

The Benefice of St Germans
with Antony and Sheviock

THE MINISTRY TEAM

Sunday Services**1st August, Trinity 9**

10am Holy Communion @ Sheviock
10am Morning Prayer @ DOWDERRY
7pm Sunday Worship on Zoom

8th August, Trinity 10

10am Holy Communion @ The Priory, St Germans
10am Morning Prayer @ Antony
7pm Sunday Worship on Zoom

15th August, Trinity 11 / The Blessed Virgin Mary

10am Holy Communion @ DOWDERRY
10am Holy Communion @ Sheviock
7pm Sunday Worship on Zoom

22nd August, Trinity 12

10am Holy Communion @ Antony
10am Morning Prayer @ The Priory, St Germans
7pm Sunday Worship on Zoom

29th August, Trinity 13

10am Holy Communion @ The Priory, St Germans
7pm Sunday Worship on Zoom

Daily Services:

Monday 7pm on Zoom
Tuesday 10am Holy Communion @ Tideford
Wednesday 10am on Zoom
Thursday 10am Morning Prayer @ Hessenford,
7pm on Zoom
Friday 10am on Zoom
Saturday 7pm on Zoom
Email: Parker30@hotmail.com for the Zoom links

Rector:

Revd Canon Lynn Parker
Tel: 01503 230676
Email:
Parker30@hotmail.com

Curate:

Revd Laura Bushell Hawke
Tel: 01752 851187
Email:
RevLauraBH@gmail.com

Licensed Lay Ministers:

Matt Frost
Susan Irving
Richard Laugharne
Margaret Sylvester-Thorne
David Watters

Ordinand

(Training for Ordination):
Steve Guffick

SAFEGUARDING

Any safeguarding concerns should be passed to the Safeguarding Officer via the Vicarage:
01503 230676

The Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser is:
Sarah Acraman
01872 374351



PM/FB

19 July 2021

Dear friends

You will probably have seen the latest guidance on opening and managing church buildings in this new stage of the pandemic. If not you can access them [here](#).

I want to add a few thoughts of my own on the back of that all, in the interests, I hope, of making this new phase of our life together easier to navigate.

- There's clear stress in the guidance on the incumbent taking decisions. For all that, as a matter of good practice I advise consultation with Churchwardens and PCCs anyway, and with the Archdeacon if needed. I do recognise that this new development puts significant pressure on you in your local decision making so do please share the load with one another and more widely too. We are here to help one another and have a clear responsibility to do so: 'Bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ.'
- Please do bear in mind the needs of the most vulnerable in your decision making, including, of course, any clergy who are vulnerable and shielding. This should certainly affect decisions about wearing masks. We should always ask how we can love our neighbour as we love ourselves.
- Do note the specific guidance on Holy Communion. Again it's important that local decisions are made carefully with appropriate risk assessment. Although the Common Cup is allowed again there is risk of infection in this, and I commend the practice of 'simultaneous administration' that the guidance outlines (NB this is not the same as intinction by communicants which is discouraged).
- I wholly recognise that different places will take different decisions from one another: and that is completely acceptable. Every situation is different and one size does not fit all.
- If your parish is in vacancy, then I advise Wardens to consult with the Rural Dean, or in the absence of a Rural Dean your Archdeacon.
- Don't forget your plans and practices during these last few months. I fear we may well need them again.
- Do please share your ideas of good practice on our Facebook page
- And as ever, 'may' does not mean 'must'.

With my prayers for wisdom for you all, and with my love, in Christ

THE RT REVD PHILIP MOUNSTEPHEN
BISHOP OF TRURO

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Introducing...The Revd Dr Sacha J T Pearce

“All things came into being through Him” says St John’s Prologue (John 1.3 NRSV), weaving an image of life with change as its very essence. This is life coming into its fullness through God’s presence woven deep within human experience. To ‘come into being’ means to grow as a whole person, to discover our true selves, who we really are, and whom God has called us to become. My journey of discovery inspires me to want to nurture that self-awareness in others. I have always thought of life as a pilgrimage through our human experience, our life story as it evolves. Perhaps that’s about growing up or else into our potential.

With Cornish roots in various places in Cornwall, I have a great sense of ‘coming home’ to live here right by the sea. My parents had a house in Mevagissey for a number of years and that was where we would be, out of term time away from school which was latterly in London. I really wasn’t sure what further education was right for me and, while being urged to sit the entrance exam for Oxford, I wanted to take a gap year and pick grapes in France! My family thought this wasn’t a good idea, so I decided to find something that gave me further education, somewhere to live and an income...and so I applied to train as a nurse in central London. My mother had been nurse and it seemed like a ‘waystation’ for me for the time being. So, at the age of 19 I was living in the middle of London within easy walking distance of Covent Garden and St Paul’s Cathedral, and learning a professional skill.

