

Saltash Team Newsletter

Message from Rev Cathy Sigrist, Priest-in-Charge

“Discovering God’s Kingdom, Growing the Church”

Dear Friends

It is that time of year once again when we hold our APCM meetings. A time to review what has taken place in the past and to celebrate all the good things that have happened.

It is also a time when we elect our two Churchwardens per church, PCC members and Synod representatives, and I would encourage everyone to prayerfully consider whether or not any of these roles is one that you may be called to.

My thanks goes to our Churchwardens - Barry in St. Stephens, and Bruce and Richard at St. Nicholas for all their hard work and dedication to make sure that our services take place each week and that the buildings are well looked after and kept looking so wonderful. Barry has been doing a fantastic job – all on his own, but has decided not to stand again for Churchwarden after some 16 or 17 years in the post. He deserves a well-earned retirement and rest and our grateful thanks go to him for all his hard work and devotion to St. Stephens over the years. We really do need two Churchwardens for each church and I would therefore like to ask everyone to consider whether or not this is a role that you can undertake. The role is much easier if it is shared.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the PCC and Synod representatives for their help and support and for all that they do, and indeed the many who are not on the PCCs who help to make the churches run so smoothly.

So please do come along to the APCM meetings, and please do pray about whether or not one of the roles on the PCC might be something that you can consider undertaking.

As we begin our journey to the cross in Lent, please consider what Christ has done for you and then ask what you can do for him.

Every blessing.

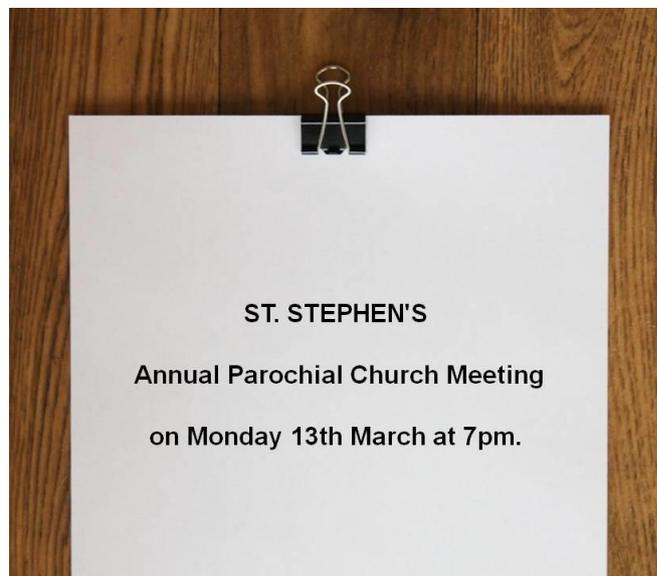
Yours in Christ

Cathy

Saltash Ladies Group

Saltash Ladies Group enjoyed a talk from David Wells on behalf of Heartswell a charity who helps raise money for defibrillators which go into schools churches and community centres around Plymouth and Cornwall. In 1998 a campaign was started to bring cardiac services to Plymouth by Monica Pearce. From this has grown the charity we have today. In addition to this there is accommodation provided in "The Lodge" for families who travel from outside the area. This accommodation does charge a fee but the building is onsite and has staff to help. There is a school programme which is hoping to provide equipment in every school in Plymouth and to train staff and children.

March 16th brings Sarah Green talking about her trip last year to Plymouth Massachusetts with a school choir and teachers from Plymouth and news of the return visit of the choir from USA later this year. The group is open to all ladies and we would love to see new faces.



St. Nicholas and Faith APCM s taking place after the service on Sunday 2nd April.



Just to remind everyone that Easter is on its way. If you would like to order your Real Easter Egg with an Easter story booklet please let us know. Out of the 80 million chocolate Easter Eggs sold each year this is the only one with the real story of Easter. There is a dark chocolate version also. Please contact Sylvia or Len on 651885. New Catalogues are available.

