

The Benefice of St Germans  
with Antony and Sheviock

## THE MINISTRY TEAM

**Sunday Services****3<sup>rd</sup> October, Harvest**

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

**10<sup>th</sup> October, Trinity 19**

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

**17<sup>th</sup> October, Trinity 20**

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

**24<sup>th</sup> October, Last after Trinity**

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

**31<sup>st</sup> October, All Saints**

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

**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

***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](mailto:Parker30@hotmail.com) for the Zoom links

### **Presidential Address from Bishop Philip**

Revd Lynn and Revd Laura, along with other Deanery Representatives, attended the Diocesan Synod. This meeting marked the beginning of a new Triennium for Diocesan Synod and Bishop Philip gave a Presidential Address that was very open about the church and important to those Benefices, like ours, that have started the On The Way process. We felt it was important to share this with all of you:

The Bishop of Truro, the Rt Revd Philip Mounstephen, has shared his vision of the Church in Cornwall with a meeting of the diocesan synod, held online this weekend.

“We should be a Church that is confident in its calling,” Bishop Philip told his audience.

In particular he wanted to see the parishes across the county, “Knowing just what they are called to be and to do, which also liberates them from what they are not called to be and to do. Whether that’s to focus on families, or the elderly, or schools, or to embrace in all its fullness one tradition or another; or to serve the poor and those on the margins; or to plant new worshipping communities, or any combination of the above.”

But in his Presidential Address, Bishop Philip said: “I think the parish church today is under real threat.”

The key threats the Church faces are an aging demographic; declining congregations; the burden of maintaining buildings; the failure to engage with missing generations and declining income. Indeed Truro experienced a sharper fall in income during the pandemic than any other diocese in the country.

#### **THREATS WERE NOT THE FAULT OF THE PRESENT CHURCH**

Bishop Philip assured synod members that the threats were not the fault of the present Church. “The forces that have led to this state of affairs have been in play for at least 150 years. This is nothing new even if the pandemic has exacerbated the issues. So I really do not want any of us to feel guilty or anxious about any of this. These are real challenges we must take very seriously. But we are not to blame for them. We live in difficult and challenging times, but it’s no one’s fault that we do so,” he said.

To face those threats, sustainability is really important.

“Yes, we must be visionary, but we must be realistic too, and that must include financial realism,” he said. “We must live within our means and not beyond them.”

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Firstly, “I absolutely believe that mission and ministry in the Cornish context must be holistic: the Church needs to be good news for individuals, communities, society, for Cornwall as a whole and for the planet. So we must address both environmental issues and the deep issues of deprivation and marginalisation Cornwall faces which, with the current housing crisis, are only getting sharper: our churches must be good news for the poor, or they will not be good news at all.”

Secondly, he called on parish churches to be confident in their calling, “and to unashamedly embracing an innovative, pioneering culture. There are plenty of parish churches across the diocese doing exciting innovative things and we must certainly be wary of ever letting ‘parish’ become shorthand for ‘traditional’ and ‘unchanging’: that would be a travesty of the reality.”

**I WANT TO SEE MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ENTER INTO SOME FORM OF RECOGNISED MINISTRY IN OUR CHURCHES**

Thirdly, he reminded the delegates that they must not think that everything depends on the clergy and look to them to do everything. He called on others to step forward. “A key priestly function is to help each member of the body of Christ discern their own calling and to enter into it. I want to see more and more people enter into some form of recognised ministry in our churches. It is not because I don’t value the ministry of those who are already exercising such ministry, such as our Readers or our Local Worship Leaders. Quite the contrary: it’s precisely because I value such ministry that I want to see more of it.”

Bishop Philip concluded by saying: “With God all things are possible. And they are. So I do believe this vision can be our reality; that vision of each and all of our churches being fruitful and sustainable, a beacon of light and life to its local community.”



