for the church for the 50 years prior to its closure in April 2017.

Its predecessor, commonly referred to as 'the Tin Tab', is now a distant memory for most people but, at least, when that building closed there was an exciting Christian purpose for the site and a positive

vibe in the area. This was because there were plans to build the 'new' Church to serve the people of Upper Douglas, a project for which the faithful



THE OLD 'TIN TAB'

Parishioners had been saving and fund-raising for many years. Nevertheless, there was still a sense of loss when it disappeared. After all, it had served the local community well since its consecration in July, 1898 and was regarded with great affection, though its loss was compensated, to a degree, by hope for a brighter future.

The original Church building on the site seated 500. It was erected by J B Hawes of Deptford, London, on land generously donated by the Farrant family, and was clad in corrugated iron. The term 'Tin Tab' was one of affection and was short for 'Tin Tabernacle'. Perhaps surprisingly, it was a lovely warm Church, though no-one in the 1950s and 60s seemed to know why. The mystery was solved when demolition began in 1965. It

transpired that, between the outer corrugated iron panels and the inside walls, there had been tightly packed newspapers and it was these which seemed to provide the necessary insulation and kept the worshippers inside warm and cosy. Of course, few people today remember how noisy it could be with rain or hail pounding on the corrugated iron roof during the Winter months, though none of us minded that relatively rare occurrence!

The expression 'Tin Tabernacle' was not a Manx one. It was used quite widely to refer to any temporary place of worship which had been built to last only until a more permanent buildings could be afforded. It was a relatively cheap solution adopted from



about the 1830s and into the early to mid-20th century. They were quick and easy to erect, often coming in kit form. Such temporary structures, no matter what the denomination, were usually clad in galvanised iron. This was the case at All Saints on Alexander Drive where the temporary place of worship was only expected to last for roughly 20 years. However, it proved to be an excellent, durable building, thus allowing sufficient time for years of fund-raising, especially after the Second World War – a time of population increases on the Isle of Man.

It is believed that there could be around 50 such 'iron churches' surviving to this day in the British Isles.

Antony Hamilton

Dates at a Glance – December

Wed 1st	10.00am	Churchwardens' meeting
Thu 2nd	1.00pm	Business Group Bible Study
Fri 3rd	6.00pm	Compline - Live stream
Sat 4th	1.00pm	Organ Donation Service
Sun 5th	10.30am 6.00pm	<u>2nd in Advent</u> Messy Christingle in Church Holy Communion (BCP)
Mon 6th	1.00pm 7.30pm	Tea & Chat Christmas Lunch at The Creg ny Baa Snooker Club
Tue 7th	10.15am 11.00am 7.30pm	Prayer Group - Memorial Chapel Mothers' Union Meeting Bell Ringing practice
Wed 8th	10.00am	Churchwardens' meeting
Thu 9th	1.00pm 2.00pm 6.00pm	Business Group Bible Study Henry Bloom Noble School Concert 1 Henry Bloom Noble School Concert 2
Fri 10th	6.00pm	Compline - Live stream
Sun 12th	10.30am 7.00pm	<u>3rd in Advent</u> Holy Communion Manx Voices Concert
Mon 13th	2.00pm 7.30pm	Tea & Chat at All Saints Hall Snooker Club
Tue 14th	10.15am 7.30pm	Prayer Group - Memorial Chapel Bell Ringing practice
Wed 15th	All day	Ballakermeen High School
Thu 16th	1.00pm	Business Group Bible Study
Fri 17th	6.00pm	Compline - Live stream

Dates at a Glance Cont'd – December

Sat 18th	3.30pm	Masonic Carol Service
Sun 19th	10.30am 6.00pm	<u>4th in Advent</u> Holy Communion Carols by Candlelight
Mon 20th	7.30pm	Snooker Club
Tue 21st	10.15am 7.30pm	Prayer Group - Memorial Chapel Bell Ringing practice
Wed 22nd	10.00am	Churchwardens' meeting
Thu 23rd	1.00pm	Business Group Bible Study
Fri 24th	4.00pm 11.30pm	Crib Service Midnight Communion by Candlelight
Sat 25th	10.30am	<u>Christmas Day</u> All Age Holy Communion
Sun 26th	10.30am	Holy Communion
Mon 27th	7.30pm	Snooker Club
Tue 28th	10.00am 7.30pm	Prayer Group Bell Ringing practice
Wed 29th	10.00am	Churchwardens' meeting
Thu 30th	1.00pm	Business Group Bible Study
Fri 31st		No Compline