Lent Lunches 2017

The idea is that each church would take it in turns to host a Soup Lunch. We would start at 12:30pm share lunch together and have a short reading and reflection (5-10 minutes) before ending in prayer and going our own ways by 1:30pm. Although the theme is reflection is potentially negative in nature, please remember we want to leave with some hope and expectation from it. Each week there is also a challenge for people to take away. Each Church would provide soup, roll and tea and coffee.

9th March

St Stephens

Preparing for the loss: (Christ who walks with us)

Matthew 16: 21-28

- Send someone something (maybe a letter or flowers) who has recently experienced loss to show they are loved

16th March

Our Lady's

Preparing for the cost: (Christ in whom the greatest prize is attained)

Matthew 19:16-22

- Give something extra that costs you this week

23rd March

Wesley Methodist

Preparing for the wilderness: (Christ who is sufficient for us)

Matthew 4: 1-11

- Pray for someone who has had a difficult time and find ways of helping them

30th March

Burraton Methodist

Preparing for the loneliness: (Christ who holds us)

Matthew 26: 36-45

- Phone someone who is on their own

6th April

St Nick and St Faiths

Preparing for the pain: (Christ who went to the cross)

Matthew 15: 16-20

- Invite someone to be part of the Easter Celebrations in your church to help them know hope

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH SOCIAL COMMITTEE

A big thank you to all who braved a very cold day to support our Craft and Gift Fair last month which raised £1084.40. We also held a very enjoyable concert by The Plymouth Area Police Choir which raised a further £484.29

Table Top Sale – Saturday 11th March - 9am to 11.30am – Free Entry

Over 20 stalls to browse and buy from. Plus a Brand New Book Stock Clearance Children's titles from just 50p. Authors include: Michael Morpurgo, Julia Donaldson, C S Lewis, Anthony Horowitz, Quentin Blake, Darren Shan, Dick King Smith plus books from collections of Mike The Knight, Mr Men & Little Miss, Busy Wheels, Mrs Pepperpot, Usborne Phonics, Rastamouse, Songbirds Phonics, 64 Zoo Lane and much much more.

Senior Fiction from just £1. Authors include: Agatha Christie, Alexander McCall Smith, Dan Brown, Jackie Collins, John Mortimer, P G Woodhouse, plus collections – A Touch of Frost, Inspector Morse also Cook Books and Autobiographies. Refreshments (Bacon Rolls, Toasted Teacakes, Homemade Cakes, Hot n Cold Drinks), Cake Stall and Raffle.

Hot Cross Buns and Easter Fun – St. Stephen's Church

Saturday 1st April - 10am to 1pm

Craft Stalls, Fundraising stalls, Bumper Easter Draw, Hoopla, Easter Egg Tombola, Guess the weight of the Simnel cake, Guess the Easter Bunny's Name, Treasure Hunt and of Course Refreshments including of course Hot Cross Buns, Easter Cup Cakes, Crème Egg Brownies and Pasties. Can we fit anymore in? Yes we can! So Pop along and join in the fun.

Help – If you would like to kindly donate an Easter Egg for the bumper draw please pass to Steve Hookway at your earliest convenience (Tesco's have some great deals on Easter Egg's). Also Heather Lyne would love to hear from you if you are able to make some Easter Cupcakes.

Sunday 23rd April – St. Georges Lunch

Rifle Volunteer (St. Ann's Chapel) – 12.45pm for 1pm Start

Sign up lists will be out soon for our St Georges Meal. The two course meal costing £13 per person will have a choice between Roast Beef or Nut Roast and Desserts choice of Apple Pie, Bread and Butter Pudding, Profiteroles or Ice Cream.

SS Nicholas and Faith Social Committee

Saturday March 18th Concert in Church by Burraton Male Voice Choir 7.30 p.m.

Saturday 1st April 12 noon – 2 p.m. Potatoes and Puds in the Church Rooms. £5

Parish Gift Aid Giving Scheme

St Nicholas and Faith Church has signed up to the Parish Gift Aid Scheme. Forms and information on this scheme are at the back of the church and the Treasurer Chris Cook can also give further information and answer any questions you may have.

