

All enquiries and arrangements for Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals at Ballaugh, Andreas and Sulby churches to be made by telephoning 01624 897873. If no reply, please use the Voicemail and/or Email: iaen.skidmore@sodorandman.im

Our ORGANIST is Mary Bishop, Tel: 897287 Email: marybish92@gmail.com
Our PASTORAL TEAM COORDINATOR is Peter Ling. Tel: 897149
Our SAFEGUARDING OFFICER for the Parish is Quentin Aulton
Our TREASURER for the Parish is Carol Ainley. Tel 897334

Items for the Newsletter for MARCH 2021 should please be sent to our EDITOR at Email: hwbmviom@gmail.com by 22 FEBRUARY 2021

(Opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of our Editor or of any member of the Ballaugh churches and no responsibility is taken for any errors or omissions contained herein)

CALLING BALLAUGH RESIDENTS

The Ballaugh Endowments Committee which was formed in 1951, is an organisation in the Parish of Ballaugh, and was set up to assist Parishioners financially, in making a small contribution towards the cost of electricity in their homes. As it has been a particularly difficult year for some people we would like to hear from you in absolute confidence. Please give Secretary Edgar Cowin, CP, a call on 897441 - we may be able to assist you.

Epiphany is one of the oldest Christian feasts. It was celebrated since the end of the second century, before the Christmas holiday was established. **January 6**, which is 12 days after Christmas in the Gregorian calendar, marks not only the end of the Christmas holidays. Epiphany is commonly known as Three Kings' Day or the Feast of the Epiphany. It means "manifestation" or "showing forth." It commemorates the first of two occasions on which Jesus' divinity, according to Christian belief, was manifested: when the three kings (also known as wise men or Magi) visited infant Jesus in Bethlehem, and when John the Baptist baptized him in the River Jordan. The star that guides the wise men to Christ also symbolizes Epiphany, as well as the three gifts they gave to Jesus: Gold (fit for a king); Frankincense (used to worship at a temple); Myrrh (used for embalming, as well as a salve for imitations such as diaper rash). Many Orthodox churches consider Jesus' baptism to be the first step towards the crucifixion. The liturgical colour for the Epiphany season is white.

Candlemas is a Christian holiday celebrated annually on **February 2**. It celebrates three occasions according to Christian belief: the presentation of the child Jesus; Jesus' first entry into the temple; and it celebrates the Virgin Mary's purification (mainly in Catholic churches). Christians believe in Jesus as the "light of the world" so it is fitting that candles are blessed on this day and that a candle-lit procession precedes the mass. It is traditional to eat crepes on Candlemas in some parts of Europe. Each family member prepares and cooks a crepe while holding a coin in hand. This is believed to assure wealth and happiness until the next Candlemas celebration. This year we will celebrate Candlemass on the nearest Sunday, 31 January in our United Service at Ballaugh.

THE CHURCH OF ST MARY de BALLAUGH

in the Parish of the Northern Plain (Ballaugh, Andreas & Sulby)
www.achurchnearyou.com/ballaugh
what3words /// toaster.spiral.modern

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WISHING YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR



Candlemas Bells, also known as Snowdrops, symbolize hope

NEWSLETTER JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2021