

# Saltash Team Newsletter



## Message from Rev Cathy Sigrist, Priest-in-Charge

I would just like to say a huge “thank you” to everyone for your welcome to Cornwall. I have been overwhelmed by the number of cards, the welcome pack, the flowers and help that I have received during my first two weeks here – thank you. And, another thank you to everyone who contributed towards making my licensing service such an enjoyable and wonderful beginning to my ministry here – it couldn’t have been better.

I am really looking forward to working with everyone in the parishes and will try to come and visit everyone. It may take a while so please be patient with me. However, if you have anything that you would like to discuss with me, please please do pick up the phone and we can arrange to meet.

In the meantime, it just remains for me to wish everyone a blessed Advent and Christmas and a Happy New year.

Yours in Christ  
Cathy





Congratulations and thank you to all those involved with the illuminated cross for the top of the tower at St Stephen's. It was truly an ecumenical event to get it in position! It's visible for miles and many have commented on the 'floating' cross.

### **Empowering Communities Event On 9th November**

8 intrepid Lay Pastoral Ministers (LPMs) from St Nicholas + St Faith and St. Stephen's churches, boarded a Hopper bus to the Eden Project, to attend an Empowering Communities Event, bringing together different agencies and LPMs. After Bishop Tim introduced the day, it was down to the tables of volunteers, full of coffee and giant chocolate chip biscuits, to listen to speakers and then contribute to the proceedings. We had presentations from agencies including AGE UK, the lead Street Pastor from Truro, Volunteer Cornwall and Cornwall Council.

All interesting and doing great things, although they all highlighted yet again the same sad stories of poor housing, poverty, drug and alcohol abuse, loneliness, depression and suicides. The statistics are sad and grim. On a much more positive note, we were asked to write down as much about our location as possible, as if selling the area to someone thinking of moving to, in our case, Saltash. We filled a WHOLE flip chart page of all the advantages of living in Saltash and managed to sell it as THE place to be in the Diocese! Although there was a lighthearted attitude to winning this part of the day, it made the LPMs think in depth about what exactly is on offer in our town.

There is of course a lot going on and those who are fit and healthy can access these activities, groups or clubs and Churches easily if they wish to. However for those not so active, struggling, bereaved or lonely, it is our role as LPMs to support our overstretched clergy in helping those in need for whatever reason. On the way back, full of doorstep sandwiches and fruit, we felt the day had been more of a recruitment drive to encourage increased volunteering and befriending (nothing wrong in that)! But as LPMs we needed something more in line with supporting our team clergy, in caring for the spiritual and general well being of those made known to them.

Bev Nickson

## St. Stephen's Church

### Thanks & Results

Thanks to all who helped and supported our events during the very busy month of November. The local community really came out in force to support us and it was great to see our Church buzzing. Big thanks to the lads from Ocean City Sound who performed Christmas Carols and Songs during the Christmas Shopping Evening and made the evening a memorable one. The amounts raised are as follows: November Fair - £2233.57 & Christmas Shopping Evening £844.42.



Last week we also held a Christmas Concert by the Polperro Fishermen's Choir which raised a further £509.66. A great night of festive favourites and traditional carols was had. Thanks to our very own talented Claire Fry and Darren Jane who performed some Christmas numbers while the Choir gave their vocals a rest and a special mention to Adrian Wilton from the Choir who had us all laughing away with his very funny jokes. All in all a superb evening!

### Messy Church Christingle



**From Barry Jones, Churchwarden:**

Now that Rev Cathy has been licensed I feel that I must thank many people for keeping the parishes operating so well for the last 12 months. To name but a few Jo, Pam, Di, Gordon, Brian, Patrick, Michelle, Lesley, Brenton and Laura.

Rev Jo has been off sick for part of the year (get well soon Jo) but we rely on her experience. I feel Jo was left in an unenviable position when Alan Butler and John Jukes left.

I don't think people realise how much work the Revs Pam and Di put into the life of the parishes. We cannot thank Pam enough for organising all of the funerals and funeral visits as well as co-ordinating all the Baptisms and for Di for arranging all the weddings. When you think that none of these people live in the parishes and that two of them are basically volunteers who also work you realise how we are dependent on them. All of this in addition to doing the regular Sunday Services.

