



## The Ministry Team

**Rev'd Hugh Wright**

01983 853729

Email: [hugh.wright1957@btinternet.com](mailto:hugh.wright1957@btinternet.com)

Gill Chaloner	Reader	854659
Hilary Davis	Reader	855797
Jenny Hopkins Holder	Reader	852575
Gill Smith	Reader	856134
David Tamcken	Reader	506693

### Churchwardens

#### **St Catherine's**

Steve Northern 856953  
Adrian Pinnock

#### Holy Trinity

Jo Nicholson  
Mark Bell 852631

#### St Boniface

Jonny Fitzgerald Bond 854824  
Lyn Ridler-Lee 404508

### *Morning Prayer*

Tuesday - Bonchurch Old Church - 8am

Wednesday - St Catherine's Church and Thursday Holy Trinity Church - 9am

Friday - Bonchurch Parish Church - 8.30am

### *All Welcome*

#### *Sunday Services*

Please see inside Link for details of Sunday Services

#### *Midweek Services*

**St Catherine's** - Wednesday - 10.30am Holy Communion  
Holy Trinity - Thursday - 10.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

Ventnor & Bonchurch Parish website address

[www.ventnorcofe2.btck.co.uk](http://www.ventnorcofe2.btck.co.uk)

Email: [ventnorcofe@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ventnorcofe@hotmail.co.uk)

# A Silly Week in August

....during which a combination of Ventnor Fringe and Ventnor Carnival made life here in Ventnor vibrant and lively, and life in Holy Trinity, St Catherine's and St Boniface somewhat chaotic!

**It started with the Carnival Service held at St Catherine's and** escalated from there, with all sorts of different things happening all over town in different venues, including churches, church halls and church carparks! Concerts, plays, puppet shows, monologues, busking....it was all going on! **The Fringe Book Bus was parked in St Catherine's carpark, there was a performance of the "Isle of Wight Suite" and the Ventnor Guitar Club and Local History Society combined for "Playing with History".** Endless tea, coffee, cakes and savouries were served, and our church families coped magnificently with several last minute changes of plan!

The first Carnival was rained off (with the exception of the brave **entries to the Children's Carnival**), but the **Illuminated Carnival** was very successful, with fireworks lighting up the sky at the end and a good atmosphere all round.

**It's good to be jolted out of our usual habits once in a while, and also good to work together in harmony.**

Thanks to everyone who contributed to making our three churches (four with Bonchurch Old Church) a real part of the town and welcoming to the community we are here to serve, as well as to visitors and those on holiday. There was a huge amount of hard work involved, much of which went on behind the scenes, unnoticed and unpraised, but **I'm sure we all finished the "Silly Week" in a state of exhaustion but a glow of satisfaction for a job well done.**

**And now for Sensible September.....**

Gill

# HOLY TRINITY NEWS

At our last coffee morning earlier this year, I bought a few books (surprise **surprise**) and one of them has been my recent 'read' of choice. As a lover of Pre-Raphaelite art, I was intrigued to find a biography of Christina Rossetti, the sister of Dante Gabriel Rossetti. Whilst the book itself has not been an easy read, due mainly to the way in which the subject was approached, it has been interesting in a number of ways.

One of the things that has fascinated me, in coming to know and learn about the Pre-Raphaelites, was their varied and multitudinous relationships. I find I am just as interested in the models who sat for the paintings as I am about the artists themselves, and with the Pre-Raphaelites that means wives, lovers and mistresses, as well as various friends.

**I learned from reading this biography that two of my 'top ten' (except that I would find it hard to restrict it to ten!) were influenced by D G Rossetti's two sisters: Maria and Christina.**

Ecce Ancilla Domini, or The Annunciation, painted in 1850 and now in Tate Britain in London, features Christina Rossetti as Mary, hearing the news that she will bear a child. **The painting shows clearly the expression on Mary's face of fear and yet an acceptance.** I had not realised until now that it was also a portrait of Christina.