Dates at a Glance – January 2022

Sun 2nd	10.30am	<u>Christmas 1</u> Holy Communion
Mon 3rd	7.30pm	Snooker Club

Dates at a Glance Cont'd - January

Tue 4th	10.15am 11.00am 7.30pm	Prayer Group - Memorial Chapel Mothers' Union Meeting Bell Ringing practice
Wed 5th	10.00am	Churchwardens' meeting
Thu 6th	1.00pm	Business Group Bible Study
Fri 7th	6.00pm	Compline - Live stream
Sun 9th	10.30am 3.00pm	Holy Communion & Baptism RNLI - Sir William Hillary Service
Mon 10th	2.00pm 7.30pm	Tea & Chat at All Saints Hall Snooker Club
Tue 11th	10.00am 7.30pm	Prayer Group Bell Ringing practice
Thu 13th	1.00pm	Business Group Bible Study
Fri 14th	6.00pm	Compline - Live stream
Sat 15th	1.00pm	Royal British Legion County Conference
Sun 16th	10.30am	All Age Praise
Mon 17th	2.00pm 7.30pm	Tea & Chat at All Saints Hall Snooker Club
Tue 18th	10.15am 7.30pm	Prayer Group - Memorial Chapel Bell Ringing practice
Thu 20th	1.00pm	Business Group Bible Study
Fri 21st	6.00pm	Compline - Live stream
Sun 23rd	10.30am	Holy Communion
Mon 24th	2.00pm 7.30pm	Tea & Chat at All Saints Hall Snooker Club

Dates at a Glance Cont'd - January

Tue 25th	10.15am 2.15pm 7.30pm	Prayer Group - Memorial Chapel Royal British Legion Women's Section Bell Ringing practice
Thu 27th	1.00pm	Business Group Bible Study
Fri 28th	6.00pm	Compline - Live stream
Sun 30th	10.30am	Holy Communion - Candlemas
Mon 31st	2.00pm 7.30pm	Tea & Chat at All Saints Hall Snooker Club



*We don't sing carols no more...
you 'ave to listen to 'em off me iPod!*

Gladness and Generosity was the theme for November's Messy Church, one of the Holy Habits we'll be looking at over the coming months.



We were pleased to have another good turnout of 60 adults and children, who got stuck into the activities the team had prepared for them. We made purses out of Kit Kats and fondant icing (very popular!), a giving tree, a generosity game and gladness hands. Do take a look at our Facebook page for examples of them all.

During celebration time, Alex told us the story from Exodus of how God provided manna to the Israelites wandering the desert, to illustrate His generosity. We also joined in 'ping pong prayers' to say thank you for all we have to be grateful for.

We were certainly grateful to the catering team for providing us with a tasty lunch of sausage baps (with optional onions!) followed by ginger cake and custard.

We were also grateful to Judy Cross for standing in for Sue, and running her table so efficiently.

Our next meeting will be **Messy Christingle** in St George's on 5th December at 10.30 a.m. We'll be starting with refreshments, so be sure to get there early so you don't miss out!

We won't be meeting in January, so the next Messy Church in the hall will be on **6th February 2022**.

Wishing all our Messy Church friends a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Tea & Chat

We are all looking forward to our Christmas lunch at the Creg ny Baa at 1pm on Monday the 6th December.

We'll still be in festive mode for our Christmas party, in the hall, at 2pm on the 13th. This will be our last meeting until January.

We've been very pleased to welcome 3 new members to Tea & Chat and we hope the New Year will see even more people coming along to join in our relaxed and friendly group. Why not make it a New Year's resolution?

