

Saltash Team Newsletter



Message from Rev Cathy Sigrist, Priest-in-Charge

“Discovering God’s Kingdom, Growing the Church”

Dear Friends,

Easter will soon be upon us – where is this year going?

As I write this, we have entered Passiontide – and continue our time of waiting as we journey towards the sadness of Good Friday and then – just three days later – the joy of the Risen Christ on Easter Sunday.

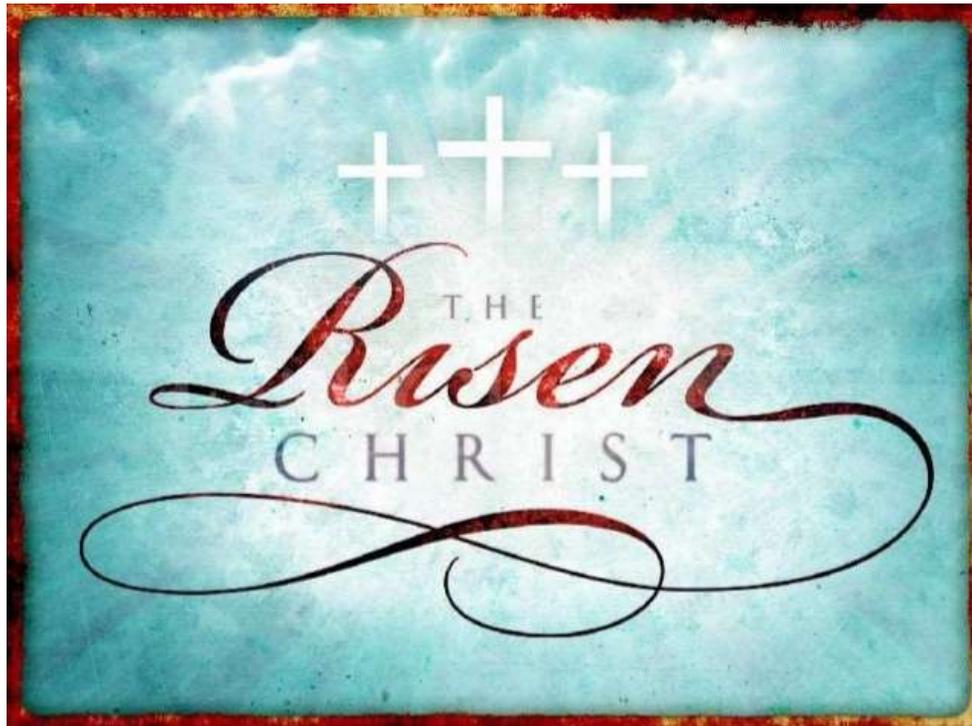
Sometimes, things are not what they seem to be at first. What looked like a certain end on Good Friday, turned out instead to be a new beginning, holding a promise not just for one but for all; and across the centuries countless people have experienced the full wonder of that promise for themselves.

We are all on journeys and even though we may never have been to the Holy Land, all of us have experienced walking along the road to Emmaus. It was along this same road that two very despondent Disciples were heading away from Jerusalem because they had recently seen their Lord and Saviour crucified, and they believed that that was the end. Even when Jesus joined them and walked alongside them, they didn’t recognise him at first.

But when Jesus met the two disciples on the road to Emmaus He helped them to share their story so that it mingled with his. He drew it out of them, and then illuminated it with his own story. It is by accepting the dark side of our stories that we learn what God’s grace and love are all about and in the end it is only the Christ story – glory achieved through suffering and death – that helps us to make sense of our own story.

We are all familiar with that road, although we may not immediately recognise it – just as the disciples did not recognise Jesus at first. The road to Emmaus represents the road of disappointment, failure, sorrow, grief, and shattered dreams.

It isn't our nature to look for God in pain. We expect to find him only in joy. But this was the great discovery the two disciples made on their journey to Emmaus. It gave a meaning to suffering. A meaning to our pain doesn't remove it, but it changes our attitude to it. It enabled the Disciples to turn their lives around. They were going away from Jerusalem because they had lost faith. But after encountering Jesus, they returned to Jerusalem and they resumed their discipleship and their ties with the community. An encounter with Jesus is not meant to foster evasion of responsibility, but to encourage commitment.