The second painting I particularly like is Convent Thoughts, by Charles Collins (younger brother of Wilkie Collins the writer). He was never officially a **'Pre-Raphaelite' but he was influenced by them and fell in love with Maria** Rossetti. He was rejected by her (and she went on to become a nun) and this painting, whilst not a painting of Maria, is clearly heavily influenced by her decision. Christina Rossetti and her mother both feature in another D G Rossetti painting with a religious theme. Rossetti regarded the Virgin Mary as the highest type of female virtue. His first exhibited painting depicts her as a girl seated with her mother St Anne. Mary is embroidering a lily, tended by a child-angel. Mary's father St Joachim prunes a vine. In the background is the Lake of Galilee. Again, Christina portrays Mary, and her mother Frances portrays St Anne.

Of course, most people will probably think of Christina Rossetti as the author of **'In the Bleak Midwinter', one of the most beautiful carols we sing at Christmas,** whether we sing the wonderful tune by Harold Darke, or the equally haunting tune by Gustav Holst. The poem, published in 1872, was first set to music by **Holst and appeared in the original edition of 'The English Hymnal'.**

In fact Christina was a prolific poet and she wrote many hundreds of devotional poems several of which have been set to music at one time or another, but most of which are never sung today. One I do recall singing however is another Christmas hymn: **“Love came down at Christmas”; a simple two verse hymn which I sang to the tune ‘Hermitage’ written by Reginald Morris. This first appeared in the hymn book ‘Songs of Praise’ in 1925. R O Morris was the brother-in-law of Vaughan Williams.**

Christina was seemingly obsessed by the idea of love, both in a human sense and a divine sense. And yet she comes across as a very severe and humourless person from the biography. One can only wonder at the sacrifices she made in terms of love, which meant that she never married; becoming a carer for her own mother and her aunts in later life.

One collection she wrote relates to the church calendar, and she wrote a poem for each festival and each Sunday. The one she wrote for Trinity Sunday demonstrate show strongly she relied on the love of God to see her through life- good times and bad:

My God, Thyself being Love Thy heart is love,  
And love Thy Will and love Thy Word to us,  
Whether Thou show us depths calamitous  
Or heights and flights of rapturous peace above.  
O Christ the Lamb, O Holy Ghost the Dove,  
Reveal the Almighty Father unto us;  
That we may tread Thy courts felicitous,  
Loving Who loves us, for our God is Love.  
Lo, if our God be Love thro' heaven's long day,  
Love is He thro' our mortal pilgrimage,  
Love was He thro' all aeons that are told.  
We change, but Thou remainest; for Thine age  
Is, Was, and Is to come, nor new nor old;  
We change, but Thou remainest; yea and yea!

1. In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

2. Our God, heaven can not hold him, nor earth sustain;  
heaven and earth shall flee a way when he comes to reign.  
In the bleak midwinter, a stable place sufficed  
the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

3. Angels and archangels may have gathered there,  
cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;  
but his mother only, in her maiden bliss,  
worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

4. What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

## Helen Slade

Rossetti, Christina G., p.978, i. The following hymns by Miss Rossetti have recently come into common use:—

1. A burdened heart that bleeds and bears. [Lent.] In her *Time Flies: A Reading Diary*, ed. 1897, p.59, for March 26; and her *Verses, &c.*, ed. 1898, p.113. Included in *Church Hymns*, 1903.

2. Give me the lowest place, not that I dare. [Humility.] From her *Prince's Progress*, 1866, p.216.

3. In the bleak midwinter. [Christmas.] In her *Poetical Works*, 1904, p.246, as "Before 1872"; repeated in *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

4. None other Lamb, none other Name. [Jesus, Al, and in Al] From her *The Face of the Deep*, &c, 1892 (3rd ed. 1895, p.176); and her *Verses, &c*, 1898, p.36. It is the second of two poetical meditations on Rev. v.6. In *Church Hymns*, 1903.

5. The shepherds had an angel. [Christmas.] In her *Poetical Works*, 1904, p.187, this is entitled "A Christmas Carol. For my God children," and dated 6 October, 1856. Repeated in the *Sunday School Hymnary*, 1905.

6. We know not a voice of that River. [The River of the Eternal City.] In *The Face of the Deep*, &c, 1892 (3rd ed. 1895, p.523), as a poetical meditation on Rev. xxi. Also in her *Verses, &c.*, 1898, p.81.

