

Saltash Area Newsletter

May 2025



St Michael Landrake



St Mary Botus Fleming



St Terninus St Erney



SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash



St Stephen Saltash



SS Leonard & Dilpe, Landulph

Love God, Serve People, Make Disciples. www.saltashteamministry.org

“Here I Am, Lord” – Finding Our Place in God’s Work

Dear Friends,

There’s something about spring – about new leaves, bright blossoms, and the birdsong in the early morning – that seems to stir something in the soul. Maybe that’s why Eastertide is such a powerful time to talk about calling.

We don’t always like that word, do we – calling? It can sound heavy, reserved for saints or clergy or those with time to spare. And yet, again and again, God calls the ordinary. The busy. The uncertain. People like you and me.

Sunday 11 May is Vocation Sunday in the church, also known as Good Shepherd Sunday. This month, I want to offer an invitation – but also a challenge. Might God be calling you to serve here as a lay worship leader or lay pastoral minister?

These are roles rooted in presence: leading prayers on a quiet Sunday morning, visiting someone in their loneliness, offering a warm word at the door or reading scripture with care. Ministry, in its truest form, is not about being perfect or pious – it’s about showing up, with a willing heart.

We are the church, a church is not a building, it is a community. Each and

everyone of us has a purpose to fulfil for the life of the church so that the community is worshipping God and being the body of Christ on Earth.

I won’t pretend it’s easy. But there is full training for all roles in the church, the Local Pastoral Ministry course will take place in Saltash in June and July. Saying ‘yes’ often means stepping out of our comfort zone. It might mean giving up a bit of time, plucking up some courage, or confronting that quiet voice inside that says, “Surely not me...” But every person I’ve seen step into these roles has grown – in confidence, in faith, and in joy.

So I ask you to pray. Not just for others to come forward – but for your own heart to be open. If you feel a nudge, even the smallest one, come and talk to me. No pressure, no commitment – just a conversation.

God doesn’t tend to shout. But God does call. And often, the call sounds a lot like this:

*There’s something more you could give.
There’s someone who needs what you already have.*

Dursona,
Rev’d Laura



Saturday 3 May
from 10am
SSNF Church Rooms
Bacon Butties
on May Fair weekend

Monday 12 May
7pm, St Stephen’s Church
MOSSAF
Guided tour: St John’s Hooe

Tuesday 13 May
2pm, St Stephen’s Church
Mothers’ Union

Wednesday 14 May
10am, St Stephen’s Church
Coffee, Cake & Chat

Friday 16 May
Noon
S.T.A.R.T.

Friday 16 May
7pm, St Stephen’s Church
Quiz Night
for Christian Aid

Saturday 17 May
NO Messy Church

Saturday 17 May
7.30pm
St Leonard & St Dilpe
Pelynt & Burraton
Male Voice Choirs

Monday 19 May
2-4pm, SSNF Church Rooms
Craft Afternoon



Would you like to play an active role in our Benefice Lay Ministry Team?



MAY SERVICES

Sunday 4 May

St Michael, Landrake

9.30am Morning Worship

St Stephen-by-Saltash

10am Family Morning Worship

St Leonard & St Dilpe, Landulph

10am Holy Communion

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

10.30am Holy Communion

St Erney, Landrake

11.15am Matins

St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Morning Worship

6.30pm Sung Evensong

Sunday 11 May

St Stephen-by-Saltash

10am Holy Communion

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

10.30am Morning Worship

St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Holy Communion

Sunday 18 May

St Michael, Landrake

9.30am Holy Communion

St Stephen-by-Saltash

10am Morning Worship

6.30pm Evensong

St Leonard & St Dilpe, Landulph

10am Morning Worship

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

10.30am Holy Communion

St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Morning Worship

St Erney, Landrake

6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 25 May

St Michael, Landrake

9.30am Morning Worship

St Stephen-by-Saltash

10am Holy Communion

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

10.30am Morning Worship

St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Morning Worship

Wednesdays 7 and 21 May

St Stephen-by-Saltash

10am Holy Communion

Recent Events

MOSSAF



Our first guest speaker of the year saw Andy Earl, the current Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, deliver a very interesting talk titled 'God's Sense of Humour'. Andy told us that as a youngster, his parents sent him to attend church, morning, afternoon and evening, in fact every service available. As Andy is blessed with a good singing voice, he became part of the choir. However, like many teenagers, Andy drifted away from the church.