## Curate's Cake Corner

As a child every October Half Term, my mum would make a cake from her recipe box, it was called Hallowe'en Cake. I don't know why it was allocated to the 31<sup>st</sup> October because there is nothing about it to suggest Hallowe'en unlike Souls Cakes. Despite its name it is still one of my favourite cakes and I have carried on the tradition of making it every October Half Term. I hope you enjoy it too!

### Ingredients:

10oz plain flour  
Half teaspoon salt  
One and half teaspoons ground ginger  
Half teaspoon bicarbonate of soda  
3oz unsalted butter  
3oz soft brown sugar  
3 tablespoons golden syrup  
1 egg, one quarter pint milk  
5oz mixed dried fruit  
1oz preserved ginger

### Fudge Icing:

3oz unsalted butter  
3 tablespoons milk  
1 tablespoon coffee essence  
1lb sieved icing sugar

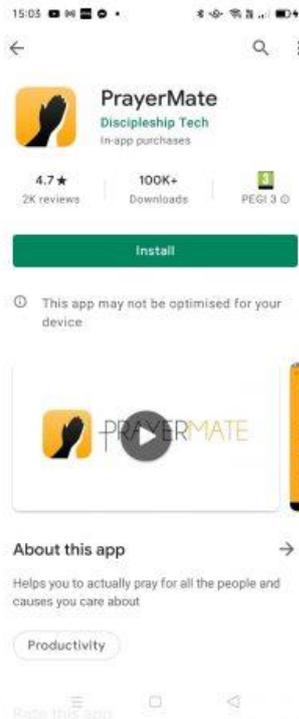
### Decorations:

Giant Chocolate Buttons

### Instructions:

1. Pre-heat oven to 160°C (140 °C fan), line a 7-inch cake tin
2. Sieve the flour and salt into a bowl
3. Add the ginger and bicarbonate of soda
4. Heat the butter and sugar with golden syrup until melted, then cool
5. Beat the egg and milk together
6. Add the fruit to the flour with the chopped ginger
7. Pour in the melted sugar mixture, the egg and milk, stir well
8. Transfer to lined tin
9. Bake in the centre of the oven for approximately 1hr or until firm to touch
10. Cool on wire tray
11. Put butter, milk, coffee into a saucepan and heat until melted
12. Pour mixture over icing sugar and beat until cold and thick
13. Coat cake with icing and add chocolate buttons.

Do you have a favourite November recipe you would like to share? Email it to [RevLauraBH@gmail.com](mailto:RevLauraBH@gmail.com)



## Diocese of Truro Prayer App

You can now download the diocesan Prayer Diary direct to your phone or tablet.

The Diocese of Truro has joined PrayerMate, an app that allows users to download daily prayers that are relevant to them.

The app is simple to use. To make it easier, the Diocese have created a guide for getting you set up. You can access the guide here: <https://trurodiocese.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Installing-and-using-the-Prayer-Mate-App-DOT.pdf>

## St Nic's Harvest Lunch

A big thank you to Sandra Pearce who has worked tirelessly over the last few months to make this event happen. Thank you also to all the volunteers who provided food, helped to serve and clear up, as well as undertake to update their Level 2 Food Safety Certificates at short notice!

It is said if you want to make God laugh, show Him your plans. The original and delicious menu of soup, shepherd's pie and apple crumble had to be abandoned when the kitchen electrics failed an hour before our guests were due. Some very quick thinking from the team enabled the event to go ahead and we were able to offer a Ploughman's type cold collation with tea and coffee. A good number of people enjoyed the lunch and company, and everyone was very understanding of the sudden menu change.

Keep your eyes on the newsletter for details of future lunches.

## 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 01503 250798 or email [smpearce25@btinternet.com](mailto:smpearce25@btinternet.com) to arrange delivery or collection.

Christingle planning is already underway, as this is a big fundraiser for the Children's Society please do make sure you have money boxes emptied and ready to go again!