Additional works by Miss Rossetti to those named on p.978, i., include *Time Flies A Reading Diary*, 1885; *Called to be Saints*, 1881; *Seek and Find*, 1879; *The Face of*

the Deep, A Devotional Commentary on the Apocalypse,1892; and Verses. reprinted from Called to be Saints, Time Flies, The Face of the Deep, 1893.It must be noted that (1) the hymn attributed to her, "Dead is thy daughter; trouble not the Master, "is not by her, but by Mrs.C.F. Alexander, **with whose name it appeared in Lyra Mystica,1865; and (2) her“ I would be gone; God bade me stay, "is from her Prince's Progress,1866,p.204.Miss Rossetti d.Dec.29,1891. -John Julian, Dictionary of Hymnology, New Supplement(1907)**

## TREES

Have you ever seriously thought about the goodness that trees bring into our lives? It is so nice to see these beautiful plants growing all around us, this year there seem to be more and bigger trees than ever before.

Trees are one of our greatest assets: they take in carbon dioxide and monoxide which is poison to us and they give out oxygen. We can't live without oxygen. So trees, besides being beautiful, are virtually our life blood.

I am sure that most of us have our favourite tree. I always enjoy the wonderful colours they produce at various times of the year especially in the autumn. the blossoms in the springtime the shade in Summer and often fruit and nuts at harvest.

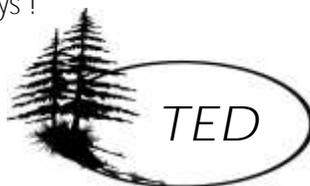
I love trees, when I look at a forest I see a mass of green but there are also so many SHADES of green. They look amazing in their natural setting.

To walk through a forest very slowly, seems magical, it will give you a feeling of overwhelming peace, goodness, heavenliness, at one with God our Almighty Saviour, Trees do have a lasting effect upon our daily lives.

I remember, as a boy, I often climbed trees to sit among the huge branches and experience a feeling of freedom as well as to admire the views from my lofty perch. I liked to climb Birch trees, they were supple especially the upper branches as they swayed in the wind. I always felt quite safe when climbing trees of any height. The mighty Oak and the Elm were a fascination as well, mainly due to their great size.

There is a tree which I will never have the pleasure of climbing, it is called ' the Sequoia tree', a species of the giant 'Redwood,' common to the forests of Canada, it has been known to grow to a height of 300 feet....what a challenge that would be !

Fruit trees were always popular we could sit among the branches and eat, cherries, pears, plums, apples or whatever the tree provided for us and was in season at the time..... Happy days !



# St Boniface and Bonchurch

## MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 29th  
from 10am - 12 noon  
BONCHURCH PARISH CHURCH

Please come and join us to support this worthwhile cause. We would be very grateful for donations of raffle and tombola prizes. Please ring Sally on 07773 747027 to arrange drop off/collection. Donations of money to buy prizes would also be very welcome.

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On July 14th the Undercliffe Singers gave a delightful concert at Bonchurch. We raised a substantial amount of money for Ability Dogs for Young People, St Catherine's Tamale and our Churches. The audience also enjoyed delicious canapés and drinks in the interval.

Tuesday September 5th Coffee Morning  
Tuesday September 19th Sewing Bee



Tuesday October 3rd Coffee Morning  
Tuesday October 17th Sewing Bee

Articles for the OCTOBER Magazine should be handed in by  
SEPTEMBER12th please. You can hand it in at the Hub or email it to Joan  
Garlick at [ventnorcofe@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ventnorcofe@hotmail.co.uk) Hand written reports/articles are  
accepted if you do not have access to a computer.

# ST CATHERINE'S NEWS

## Thanks be to God

No job, no money, perpetual debt, no degree, benefit scrounger and challenger of the status quo! This CV would be laughed at by the world, but God has other plans. He made me church warden again, how cool is that! It's an honour and a privilege to be voted in by my peers and very humbling, but God behind wretched old me is mind-blowing. After swearing in, a church warden is entrusted by the bishop with responsibility for all the building and graveyard and historical artifacts that make up the historical roots of St. Catherine's. A bit like the old testament backing up the new with prophecy and historical facts.

Making sure worship goes on respectfully is another key warden area, which is much harder than you think. It's easy to turn an up-coming church into yet another social club for the elite. Intensive prayer and humility is the only antidote to this one. I know of many who pray for our church in particular, for the Holy Spirit to bless and work in this place for his glory, not ours.