When he was 16, he joined the police as a cadet and was a police officer for 33 years, working his way up to Inspector. His experience extended across public order and the vice squad.

Eventually, Andy went back to church, where he was captivated by the incense that filled the pews and this drew Andy back into the fold. He became a reader then Andy's life journey guided him to ordination. Serving his curacy at St Paul's in Barnsley, Andy became titled Rev'd Inspector and served eight years in police chaplaincy alongside his inspector role.

On this 'retirement', Andy joined the Army and served 12 years undertaking tours of duty in Afghanistan, South Sudan, Cyprus and Kenya. After this, he relocated to Cornwall to take the job of Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor. Andy has kept his hand in with the military as a member of the Army Reserve and as Chaplain to the Port and Marine Unit in Plymouth.

After a couple of years Andy progressed to his current role of Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor and is a strong advocate for the core Christian work of loving our neighbour.

Our next meeting is on Monday 12 May when we will be having a guided tour of St John's Hooe.

Prayer for Ascension Day

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus
Christ to have ascended into the heavens, so we in heart
and mind may also ascend and with him continually dwell;
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.



Ascension

by Malcolm Guite

We saw his light break through the cloud of glory
Whilst we were rooted still in time and place
As earth became a part of Heaven's story
And heaven opened to his human face.
We saw him go and yet we were not parted
He took us with him to the heart of things
The heart that broke for all the broken-hearted
Is whole and Heaven-centred now, and sings,
Sings in the strength that rises out of weakness,
Sings through the clouds that veil him from our sight,
Whilst we our selves become his clouds of witness
And sing the waning darkness into light,
His light in us, and ours in him concealed,
Which all creation waits to see revealed.

Have you registered yet?



As a Benefice we are moving across to a computer system called **ChurchSuite**. It'll take some time to be fully integrated but we are starting by asking you to register yourself on the system. The new system is fully compliant with data protection and privacy and will reduce the admin burden on many roles in the Benefice. It will also make communication easier as we'll be able to send you weekly updates.

Please register for churchsuite on our website:
saltashteamministry.org/churchsuite.html

Recent Events continued

Hatt House Easter Egg Hunt

The successful Easter egg hunt at Hatt House raised £500 for St Mary's church and was thoroughly enjoyed by all the 'hunters'. Many thanks to Heugh and Fiona and the Hatt annual Easter egg trail team for their hard work.

Messy Church



At the final Messy Church afternoon (until further notice) held on 12 April, 52 visitors listened to the story of Holy Week, surely one of the most important in the Christian calendar.

The crafts that the children (and adults) produced were to reinforce some of the events and of course had to feature the donkey – ours had wiggly tails! Wonderful pictures of the Garden of Gethsemane were painted onto stones and the tomb was recreated using biscuits and other sweet goodies. Many colourful flags were made, fit to wave at the procession of a king, Our King of Love. Small purses were created from paper to hold coins to remember the Maundy Thursday service when our rulers hand out money to the poor as a gift from the rich. When the children left at the end of the afternoon, those purses contained a chocolate egg to celebrate our Lord's resurrection.

In our worship we remembered that God's love is never ending and is there for all, through the bad and the good times.

I am extremely grateful to all those people who have supported Messy Church throughout the years and also to those who have attended. I thank Rev'd Laura for her kind words and hope that a new venture may continue our service to families in Saltash and surrounding areas.