The "Good News" is that the risen Christ is always with us wherever we journey, even though like the disciples who did not recognise our risen Lord, we too may not recognise Him. But, He is so close to us that our stories merge with his. I am the Alpha and the Omega says the Lord God and the first and last words in each of our stories belong to God. The resurrection of Christ opens all our stories to the prospect, not just of a happy ending, but of a glorious ending. So Every blessing to everyone during this Easter time as we continue our journey and travel towards Pentecost, knowing that Christ is with us every step that we take.

Yours in Christ

Cathy

Saltash Team Ministry Mothers' Union

At our meeting on the second Tuesday in March, the Mothers Union welcomed the Rev Cathy Sigrist to talk with us. Rev Cathy explained how she had become disillusioned with Corporate life - feeling that there could be so much more. Thanks to some previously little known neighbours, Cathy began to attend regular church services and progressed through "helping out" to become a Church Warden and eventually was accepted into college to become a Vicar. Cathy has spent time in the Canterbury Diocese and had her own parish near Folkestone before arriving in Saltash. Since last December she has been busy in the Saltash Team Ministry and is a welcome member of the Mothers Union.

On the 23rd March members travelled to Menheniot to meet Lynne Temby the Worldwide President of Mothers Union.

On the 25th March we attended the Lady Day Service at Truro Cathedral, where the banners from St Nicholas and St Stephens churches were paraded.

On Tuesday 11th April we hold our AGM

Messy Church

In March, the theme for Messy Church was 'A Mothers Love'.

34 children and 29 parents/grandparents attended and had a fun filled afternoon.

We made Mothering Sunday Cards, put Moses in his basket, made woven love baskets, and decorated the noticeboard with 'A Garden of Love'. This busy time was followed by a service conducted by the Rev Mitchell, after which everybody filled their plates with great food provided by the kitchen team.

Both the Kitchen Team and the craft helpers would welcome offers of help to make sure that the younger generation of our church are kept aware of the stories of the bible and the love of Jesus.

Please see Sandra if you feel able to join us once a month on a Saturday afternoon at 3 pm.

At the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church meeting of the above parish held on Monday 13th March 2017

The following were elected as Churchwardens:

Mr Barry Jones & Mr George Hawke

The following were elected as Lay Members of the Deanery Synod

Mr George Hawke, Mr Brenton Blandford, Mrs Catherine Blandford

The following were elected as Lay Members of the Parochial Church Council

Mrs Lesley Batham, Mr Tony Dell, Mrs Margaret Dell, Mrs Margaret Gwynn

Mr Steve Hookway Mrs Julie Mansell, Mr Mike McKee. Mrs Barbara Reid

Mr G Richards, Mr John West, Mrs Mary Wills, Mr Ray Wills,

Co-opted Safeguarding officers: Mr Len Maddock. Children.

Mrs Laura Bushell Hawke, Adults

*Gordon Richards
Parochial Church Secretary*

QUIZ NIGHT AT ST STEPHENS

Friday 12th May 7pm for 7.30

In aid of Christian Aid

*If you wish to enter a team please email: gordon.richards0@btinternet.com or
Telephone/text 07801763103*

Teams of 6 max. £5 per team (Bring your own refreshments including drink)

TEAM MINISTRY LIBRARY

Did you know that at the back of SS Nicholas and Faith church, near the font, there are 4 shelves of books of a religious nature? Fiction, non fiction, prayer books, biographies, poetry, uplifting books, amusing books - all sorts in fact. Please feel to browse, borrow and take home. No time limit and they're FREE. So please help yourselves.

Childrens Society

Many thanks for all who had their box opened on Saturday 4 March and those who came for a coffee. So far this year we raised £446.50 and there are still a couple of boxes to be opened. Many thanks to the people who help me with coffee and counting and banking the money. Also thanks to a couple of people who always attend and give donations. Just a thought for the coming year to be aware of the new pound coins coming out in May and the old ones going out of circulation October as the boxes will not be opened till next year. Many thanks, Lesley Batham

Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

St Stephen's can be found on all of these social media platforms, please make sure you like and follow us. The more you like and share the images and information the more people who will know about the work we do.