Secular society has penned buzz words like "community use" and "great space" to devalue God's house in society. We must not succumb. God's house is a refuge for the needy and vulnerable, and worship and praise keeps St Catherine's a beacon of hope in a broken world. If we put the proper God first his community will prosper, deal with the plank in your own eye, and don't cross the road when somebody needs your help. All will benefit.

To sum up, I will never retire, no wages or pension for me. But when I work for his glory, God looks after my family. In him, I trust. Thanks be to God.

Steve (Churchwarden, 2017)

## Ten little Christians

Ten little Christians standing in a line,  
One disliked the Vicar, and then there were nine.  
Nine little Christians stayed up very late,  
One overslept on Sunday, then there were eight.  
Eight little Christians on their way to Heaven,  
One took the low road, then there was seven.  
Seven little Christians chirping like young chicks,  
One disliked the music, and then there were six.  
Six little Christians seemed very much alive,  
One lost their interest, and there were five.  
Five little Christians pulling for Heaven's shore,  
One lost their interest, then there were Four.  
Four little Christians each busy as a bee,  
One got his feelings hurt, and then there were three.  
Three little Christians looked for something new,  
One formed the sporting group, and then there were two.  
Two little Christians, our rhyme is nearly is mainly done.  
One differed with the other, and then there was one.  
One little Christian wondered what to do,  
Told a friend about Jesus, and then there were two.  
Two earnest Christians, each one won one more,  
They gladly joined together so then there were four.  
Four rejoicing Christians if they double as before,  
Would soon need a lot of space for 1,024!  
In this little jingle, there's a question just for you,  
Are you a member of the Building or the Wrecking Crew?

(Unknown)

Submitted by Patsy

# FRIENDS OF ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH

Forthcoming Events  
Autumn Film Musical Season.

Friday nights.

29th September @ 7:00 Oklahoma

27th October @ 7:00 High Society

24th November @ 7:00 South Pacific

Ticket £5 at the door.

## HOME GROUPS

Monday Evening 7.45pm

Contact Jenny Holder 852575

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Wednesday Evening 8.00pm - At Mick and Nava

**Young's** - St Andrews, Belgrave Road. 852680

The book of Acts is filled with prayer meetings; every forward thrust the first church made was immersed in prayer. Take another look at the church at Pentecost. They prayed for 10 days and preached 10 minutes and 3000 people were saved. Today we pray for 10 minutes and preach for 10 days and are ecstatic if anyone is saved.

# SEPTEMBER at Carisbrooke Priory

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September at noon: Open Door Communion led by  
Rev. James Cook

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September, 09:30-14:45: Quiet Day  
**“Through all the changing scenes of life”**  
(see website or posters, or telephone, for further details)

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September at noon: Open Door Worship  
led by Bob White

Speakers for worship on 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> September to be confirmed

All enquiries to Carisbrooke Priory Trust Phone: 01983 523354  
Prayer Ministry available by arrangement – Please ring 01983  
523354 for appointment  
Email: [opendoor@carisbrookepriory.org.uk](mailto:opendoor@carisbrookepriory.org.uk)  
Website: [www.carisbrookepriory.org.uk](http://www.carisbrookepriory.org.uk)

**Don't forget to pick up your free copy of**  
The Pompey Chimes

Julian Meetings are held on the 2nd Friday  
of the month, at 2pm in the Hub at

**St Catherine's Church.**

For information on Julian meetings,  
please contact Hilary Davis  
**at St Catherine's Church.**



## THE CHERUB.

Those warm and balmy summer days, are very nearly through,  
Harvest time will soon be here, there are lots of things to do.  
Let everyone enjoy themselves and get out in the sun,  
Our Cherub likes to join in too enjoying all the fun.

Cherub Billy loves to laugh and play and paddle in the sea,  
Rock pools are his favourite place, quite safe for you and me.  
To seek the sea life living there, the Crabs and little fishes.  
He treats them all with great respect according to their wishes.

The tide is out, pools are warm, the sand so soft to feel,  
Everyone is happy, all this is very real.  
All children and all adults from in-land far and wide,  
Come to enjoy this beauty, the wonderful sea-side.