Sandra McKee

Recent Events continued

Mothers' Union

In the second week of April, Mothers' Union held their Annual General Meeting.

We began as usual with prayers, reaffirming our commitment to service of the Lord.

Our leader, Sandra, read out her report for the year since our last AGM. We have been informed and entertained by various speakers each month and have enjoyed quizzes and social afternoons. Our funding efforts during the year raised £310 towards the summer appeal at our annual cream tea and over £200 for our Diocese charities. Our home-made doves on our tree at the Christmas Festival were well received. We have recently started craft afternoons on the third Monday each month in SS Nicholas and Faith Church to which all are welcome. All are also welcome to our coffee, cake and chat mornings in St Stephen's Church, on the second Wednesday each month.

We thank all those who supported us at our Wave of Prayer Service in September and also our Advent Service. It has been a busy and joyful year supporting our church and family life and also lending our support in the campaign against Domestic Abuse and Gender Violence. We look forward to continuing our service throughout the next year. The following members were elected into the committee for 2025/26: Sandra McKee, Lorna Courtney, Elaine Virgo, Sylvia Maddock, Pauline Hack, Glenda Sollick and Pauline Demeranville.

We meet every second Tuesday of the month at 2pm in St Stephen's Church and a warm welcome awaits any who care to join us.



St Mary's, Botus Fleming

The Ukrainian Flag has been proudly displayed at St Mary's since the beginning of the conflict.

Three years to the day, we had a full church to pay tribute to Finlay Linford. His family kindly gave the floral tribute which was a fitting mark of respect to a well-loved member of the village and focused the following services on the stance of the people of Ukraine.



St Stephen's Easter Fair



A huge thank you to everyone who helped, donated and supported the Easter Fair.

We raised an amazing £1,661.27.

Children's Society Box Opening



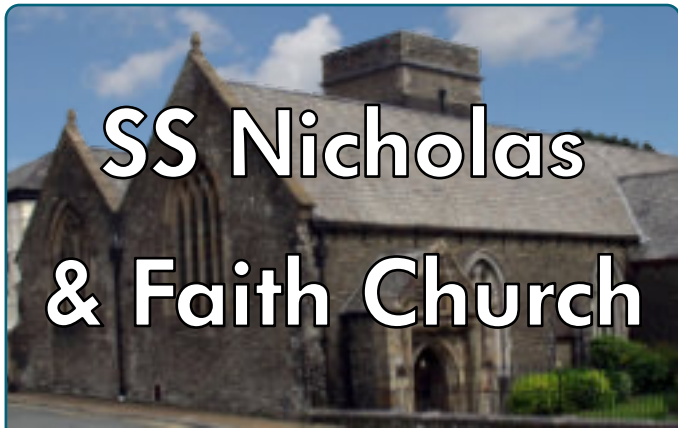
Once again the response to this charity has been amazing and my thanks to the helpers on the day and to everyone who has given money either with boxes or spending at the coffee and bring and buy sale. We are all having to be aware of our finances so the total amount raised of £595.45 is wonderful. Thank you all. *Lesley Batham*

St Stephen's Summer Fair 5 July



As usual, we need raffle prizes and offers from bakers who can cook a cake or two for the cake stall.

We also need bric-à-brac – if you have any, please see John Lissenden or ring him (☎01752 847573) to arrange collection/delivery or, better still, bring to church and leave in the social area.



SS Nicholas & Faith Church

As we move closer to becoming one benefice, I thought it would be interesting to find out a little about the other churches in our benefice – and discover quite how little we know about our own! This month is SS Nicholas & Faith.

1. Where would you find the Coat of Arms of HRH Prince Richard (1209-1272)? (Hint: look up)
2. Where would you find a tudor rose? (Hint: look up)
3. Which is the oldest part of the Church?
4. What religious order of Monks used it as an outpost?
5. Where would you find the Webb tomb?
6. Where would you find a 16th century square window?
7. Prior to the English Reformation of 1529-1536, had the church ever been Excommunicated from the Catholic Church?
8. What part of the building has been demolished and rebuilt?
9. Can you name two of our most notable citizens, who were well connected with the Church? (Hint: look up)
10. In which year was St Faith's Chapel repaired? (Hint: look outside)

Answers on p9

Recent Events continued

What do you think these are?