Our first meeting of the New Year will be on Monday, **10th January at 2pm in All Saints Hall.**

Cath Cringle

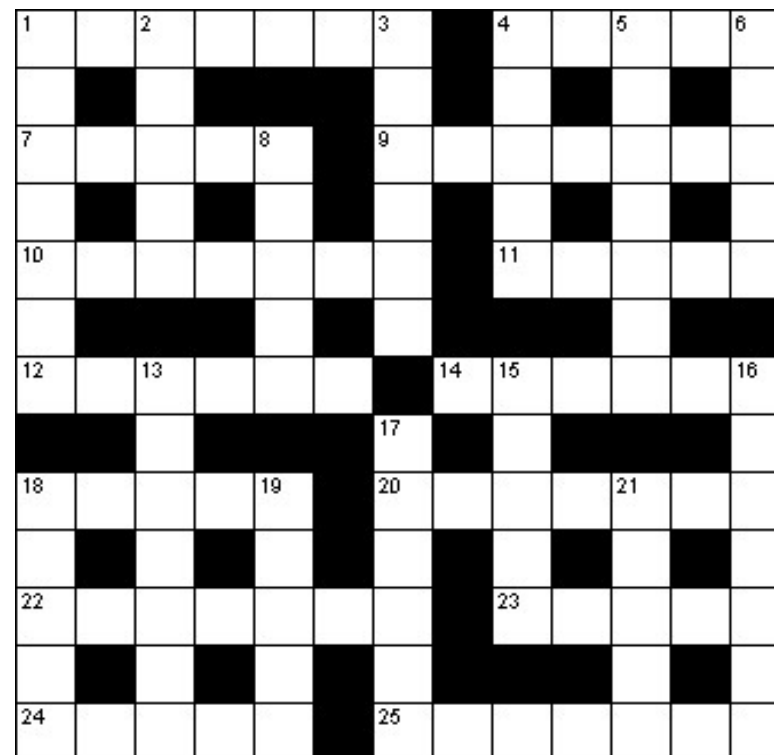
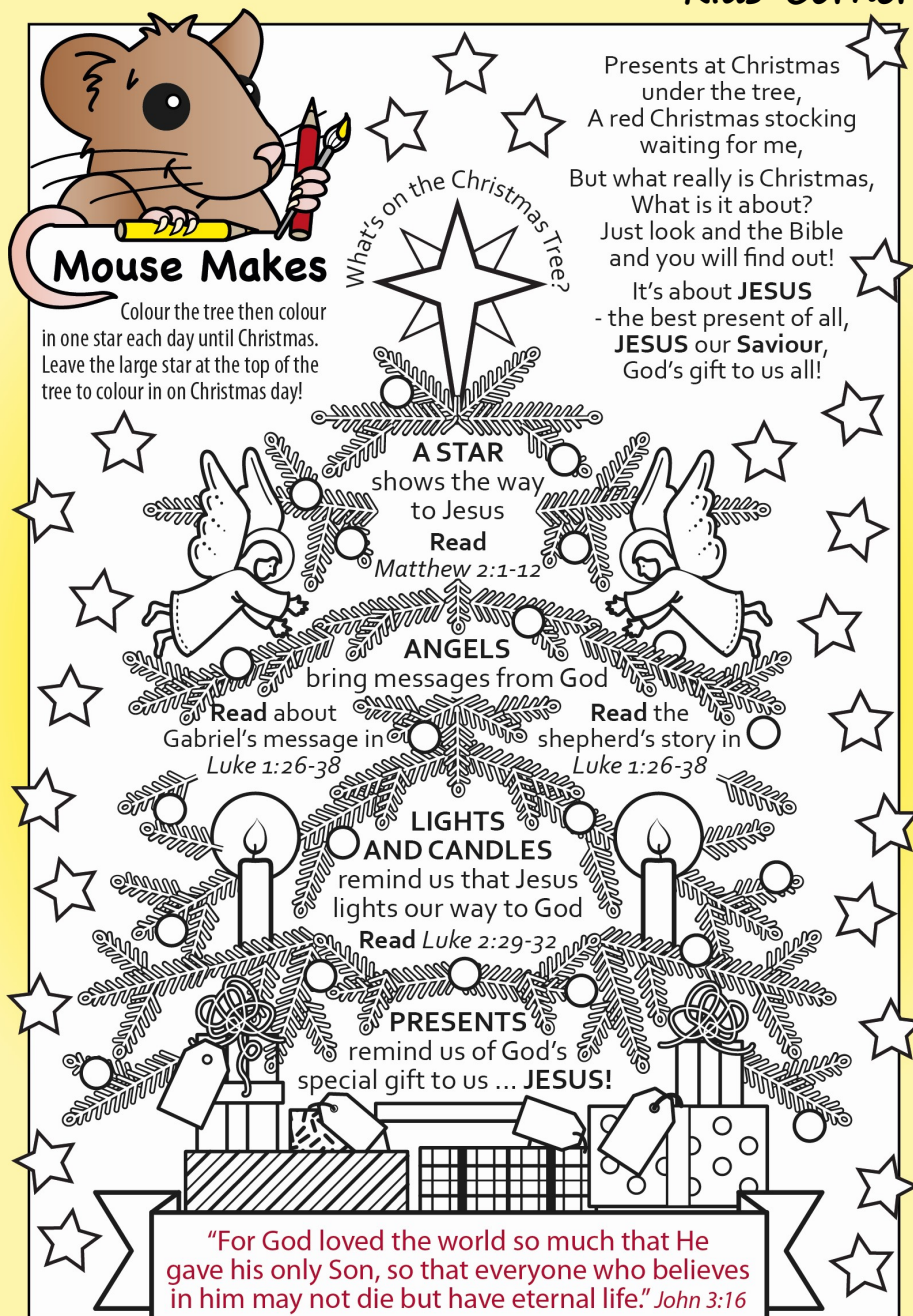
Christmas Rush