Ventnor is a haven, an ideal place to be,  
Even in the Autumn, sunny Ventnor by the sea !  
Adjoined by ancient Bonchurch and lovely Steephill cove,  
an ideal place for ramblers to wander and to rove.

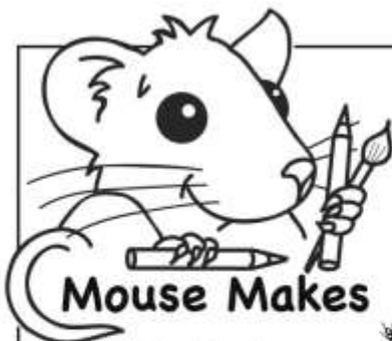
The wild life in their thousands enjoy all this as well,  
Animals and bird life captured by Ventnor's spell.  
Sea gulls and smaller birds seen here by the score,  
Red Squirrel, Badgers, Foxes, Ducks and many more

Cherub Billy is so happy he likes living here,  
He feels so close to Heaven in this lovely atmosphere.  
You can read enormous pleasure upon young Billy's face  
He does so love this sea side town, it is a lovely place.

Ted, ( assisted by Cherub Billy.)

Prayer is the secret weapon of the kingdom of God. It is like a missile that can be fired towards any spot on earth, travel undetected at the speed of thought, and hit its target every time.

"Never undertake more Christian work than can be covered in believing prayer." Alan Redpath, Chicago.



May all the peoples praise you, O God,  
 may all the peoples praise you!  
 The land has produced its harvest,  
 God, our God has blessed us.  
 God has blessed us, may all people  
 everywhere honour him.

*Psalm 67:5-7*



Can you find these harvest  
 words in the hay bales?

**HARVEST**

**THANKSGIVING**

**PRAISE • GOD • BLESSED  
 SEEDS • SOW • LAND  
 PLOUGH • SCATTER  
 SOIL • GROW  
 CROPS • REAP**



W H E A T S W P I C K C  
 A P P L E R A I P E A R S  
 U R G P P T P E S E D U G  
 T O R L B L E S E P O G  
 U B O U R O R S E R T A  
 M O W M O U S E R S  
 N U T S S E H S C R O P S  
 O G O D E H S C R O P S

**WATER • RAIN • SUN  
 AUTUMN • GATHER  
 PICK • REAP • BALE  
 TRACTOR • BARN • CART  
 HAYSTACK • FOOD  
 MOUSE • BREAD • LOAF  
 GRAIN • CORN  
 WHEAT • OATS  
 RYE • BARLEY**



**OLIVES • GRAPES • PIPS  
 PEARS • PLUMS • APPLE  
 BERRIES • NUTS • VINE  
 FIGS • BEANS • PEAS  
 POTATOES • FLOUR  
 ONIONS  
 PARSNIPS  
 RICE • SUGAR**



G H A Y S T A C K E R P  
 A F C A R T R A C T O R  
 T O N I O N S F I G S A  
 H O P O T A T O E S B I  
 E D E I F L O U R A S  
 R P A R S N I P S O R E  
 T O S B E A N S U N R  
 B A R L E Y O L I V E S

# RIDE and STRIDE 2017

This year's sponsored Ride and Stride in aid Hampshire & Isle of Wight historic churches is on Saturday 9th September, 10am to 6pm. Please take part weather on foot, by bike, bus, horseback or even car and help raise funds towards the upkeep of the region's 900 historic and beautiful church buildings. Half the money you raise goes to the church of your choice. The other 50%, plus Gift Aid, will enable Hampshire & the Island Historic Trust (HIHCT) to allocate much-needed grants and loans to churches of all denominations.



On Ride and Stride day itself there are various ways you can help and join in: Cycle, walk, run, drive - or even use your bus pass - to visit a many churches as you can: invite family, friends, and colleagues to sponsor you (or your dog). Be a "meter and greeter" in your church for part of the day or provide cakes and refreshments for the Riders and Striders Sponsor friends or family taking part.

HIHCT is run entirely by volunteers. [www.hihct.org.uk](http://www.hihct.org.uk)



Evening Services at the  
Old Church, Bonchurch  
Sunday 3rd September  
6.30pm

It will be your last chance this year to attend one of these lovely little services in this beautiful little church.