Rev'd Laura thought they were knee protector pads!

Captain of the SSNF bell tower, David Pitcher, explained at the recent Mothering Sunday service, that they are a set of bell muffles. These will be used when the bells are rung on solemn occasions.



At St Nicholas and St Faith we had six bells refurbished, sponsored, and then rededicated last year.



Then we realised we needed new muffles.

So, a set has been made from leather and dedicated to my mother Peggy Rochford, and sponsored by our family. Peggy had been a worshipper at St Nicholas and St Faith for 30 years and a long and loyal member of the choir. *Angela Payne-Hanlon*



Bishop Cornish Easter Service



There was very little room left at St Stephen's church when the children of Bishop Cornish school and their families filled the church for their Easter Service. Each class shared the Holy Week and Easter story in a range of different ways and sang beautifully at the top of their voices. Rev'd Laura gave an inspiring sermon to finish off a lovely afternoon.

Saltash foodbank

Bank the Food

Point your mobile phone camera at this QR code. Click the link to download the 'Bank the Food' App. This will enable you to see which items Saltash Foodbank needs now!

Make a difference!

Please donate food at Waitrose, Lidl, the Co-op or at the back of St Stephen's or SSNF Churches and/or donate money via the Foodbank website: saltash.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money

Cornwall's Saints and Holy Wells – Part I

by John West

Since my move to Kernow in 1965 I have been fascinated by the abundance of Celtic Saints together with their associated Holy Wells. Water has been one of the necessities of life and in pagan times many springs and wells were also centres for ritual and cures. The saints and preachers bringing Christianity to our shores from Wales, Ireland or Brittany would establish their chapels or hermitages near potable water sources. Where these water sources were already used and revered by the locals the missionaries would bless them and adopt them as part of their new church.

St Piran



The accepted Patron Saint of Kernow and of Tinnars is St Piran; his name in Cornish means *Little dark one* or *black* and his Feast Day falls on 5 March. His banner is a white cross on a field of black – the white represents the tin flowing from the black of our rocks. Alternatively, the white is for good overcoming the black for evil. St Piran, who was possibly Irish, was expelled for teaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ

and his power of healing. Legend tells us that he was tied to a mill stone and tossed into the raging sea which became calm and he floated over to Cornwall; landing on Perran beach. He continued to preach and established a monastery of which he became the abbot. At least three holy wells were dedicated to him and many place names bear his name but spelt Perran. He was fond of a drink and met his demise by falling down a well in c480. He was buried in Perranzabuloe but later exhumed and his relics dispersed to various reliquaries, with Exeter reputedly gaining an arm.

Our county has two other contenders for the title of “Patron” one being St Michael and the other St Petroc.

St Michael



St Michael is the Patron of the Homeless, banking, grocers, police and the “Commander of the Army of God and Protector of the Church”. This saint is the only angel termed “Archangel”. He threw out Angel Lucifer (the Devil) and is revered by other faiths ie Judaism, Islam and Baha’i. Truro has a feast day on

8 May, but the feast day of 29 September (Michaelmas) is reserved for all three of Kernow’s Patron Saints. St Michael may be depicted with a sword, banner or scales to weigh the souls of the dead before consigning them to Heaven or Hell. He also appears vanquishing the Devil who is shown as a dragon.

St Petroc



St Petroc was born in Wales in 468, he landed near Padstow where he founded a monastery and later one in Bodmin (St Petroc’s) along with other churches – some in Devon. Our neighbours also adopted him as a Patron and when he died in 564 his body had several resting places.



One, of note, being the iconic ivory casket still to be admired in his Bodmin church.