At St Stephen's I would like to thank Revs Gordon, Brian and Patrick for keeping our Wednesday morning services going so well and also for leading Evensong and Brian thank you for 8am communion services (after you have walked the dog). Thank you to Lesley and Brenton for your sermons and to our newest recruit Laura, who completed the Local Worship Leader's course in August.

**The Longest Night**  
*Wednesday 21st December 7.30-8.30pm*

**A quiet and reflective service for anyone who isn't looking forward to the prospect of Christmas, for whatever reason.**

*A time to sit with grief and lament, a place of quiet in the busyness of the Christmas season, seeking Jesus as the light that brings hope and healing in the darkness.*

*All welcome. With prayer time and mulled wine following.*

**Mutley BAPTIST CHURCH**

**Who is this for?**  
Do you know people who may be on their own this Christmas, or for families whom Christmas is going to be a lonely time?  
Could you email us and we can send them a personalised invitation for the day.

**What is happening?**  
The Church will be having its service at 10am.  
The Christmas Day Party will start at 12noon and we will have a Turkey Buffet Meal, along with games and songs.  
We will finish the day at 3pm.

**Christmas Day Meal 2016**

**What can I do?**

- Let us know who we can invite
- Contact us if you can provide any food and we will send a list of items needed
- Contact us if you know any company that might want to provide some gifts for those attending or to sponsor
- Let us know if you want to help

**Contact us:**  
01752 849948  
info@saltashbaptist.co.uk  
@SaltashBaptist  
Culver Road  
Saltash  
PL12 4DR

**Saltash Baptist Church**  
*A Light for Christ*

## MESSY CHURCH

In November 48 children and their parents attended Messy Church and crafted their own Christingles which were used in the Service, led by Rev Michelle Parkman. It was very moving to see the children's faces when the candles were lit to announce Jesus' light to the world. The children also made crosses to decorate their tree in the Festival held at SS Nicholas & Faith Church. There was also time to colour and place angels on the noticeboard at the west end of our Church which has made a glorious display for the Christmas period. It was a very busy afternoon which all enjoyed. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped with this session and all the others throughout the year and made such a success of bringing people into our Church.

## MOTHERS' UNION REPORT

Many thanks are extended to Rev. Brian Anderson who came to the Mothers' Union meeting in November and entertained our members with stories and information about his years as part of the Church of England Children's Society. We thoroughly enjoyed our afternoon.

On December 13<sup>th</sup> Rev. Gordon Cryer will lead us in our Advent Service at St Stephen's Church, beginning at 2 pm. We invite all Church members and friends to join us and we shall be serving mince pies and tea afterwards.

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017 we will welcome Mr. B. Brown who will talk to us about the Cornish Language.

### Saturday Praise

Coffee, Cake and Christian Songs! Saturday Praise is on **Saturday 28 January at 3pm** in the West End of St Stephen's Church. We start and end with refreshments. This is an informal café style service with reflections and worship songs.

**Just a few of the trees from the SS Nicholas and Faith 10th Christmas Tree Festival.**



# **SALTASH TEAM MINISTRY CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2016**

**St Stephen by Saltash  
and  
SS Nicholas & Faith Parish Churches**

**11 Dec Third Sunday in Advent**

10.00 am Christingle Service at St Stephen's Church

**18 Dec Fourth Sunday in Advent**

6.30 pm Nine Lessons and Carols at St Stephen's Church

**24 Dec Christmas Eve**

4.00 pm Crib Service at St Stephen's Church

4.00 pm Crib Service at SS Nicholas & Faith Church

11.00 pm Midnight Mass at SS Nicholas & Faith Church

11.30 pm Midnight Mass at St Stephen's Church

**25 Dec Christmas Day**

10.00 am Holy Communion with Carols at St Stephen's Church

10.00 am Holy Communion with Carols at SS Nicholas & Faith Church

**26 Dec St Stephen's Day**

10.00 am Patronal Eucharist at St Stephen's Church

**Welcome one and all**

The deadline for the first edition of 2017 is 29 January to be published on 5 February.

Please send your article to: [saltashparishnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:saltashparishnewsletter@gmail.com)  
or pop it in to the Team Office.