All are welcome

# "Mens Breakfast"



"St Catherine's Church"  
A warm welcome  
to breakfast and a friendly chat.

First Thursday of the month, 9.30am.

For further information  
**Dave 856925 or Steve 856953**

Ventnor Townswomen's Guild  
September 20th - 2.15pm

**"The Funny side of Banking"**  
**Derek Sprake**

Common Room at Knights Court, High Street, Ventnor.

Secretary - Mrs JWalters - 855892

# St Albans the Martyr Church

SUNG MASS each SUNDAY 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th

HOLY COMMUNION (said) Traditional Rite each WEDNESDAY - 6th, 20th and 27th at 9.30am but on 13th the MASS will start at 11am and include the Glorious Mysteries to commemorate the Fifth Fatima Apparition of 1917.

6.45 each Wednesday- Evening Prayer (BCP) is usually said.

Saturday 9th September there is a COFFEE MORNING for Church Funds and the Church is open from 10am to 6pm for "Ride nod Stride" (Hampshire and Island Historic Trust).

7.30pm "Autumn Serenade" a Grand Concert featuring the "The After Eights" Instrumental Ensemble; also Robert Stacey (organ). Becci Brittan, Soprano.... and more!

No admission fee. Donations appreciated.

Sunday 10th September - St Albans Church is open from 10.30am until 3.30pm for Heritage Open Days when archive exhibits will be on display. 3.30pm Sung Evensong followed by light refreshments

[www.stalbansiw.org.uk](http://www.stalbansiw.org.uk)    [www.facebook.com/stalbansventnor](http://www.facebook.com/stalbansventnor)

## **Ventnor Townswomen's Guild Social Studies Group**

September 4th - **2.15pm**

**HMS Fidelity - The Chale Commandoes**

**Derek Sprake**

Held in the Resident's lounge at Byrnhill Grove, Park Avenue

For more information contact Mrs Barbara Joyner - 651577

£1 per meeting including refreshments



Urgently needed food items :

Rice, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Tomatoes, Fruit Juice and Tinned Sponge Puddings

We've got plenty of :

Pasta, Tea Bags, Cereals and Tinned Spaghetti.

A typical food parcel includes:

Breakfast cereals, Soup, Pasta, Rice, Pasta sauce, Tinned beans, Tinned meat, Tinned vegetables. Tinned fruit. Tea or coffee. Sugar, Biscuits and Snacks.

### **What's in a typical food parcel?**

A typical food parcel contains a minimum of three days of nutritionally balanced, non-perishable, tinned and dried foods that have been donated by the local community. A typical food parcel includes: breakfast cereal, soup, pasta, rice, pasta sauce, baked beans, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, instant mash, UHT milk, tea, coffee, sugar, tinned dessert and biscuits. Some Foodbanks also provide fresh produce if they are able to.

Our foodbank works using a voucher referral system.

We know that anyone can find themselves at crisis point for a number of different reasons. In order to provide the most appropriate help for the circumstances of your situation we work with local agencies. If they feel you are struggling to put food on the table, they will issue you with a foodbank voucher. The local agency can also provide long term support if needed to help address some of the issues behind the reasons for your crisis. Our foodbank works with a number of different agencies, such as Citizens Advice, **children's centres and health visitors**. To find out more about the agencies that hold our vouchers and how you can get help, please contact us.

[www.isleofwight.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.isleofwight.foodbank.org.uk)

Ventnor Horticultural SOCIETY

# SUMMER



# SHOW



## 2nd SEPTEMBER

## 2pm

### **St Catherine's Church**

### REFRESHMENTS - RAFFLE



Ventnor Horticultural Society's Summer Show schedules are still available at Crave Ice Cream in Spring Hill, Ventnor or at St Catherine's Church.

Is something worrying you?  
Want someone to listen to you?

Why don't you book an appointment at  
The Living Room - 82-83 High Street, Newport  
On the 1st & 3rd Monday of the month 11am - 2pm.