Rev'd Canon Richard Maynard



Richard was born, brought up and educated in Saltash. He read theology at King's College, London and completed his pre-ordination training at St Boniface College, Warminster.

Richard and Diana married at St Nicholas and St Faith on 20 April 1965. Throughout their marriage they supported each other as they both pursued their vocations.

On Trinity Sunday 1967, Richard was ordained deacon in Truro Cathedral and in the following year he was ordained priest. He served his first curacy in the parish of St Ives (1967-1971) and a second curacy at Falmouth (1971-1974) before being inducted in 1974 as vicar of the United Benefice of St Germans with Tideford to which Donderry and Hessenford were subsequently added. While at St Germans, Richard was made Rural Dean of East Wivelshire (1981-85) and then an

Honorary Canon of Truro Cathedral in 1982.

In 1985 Richard was appointed Team Rector of Saltash, a newly created team ministry that embraced the parishes of SS Nicholas and Faith and St Stephen by Saltash. He held this appointment until he retired in 2008.

Throughout his ministry, Richard sought to uphold the distinctive understanding of the priestly ministry traditionally held by the Church of England. This is to extend the ministry of the Church to everyone in the community, and not just to minister to a congregation. Thus, Richard entered into many aspects of the life of the town including being chaplain to the Mayor on several occasions, being chaplain to St Barnabas Hospital, Chair of Governors at Bishop Cornish Primary School and a governor at the local comprehensive school. Richard also helped to develop the ecumenical relationships between the clergy and the various denominations in Saltash.

In both of his incumbencies he oversaw major restorations to the fabric of the church buildings, ensured that the liturgical life of the parishes was of the highest order, while his preaching

was informed by a commitment to continuing reading and study of theology that only slowed a few weeks before he died. Richard fostered the vocation to ordained ministry in others and trained curates. Every aspect of his ministry was underpinned by daily prayer and the celebration of the Eucharist.

Beyond all that, the attention Richard gave to his pastoral work at any hour of the day or night, meant that many parishioners, who might never have attended a church, were helped in times of crisis.

In retirement Richard continued to exercise his ministry, for two years as Priest in Charge at St Clether and Laneast and then, assisting the clergy in and around Launceston. He continued to celebrate Holy Communion at least once a month up until a few weeks before he died, peacefully in Launceston Hospital on 1 April. Richard's funeral will take place at Lezant Parish Church on Tuesday 6 May at 2pm. (No flowers by request, but if desired, donations to St Petroc's Trust, Newham Road, Truro TR1 2DP.)

May Richard rest in peace and, with all the faithful departed, rise in glory.



A big thank you for all who visited me, sent get well cards and all your prayers and best wishes during my recent stay in hospital. They were very much appreciated. I am pleased to say that I have had the all clear from the hospital and am on the road to recovery.
Roger Rowse

Archdeacon's Visitation

2 June at 7pm

Our Benefice will be hosting Archdeacon's Visitation. As this time the Visitation is for both East and West Wivelshire Deaneries, it will be a busy night.

We will need food contributions and volunteers from across the Benefice to help set up and clear down so please look out for the sign up sheets.



7 May at 6pm
St Mary's Church

As the important visit of our new Bishop of Truro will be on the last Sunday in June, we will be starting choir practice for the sung Evensong.

All keen singers from all our churches are invited. The success of the Gareth Malone's Messiah proves all talents can be used.
Eric Distin

Bacon Butties

10am to 1pm, Saturday 3 May
St Nicholas & St Faith Church Rooms



Start the day with friends and a
bacon buttie at St Nicks
then visit the May Fair

Coffee, Cake & Chat

Wednesday 14 May and every 2nd Wednesday
10am to 11.30am in St Stephen's Church



QUIZ NIGHT

7pm, Friday, 16 May at St Stephen's Church
£3 per person, max 6 people per team

All proceeds to Christian Aid

Please pre-book using the sumup link:
st-stephen-by-saltash-church.sumupstore.com/



Pelynt & Burraton MV Choirs

7.30pm, Saturday 17 May, St Leonard & St Dilpe

£8 to include refreshments.