Having qualified and after a few years, I knew there was something else I needed to do and that it was time to go to university to study something else (nursing degrees were only just starting). Having grown up in quite a politically aware household, it seemed that subjects like politics, philosophy and economics would be a broad forum for learning so it was in these subjects that I got my first degree at Reading University. I became interested in political philosophy and war ethics and after graduating had a place for a Master’s in London. However, getting funding was difficult and I returned to nursing rather as before, a place to go in the meantime, and I worked both in London and in Oxford, now specializing in critical care.

Throughout, I continued to go to church on and off. I had sung in a church choir when I was younger and at one point was living and nursing in Oxford, attending a church in London and on the PCC! Quite a few miles to drive sometimes twice a week! I was also considering a different nursing role. However, there was still something more for which I was searching. It took several years for me to respond to the nagging feeling of being called to explore a vocational discernment to priesthood.

At ordination training selection a senior selector said that his first thoughts of me were ‘nurse or priest or both’. This evolution would I thought ‘take more of me, more of the time.’ During the latter years of nursing, I felt I was simply using a pattern of life saving skills, albeit taking care of different people in several contexts. However, I wanted to find a deeper sense of ‘me’ within the whole of my daily life. I also had a thirst to know who people really were, each as a unique person.

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Nursing had taught me many things but I had learnt the name for a thought process I had been following intuitively for most of my life. This is called 'reflective practice' which means to learn from our experiences, a process of insight and self-awareness. It involves re-focussing on an experience, exploring what one can learn from it, and how this may change or develop us in any way. It came naturally to me and I wanted to help other people find that inner space and whatever this discovery may reveal for them.

So, called to ordination, I went back to Oxford, this time to study theology where in many ways in the past I had simply looked over the wall. On the day of my first ordination, now over 21 years ago, I knew that I was stepping out on the journey of the evolving 'me', into a deepening awareness that I had so much more to discover, to learn and become. Each step is far more than travelling but is inner journeying by endeavouring to discern God's footsteps along the changing landscape of our daily experiences. Standing in the south aisle of Salisbury Cathedral, with my white stole over my left arm, as the procession began, I stepped into my life. From deacon and curate, to priest and rural parish incumbent, to hospital chaplain, I have continued to be and am always becoming, in the words of St. Irenaeus, 'fully alive'.

After 10 years in parish ministry, with all its celebrations and challenges, I wanted to spend more time alongside people, hearing their story. I had been encouraged to think I may have been suitable for a more senior clergy role but withdrew from a diocesan appointment during the interview. Such a job would, to me, have been a move away from the coal face, working mostly only with clergy and people of faith! I felt called to something agenda-free or on the edge, being in the middle of people's lives as they experience change or challenge. Many theologians have written about noticing God where people are on the edge. This 'place' is anywhere and everywhere but is the interface of sacred and secular, at the very heart of human experience.

Coming to work again in a hospital was actually a vital step forward because, as a priest, I feel called to be with those who, often unexpectedly, find they wish to be accompanied as they holistically discover something more of themselves. A recent encounter describes my interpretation today of the phrase 'nurse or priest or both'. I was contacted urgently by a member of staff to support their team after a traumatic event in their department. Asked to be among them as they cleared away, I sat with them in the middle of their muddle. As they worked, they talked through what had happened, thinking through how they felt and on many levels considering what they were learning from their experiences, both in head and heart. Familiar with their critical care environment, my two professions came face to face. I knew I had been called to that moment but honoured to be with that team on that day.

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Today as a chaplain my work is an example of 'practical theology' which means in one's context to listen to others, to ourselves and to God, using reflection to learn from our story how to develop our practice. This formed the basis of my doctoral research in reflective practice with healthcare professionals, my most recent period of study! Now, with a colleague, telling the story of our chaplaincy team over the past 10 years, we share our discoveries in a chaplaincy textbook that will be published later this year. These are among the joys and challenges of my on-going, fulfilling and utterly privileged journey. It is this continued openness, a willingness to 'be' and to 'become', to continuously learn, that is the richness of 'being fully alive'. As a friend recently said of me, marriage to my wife Sandra has also been a sense of continuing 'to find myself'.

All I have ever wanted is '*to be*' all that I have ever been called to become.

For Your Prayers

Weddings

7th August at Downterry – Stuart Hammond & Natalia Woods

21st August at St Germans – Lloyd Fisher & Kerri Price

28th August at Hessenford – David Styler & Anita Wallace

Baptisms

1st August at St Germans – Leah Cochrane

8th August at St Germans – Chloe Northcott

29th August at St Germans – Leonard & Ella Craddick

Funerals

We commit to God's keeping:

Pauline Mackie, Karen Rafferty, Antonia Jefferson, Susan Merrick

Notice

1.00pm on 12th August at Tideford, funeral for Susan Merrick.