A Direct Debit is set up from your bank for the sum you wish to give and you fill in your details stating you wish your contributions to be gift aided. The forms are sent to Gloucester where the scheme is administered centrally on behalf of all churches who are members of the scheme. This does not involve any costs for the giver or the church and the benefit is that the gift aid is paid into the church account each month which helps our cash flow. You can agree to increase your donation each year in line with the inflation rate or keep it at the same level. Bishop Tim has commended this scheme to churches in the Diocese so please think about signing up. Of course all other forms of giving continue as before and are gratefully received.

Pilgrimage from St Germans Priory to St Michaels Mount

A new pilgrimage trail has been developed which visits many small parish churches dedicated to Celtic saints. It also passes holy wells and ancient stone crosses. It is an opportunity to learn more about our rich Christian heritage in Cornwall.

Bishop Christopher Goldsmith, Bishop of St Germans is walking the entire pilgrimage trail starting at St Germans Priory on 31 March at 9am. Coffee, tea and breakfast butties will be served from 8am to fortify the pilgrims before they set off. Details of the pilgrimage can be found in Bishop Chris's letter on the Diocesan website and on the Cornish Celtic Way website at www.cornishcelticway.co.uk

Please come to St Germans to wave the Bishop and pilgrims off on the first stage of their journey or join them to walk all or part of the route. All are welcome.

Other Events

Saturday 18 March at St Endellion Church Dr Will Lamb, Vice-principal Westcott House Cambridge offers insights into the Book of Revelation.

10am – 3pm Saturday 18 March 2017

St Endellion Church Cost £10. Bring picnic lunch

Book with rev.judith@btinternet.com or www.endelienta.org.uk

'Exploring God in dementia: theology, spirituality and personhood'. This Ecumenical and cross agency day conference will take place at the Riverside Conference Centre, Exeter EX4 1DU 10am – 4pm **Thu 11 May 2017**. Further details and booking is available through the following link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/exploring-god-in-dementia-theology-spirituality-and-personhood-tickets-29476451861>

Professor Michelle Brown will offer the Benson Lecture in the Cathedral at 7.30pm on **Tuesday April 18th 2017**. Michelle Brown is Professor of Medieval Manuscript Studies at the School of Advanced Study, University of London was previously (1986-2004) Curator of Illuminated Manuscripts the British Library. In a year when the Diocese of Truro, in particular is thinking about and encouraging Bible study she will speak to her title - 'The materiality of the Bible before the year 1000: formation, translation, illumination, publication' - which will explore aspects of the

manuscript evidence; codification of 'canonical' text; visual exegesis, social function, production and reception. The lecture will begin at 7.30pm and entrance will be £5.

Truro Theological Society has two meetings organised for this year so far. On **Thursday 23rd March 2017** we will welcome Revd Magdalen Smith to speak to her title '**Reclaiming a Prayerful Life: Inspiration for Contemporary Christians**'. The event time is a 7.00pm arrival for a 7.30pm start. The entrance fee is £4 which includes a complimentary glass of wine or juice.

Thursday 18th May with the same timings and entrance requirements and will feature, Professor Christopher Southgate. Chris Southgate is based on the edge of Dartmoor, Devon, England. He works at the University of Exeter as an Associate Professor in Theology and he is probably best known locally as the Principal of the South-West Ministry Training Course. Christ is both a published theologian and poet and will be offering to us his thoughts on his new book exploring 'Divine Glory'.

The Church Times has a new series for PCCs in the *Church Times*. Coming up:

- Mark Tanner gives his top ten tips for a well-functioning PCC meeting
- John Davies looks at the relationship between clergy and PCCs and how to maintain a healthy power balance
- Pat Ashworth outlines five crises that can befall a PCC and how to deal with them

If you're on a PCC yourself (or considering standing for election this year) we hope you'll find the series useful. Those who don't yet subscribe to the *Church Times* can take advantage of the new introductory offer, exclusively for PCC members: £25 for a six-month trial plus a free copy of The PCC Member's Essential Guide. This offer ends on 30 June 2017. It is available online at www.churchtimes.co.uk/pcc.

The deadline for April 2017 is **25 March**
Please send your article to: saltashparishnewsletter@gmail.com
or pop it in to the Team Office.