# At the heart of Christmas



'At the heart of Christmas' is the Church of England's theme for Advent and Christmas 2021. Local churches all over the country will be welcoming their communities – onsite and online – to celebrate and share the good news of Christ's birth with special services and events, supported by a wide range of national resources and support.

In 2020, many of us experienced a Christmas when so many of the ways we traditionally mark the season were suddenly denied to us. This year, of course, we hope and pray that many of the familiar experiences that help Christmas come alive return to our homes, our churches and communities. But whatever else December brings, it will offer us an opportunity to enter more deeply into the joyful mystery that lies at its heart: God becoming human in the birth of Jesus Christ.

Inspired by readings from the Gospels of Luke and John read at so many Christmas services, At the heart of Christmas is an invitation to everyone to discover – or rediscover – the good news of God's saving love as revealed in the birth of Jesus. It is also a challenge to each of us to ponder in our hearts – as Mary did – what the extraordinary events of the first Christmas might mean for us now and in the years ahead.

At the heart of Christmas is a deliberately simple and open theme – one that can be used to invite our communities to share in celebrating the good news of Christmas in a whole variety of ways, whatever the prevailing circumstances.

**Reflections:** There will be 12 Stories and Meditations from Justin Welby, Stephen Cottrell and guests where they will share personal stories exploring themes close to the heart of Christmas. Starting on Christmas Eve and continuing daily (Monday to Saturday) until the Epiphany (6 January), these reflections will help you make space for that exploration. On each of the twelve days, a different contributor will share something that lies close to the heart of Christmas for them, bringing the theme to life through a mixture of personal story, Bible reading, reflection and questions to ponder. These reflections will be available via the app and a Church House Publishing Booklet.

**National Online Services:** In collaboration with a range of Christian charities and organisations, there will be online services for the Sundays of Advent and Christmas. They will all be broadcast on the Church of England's YouTube channel and Facebook page.



### Messy Church

The next Messy Church at St Germans Priory will be **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** from 10.00 am until 12 noon.

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](mailto: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.

The foodbanks have recently requested:

- Tinned potatoes
- Tinned tuna
- Biscuits or snack bars
- Deodorant
- Anti bacterial cleaning spray
- Long life milk
- Laundry detergent
- Washing up liquid
- Toilet rolls

There is a drop off point in the porch of St Nicolas, Donderry.

They are also requesting volunteer drivers and helpers for the Foodbank in Torpoint, Please contact Anne or Sharon on 01579 343742 for more information.



**And finally....**

Several years ago a Yorkshire couple decided to go to the South of France to thaw out during a particularly icy winter. They planned to stay at the same hotel where they spent their honeymoon 30 years earlier. Because of their hectic lives, it was difficult for the couple to travel together. So the husband left Yorkshire and flew to France on Thursday, while his wife planned to fly the following day.

The husband checked into the hotel. There was a computer in his room, so he decided to send an email to his wife. However, he accidentally left out one letter of her email address, and sent the email without realising his error.

Meanwhile, somewhere in Cambridge, a widow had just returned home from her husband's funeral. He was a Priest who was called home to glory following a heart attack. The widow decided to check her email, expecting condolence messages from family and friends.

But after reading her very first email, she screamed and fainted. The widow's son rushed into the room, found his mother on the floor, and saw the computer screen which read:

**To:** My Loving Wife

**Subject:** I've Just Arrived Today.

I know you're surprised to hear from me. They have computers here now and you are allowed to send emails to your loved ones. Since I've just arrived, I thought I would send you an email.

Everything has been prepared for your arrival tomorrow. Looking forward to seeing you then! Hope your journey is as uneventful as mine was.

P. S. It's rather hot down here!!!

A joyful heart is good medicine - Proverbs 17: 22

**Newsletter Deadline**

If you have any articles or information for the November newsletter, please email it to: [RevLauraBH@gmail.com](mailto:RevLauraBH@gmail.com) by 20 October.

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 [www.stgermansparishes.com](http://www.stgermansparishes.com) [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)



St Germans Church – The Priory