For those who are unable to get to Tideford, the hearse will start from Sue's house - Colgare - so people can gather there to pay their last respects.

The foodbanks need:

Tinned fruit
 Pasta sauces
 Biscuits or snack bars
 Cereal
 Anti bacterial cleaning spray
 Long life milk
 Rice pudding (tinned)
 Pet food
 Carrier bags

There is a drop off point in the porch of St Nicolas, Donderry. We are now in the school holidays and many families will be facing additional costs to feed their children all day, so please give what you can.



The Children's Society Donations

Sandra Pearce is planning to count the monies you have kindly collected for The Children's Society. Please can you call her on 250798 or email smpearce25@btinternet.com to arrange delivery or collection.

It's nearly time to start planning Christingles again!

St Nic's Lunch Update

Now that we are unlocked, and summer is upon us we hope to start again somehow in September with something.

The current plan is to have a meeting at 11.30 am on Wed 8th September in the Church with a view to understanding what is practical to do in light of the relevant Covid / food /HSE guidelines and to plan for how we can move forward as well as the shape and frequency of future events

Wed 29th September is pencilled as a likely date for 'something', depending on what we agree is possible with Covid 19 at the time. Please let Sandra Pearce know if you would like to attend the meeting on 8th September.

Thank you to Sandra for all her time, effort and energy that she has put into this project. It has taken many phone calls and emails to ascertain a way forward.

Pastoral Team Meetings

The Pastoral Teams across the Benefice have taken advantage of the great weather to meet for afternoon tea in the fresh air. Thank you to Fiona Harvey and Pat Paxton for their generous hospitality. The teams have worked so hard throughout the pandemic, and we are so blessed to have them in the Benefice. If anyone would like to volunteer as a Lay Pastoral Minister please speak to Revd Lynn.





Messy Church

We were delighted to reopen Messy Church in July, our session focused on the Miracles of Jesus. The children engaged in a range of creative activities from mixing their own (non-alcoholic!) cocktails to colouring self-portraits. Revd Lynn then gathered everyone together to read the Feeding of the Five Thousand and we ended with the Messy Grace followed by drinks and cake.

The next Messy Church at St Germans Priory will be **Saturday 4th September**. Sessions will be from 10.00 am until 12 noon. St Germans Priory is large enough to hold several families depending on the COVID restrictions at the time. We will make good use of the outside space (weather permitting) and ask families to bring their own picnic. The aim is not only to learn about Jesus but to have FUN and to encourage fellowship, which is so important to parents in these long holidays!

Messy Church is a form of church for adults and children that involves creativity, celebration and hospitality. It is not a children's church and it is not a way of attracting more people to our regular services. It is a church for people at all stages of their faith journey and of any age. The sessions are basically the same beginning with a welcome followed by craft activities based on a theme then celebration and finally a meal together. Our team of helpers come from both the Anglican and the Methodist churches.

We are always looking for new helpers to provide a pool of ideas and creativity or to help find resources or set up and clear up after sessions. If you would like to help or find out more email reed.evelyn@gmail.com Please spread the word around our parishes about Messy Church especially as lots of new families have moved into our villages in the last year.

DBS Surgery with Revd Laura

Thank you to all who popped in to Landrake Vicarage to complete their DBS and discuss options for Safeguarding training. It was so easy to be able to do it with each person, each of us able to see the same screen and double check details as we went along. Hopefully it was a painless task for those of you who came along, and I think this may be the way forward in the future. We will repeat it the day in the autumn.

A big thank you to George for the delicious coffee and pecan cake!

Lessons the Curate is Learning

They say every day is a school day. This month I have discovered that you should always be careful when naming your new puppy. Hope the Hungarian Vizsla puppy joined us in the Vicarage at the beginning of July and it has become apparent that her name is slightly problematic for a dog belonging to a priest. I have stood in the garden many times, as she is trying to eat the flowers, shouting "NO Hope!". This is probably not something a priest should be hollering. I also spend a lot of time shouting "who has got Hope?", reassuringly someone in the Vicarage always has Hope!

The consensus in the Hawke family is that Hope will keep her name, and at least we didn't call her Faith!



And finally....

Overheard in a Church somewhere in Cornwall...

Child 1: "Daddy, why does mummy say a prayer before her sermon?"

Daddy: "She asks God to help her preach".

After a few moments...

Child 2: "Daddy, why doesn't God help her?"

A joyful heart is good medicine - Proverbs 17: 22

Newsletter Deadline

If you have any articles or information for the September newsletter, please email it to: RevLauraBH@gmail.com by 15 August.

The Benefice of St Germans with Antony and Sheviock

 www.stgermansparishes.com www.achurchnearyou.com



St Germans Church – The Priory