We have trained Acorn Christian Listeners you can talk to.  
Contact Nava Young for an appointment on  
01983 852680 or navayoung@aol.com

### PRAYER CHAIN

All requests for the Prayer Chain  
should be first directed to Kizzie Baker on 853779

### **BEREAVEMENT GROUP....Can we help you?**

We are aware that there are a number of people who  
have been bereaved and might like someone to talk  
to.

If this is YOU or someone you know, please contact any of the  
**Bereavement Group from St Catherine's, Holy Trinity and St Boniface,**  
by telephoning 857795 (outside Hub hours you can leave a message) or  
**visit the Hub at St Catherine's any morning between 10.30 and 12.30.**  
**If you'd rather leave a note, there's a box in the Coffee Shop. Anything**  
you wish to discuss will be treated with absolute confidentiality.

Join the PRAYER GROUP in the HUB at  
**St Catherine's Church, each Wednesday from**  
2.30pm. Ask Ann Allen for more information.

# Why do Christians pray?

Jesus taught his followers to talk to God in the same way that He did – like a child speaks to an adoring father. When they pray, Christians sense that they are in the presence of God. They are seeking to come close to the maker **and shaper of the world's destiny. Christians lay open to God their deepest** hope, happiness and anxiety. And they open themselves to God directing and changing them.

Those who take prayer to heart do not see it simply as a series of requests that God will change the world in the way they personally want. Rather it is **an active way of participating in the working out of God's plan for the world.**

Prayer can involve words, silence, reading, responding to art, or listening. Christians look for answers to their prayers in a change to their own actions and attitudes, and are overjoyed when the result is something that they recognise to be a miraculous intervention by God.

But despite that, God undoubtedly registers and responds in some way to all kinds of prayer – even the desperate cry in an emergency of someone who has barely even thought about whether He exists.

A conversation with God of this kind takes many forms:

**Praising** This involves a human being putting himself or herself in a place of appropriate humility in front of the God who is utterly holy, loving and just.

**Thanking** This is a way of recognising that everything that gives value or joy to life is the gift of a Creator, not merely good fortune.

**Asking** Prayers of this kind can be personal (such as begging for healing for a sick relative) or immense in scale (such as longing for the end of a war).

**Seeking forgiveness** This involves confession of something wrong (either personal or as part of a worldwide injustice) and a recognition that God has mercy on those who regret what they have done and seek to change.

**Looking for guidance** Prayer frequently asks God for direction, or seeks understanding in the face of the mysteries involved in being alive.

# Bible Readings for SEPTEMBER

September 3<sup>rd</sup> The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Jeremiah 15:15-21  
Romans 12:9-end  
St Matthew 16:21-end

September 10<sup>th</sup> The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Ezekiel 33:7-11  
Romans 13:8-end  
St Matthew 18:15-20

September 17<sup>th</sup> The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Genesis 50:15-21  
Romans 14:1-12  
St Matthew 18:21-35

September 24<sup>th</sup> The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Jonah 3:10 to end of 4  
Philippians 1:21-end  
St Matthew 20:1-16



# Worship for SEPTEMBER

September 3<sup>rd</sup> The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

9.30a.m. Holy Communion, Holy Trinity Church

**10.45a.m. Morning Worship, St Catherine's Church**

10.45a.m. Holy Communion, St Boniface Church

Summer Services at Bonchurch Old Church end with  
Holy Communion at 6.30p.m.

September 10<sup>th</sup> The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30a.m. Morning Worship, Holy Trinity Church

**10.45a.m. Holy Communion, St Catherine's Church**

10.45a.m. Holy Communion, St Boniface Church

6.30p.m. Holy Communion, Holy Trinity Church

September 17<sup>th</sup> The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30a.m. Holy Communion, Holy Trinity Church

**10.45a.m. "Come and See", St Catherine's church**

10.45a.m. Holy Communion, St Boniface Church

September 24<sup>th</sup> The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30a.m. Holy Communion, Holy Trinity Church

**10.45a.m. Holy Communion, St Catherine's Church**

10.45a.m. Morning Worship, St Boniface Church

## **Advance Notice...**

Harvest Festival will be at Holy Trinity and  
St Boniface on October 1<sup>st</sup>

**and at St Catherine's on October 8<sup>th</sup>**

The production cost of The LINK is subsidised by The HUB. Please give it your support.



The vicar's scheme to make the church more appealing to men seemed to be having a degree of success

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