That time again, my trolley's full
Buying all the Christmas fare,
A turkey crown, a rib of beef,
Crisps and nibbles, lots to spare.

Christmas crackers and serviettes,
Paper for wrapping and cards to send,
Nuts and oranges, figs and dates
The list goes on, there seems no end.

In all this rush it's good to pause
And think about that special Day,
When shepherds watched and angels sang
As a Baby lay in a bed of hay.

Megan Carter



Across

1. Seafarer (7)
4. Attain (5)
7. Catlike mammal (5)
9. Type of rock (7)
10. Respire (7)
11. Gaze (5)
12. Resembling a horse (6)
14. Unit of time (6)
18. Pandemonium (5)
20. Melodious (7)
22. Elusive (7)
23. Fibbing (5)
24. Foe (5)
25. Distinguished (7)

Down

1. Gruesome (7)
2. Variety show (5)
3. Elevated (6)
4. Parts of a ladder (5)
5. Fruit (7)
6. Precipitance (5)
8. Colossus (5)
13. Unwitting (7)
15. Tripod (5)
16. Joy (7)
17. Hinder (6)
18. Pancake (5)
19. Glossy (5)
21. Percussion instrument (5)

Our Community

- ⇒ Are you a member of an organisation that could do with some publicity?
- ⇒ Do you have an interesting hobby or pastime to share?
- ⇒ Are you needing sponsorship for a charity event?

Then we want to hear from you!

We would like to include a community page in the Parish Magazine and will include items about community events and groups. Please forward details or articles to cath.neil31@gmail.com



Parish
Puzzle
Solution
for Nov
edition

09

Lifetime Achievement Award

Many congratulations to churchwarden Major Charles Wilson for his well-deserved Lifetime Achievement Award at this year's IoM Newspapers' Awards for Excellence.



Charles says it was a complete surprise and that his wife Ann had kept the secret for a year.

The presentation included a video of tributes from family, friends and representatives of the

many organisations he has helped and supported over the years. One familiar face was that of our former vicar and Archdeacon, Andie Brown, sending greetings from Derbyshire.

Well done Charles, we're proud of you!





Weekly E-Notice Sheet

If you would like us to forward Weekly Notice Sheets electronically, please send your e-mail address to the Parish Office: **sgasparishoffice@gmail.com**. We will protect the confidentiality of your e-mail address so that you will only receive communications from us.

All Saints Parish Hall

For bookings/enquiries please contact Neil Cringle on **626097, 450151** or **sgasHallManager@gmail.com**

Usual Sunday Services

1st Sunday	10.30am 11.00am 6.00pm	Holy Communion Messy Church at All Saints Hall Evening Prayer
2nd Sunday	10.30am 6.00pm	Holy Communion or Baptism Taizé
3rd Sunday	9.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Holy Communion All Age Praise Evening Prayer
4th Sunday	10.30am 6.00pm	Holy Communion or Baptism Celtic Communion
5th Sunday	10.30am 6.00pm	Holy Communion Evening Prayer or Other Services

Alex surveying the magnificent throne of boxes made during the Christ the King All Age Praise Service