Tickets on the door or from Richard Hosking 01752 846873



Craft Afternoon

Monday 19 May and every 3rd Monday
2pm to 4pm in SSNF Church Rooms



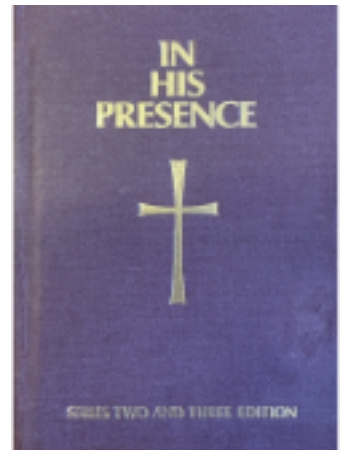
Bring along your current project or start a new one!

From the Archives

Andy Evans

Some time ago I came across a small book, **In His Presence** – Series 2 & 3 Editions from 1973 by the Rev'd Denis E Taylor, a former Dean of Brisbane, Australia.

Last month I covered the first part of the section **What is the Church?** This month I'm covering the next section.



Why is Holy Communion sometimes said and sometimes sung?

Most churches have Holy Communion early, perhaps 7am, 8am or perhaps at 9.30am. The early service is almost sure to be said, quite simple with no singing or sermon. Many churches today have a Parish or Family Communion service, usually about 9am with simple singing and a short sermon and often with breakfast in the church hall afterwards (*you can certainly tell times have changed since this book was written!*), this is excellent because a meal together expresses fellowship which should exist among fellow worshippers symbolised by the way we all kneel together at the altar rails.



Many churches have a choral celebration of the Holy Communion or Sung Eucharist about 11am, when the Liturgy is sung, there are hymns and a sermon. The definition of an Eucharist is "The Great Thanksgiving", that is the emphasis of this service.

Next month we'll move on to the final chapter in this book, comparing the differences in the service of the 1970s and today.

As always I am looking to include all our churches and not just St Nick's in the Archives. If you have any articles you think that would be of interest to add to our Archives, please let me know.

Andy Evans (andy@saltashteamministry.org)

SSNF Church Quiz - Answers

1. Where would you find the Coat of Arms of HRH Prince Richard (1209-1272)?



Answer: Above the North Choir Stalls.

2. Where would you find the tudor rose?



Answer: Above the Baptistry.

3. Which is the oldest part of the Church?

Answer: North East Wall and East Wall of St Faith's chapel (950AD).

4. Which religious order of Monks used it as an outpost?

Answer: The Augustine Monks.

5. Where would you find the Webb tomb?



Answer: South East corner of St Faith's Chapel.

6. Where would you find a 16th century square window?



Answer: South East Wall of St John's Chapel.

7. Prior to the English Reformation of 1529-1536, had the church ever been Excommunicated from the Catholic Church?

Answer: Yes – Excommunicated for the attack on the Monks by the Townsfolk of Saltash (Closed from 1260 to 1420).

8. What part of the building has been demolished and rebuilt?

Answer: St John's Chapel, its original stood where the Church Hall is today.

9. Can you name two of our most notable citizens, who were well connected with the Church?



Answer: Lt Col William P. Drury and Captain Edward Hawkins.

10. In which year was St Faith's Chapel repaired?



Answer: 1689 (plaque above the North East door outside).

Thanks to Andy Evans who provided the quiz. I'm sorry I haven't managed to take better pictures (especially if you're viewing a printed copy in black and white). You'll just have to come along and visit the church.

SS Nicholas & Faith is open for Sunday services (10.30am) and on Tuesdays to Saturdays from noon to 4pm.

Please email articles for the next issue to: newsletter@saltashteamministry.org by 20 May