SS Nicholas and Faith can also be found on Facebook, we currently have 15 likes so please make sure you find the page, like it and share it. Thanks!

START is a club for men who meet on a Christian basis on the 3rd. Friday each month. The title stands for :- Spending Time And Relaxing Together.

We normally lunch in a pub before either making a visit to some attraction or assembling at Wesley for a talk and cup of tea or coffee (see attached program planned for 2017). We would be pleased to welcome some new members and can arrange for lifts; so how about join our fellowship. For further info. please speak to John West or any of our existing members.

Date	Organiser	Event
Apr 21	W. Ryan	Talk on Muhammad Ali
May 19	R. Cartwright	Visit to Lukelands, near Ivybridge
Jun 16	A. Butcher	Visit to the Garden House, Buckland Monachorum
Jul 21	D. Lambourne	Bowling
Aug 18	J. Watson/A. Otter	Croquet at Cotehele
Sep 15	W. Ryan	Ashburton to Totnes Railway

Accompanied Ministry Development

On Saturday 22nd April, from 10.00 am – 12.00 noon, Bishop Chris will be visiting us to outline the new Accompanied Ministry Development programme that we will be using to help us to develop our ministry and mission within the Saltash parishes.

This is an important meeting and I would like to encourage as many as possible to be part of the discussions as we try to discern the vision for our future ministry and what God is calling us to do.

Venue to be confirmed, but please do put the date in your diary. Your views are very important to the future of the parishes so please do come along, if at all possible.

Every blessing

Cathy

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH SOCIAL COMMITTEE

A big thank you to all who supported our Table Top Sale last month which raised £439.15. Thanks also to Gordon Richards and team, who held yet another enjoyable Pancakes on Shrove Tuesday afternoon, which raised a further £138.00.

Sunday 23rd April – St. Georges Lunch Rifle Volunteer (St. Ann's Chapel) – 12.45pm for 1pm Start

A Sign up list is now at the back of our Church for our St Georges Meal. The two course meal costs £13 per person. Menu is Roast Beef or Nut Roast and Desserts choice of Apple Pie, Bread and Butter Pudding, Profiteroles or Ice Cream. For further details and payment (by 16th April please) see John Petherbridge.

Saturday 29th April – Saltash May Fair 10am to 4pm

We will have two fundraising stalls at this year's May Fair. This again will be taking place at Fore Street and Longstone Park (where are stalls will be located). If you are able to help run our fundraising stalls in Longstone Park or help with set up or close down then please see Steve Hookway.

Loveny Male Voice Choir – Friday 19th May

We are delighted to welcome the back the fantastic voices of the Loveny Male Voice Choir to our church. Tickets cost £5 each and are available now from Steve Hookway/Roger Rowse following Sunday Morning Services and John Petherbridge following Wednesday Morning Services they are also available from Piglets Fore Street, Phone Roger Rowse on 843766 or you can pay on the night. Doors open 6.45 for 7.30pm start.

Other Events

'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'. The lecture will begin at 7.30pm and entrance will be £5.

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. Chris 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*.

If you're on a PCC 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.

Holy Week in Saltash

Maundy Thursday

7.30pm St Nicholas and St Faith

Good Friday

9am The Sacrament for Good Friday at St Nicholas and St Faith

10am Saltash Wesley Methodist Church with Walk of Witness to
Saltash Baptist Church

2pm 'At the foot of the Cross' at St Stephen's

Holy Saturday

3pm Messy Church at St Stephen's

Easter Day

6am Dawn Service at the Celtic Cross with breakfast at
St Nicholas and St Faith

10am Holy Communion at St Stephen's

Holy Communion at St Nicholas and St Faith

6.30pm Prayer and Praise at St Stephen's



The deadline for the June 2017 edition is **19 May**
Please send your article to: saltashparishnewsletter@gmail.com
or pop it in to the Team Office.