

saltash Team Newsletter

June 2016

Message from the Team Vicar.:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

As you will all be aware by now, I am currently needing to take time off from ministry duties due to cardiac health issues, which have got significantly worse over the past year or so. I had no other option than to adhere to medical advice and stop working for a period of time.



I wish to express my sincere thanks for your prayerful support, and also thanks to all who have sent cards, letters, gifts, etc and have visited during these past weeks, it is so very much appreciated.

I miss being with you, but prayerfully hold you in my prayers.
I look forward to being with you again in due course.

Yours in Christ
Revd Jo

*The Revd Josephine M Lobb
Team Vicar- Part time
Saltash Team Ministry*

Recruitment for: OVERSIGHT MINISTRY (PRIEST IN CHARGE) IN 'WIDER SALTASH' (THE PARISHES OF SALTASH, ST STEPHEN-BY-SALTASH, LANDRAKE WITH ST ERNEY, AND BOTUS FLEMING)

Many have asked what is happening about the recruitment for our vacancy. The PCCs have arranged for a new advert to be placed in the Church Times, this runs for two weeks from 27 May 2016. The vacancy, revamped parish profile and statement of needs are all available on the Diocese website, they can be seen on www.trurodiocese.org.uk/about-us/vacancies

This link has also been shared on the St Stephen's Facebook page and Twitter account. At the time of writing (24hrs after the link has been live) the link on the Facebook page has been seen by 763 people! So please keep sharing our posts with your Facebook friends.

This has been an expensive and time consuming process. Thanks go to George Hawke, Sarah Adkins and Rick Cowdery for all of their help and patience.

Please pray to God for growth in our Churches.

THE CHARITY FEET FIRST, WORLDWIDE

Margaret Evans writes: Following a presentation in SS Nicholas and Faith church Rooms on Friday 6th May, we learnt how poor a Country Malawi is, and what Consultant Surgeon Steve Mannion and his team endeavour to do for the people there. Many are born with Club Feet, and after surgery are able to walk normally. One poor man was actually walking on his knees because he could not walk normally, now he has had both feet corrected and can walk normally. This make such a difference to the lives of these people. It is not only club feet that the team correct, sometimes it is injuries from land mines, or perhaps TB of the spine, or Cancer tumours in the limbs causing a great deal of pain. Doctors are being taught by the team that goes out from Blackpool, but are not experienced enough to deal with all these problems.

We at SS Nicholas and Faith have a link with All Saints Cathedral, Malawi, and are contact with The Dean of the Cathedral. Clive Chenery, son of Mrs. Isabelle Chenery introduced us to this Charity and the Dean of the Cathedral and we would like to do all we can to support them.

A Head master from one of the Primary Schools also goes out with the team, and talks to the schools etc out there. Education is very important to the young people because it means that they can go forward with their lives. The schools have very little in the way of equipment, in fact the students do not have chairs to sit on or desks, and if given a pencil it means a lot to them. To this end we are appealing for gifts of new pencils and chinks so that they can be taken out at the end of June when the team goes out again.

Hopefully in the not too distant future we will be arranging a Coffee Morning/Evening in support of this Charity. If anyone would like to know a bit more of this work I have a CD which can be borrowed. I hope to be able to give you a further update soon.

SS Nicholas and Faith Social Committee

In celebration of The Queen's 90th Birthday we will be hold an exhibition on the Royal Family during July and August. If you have items of memorabilia of the Royal Family, could you bring them along to the church please on **Saturday July 2nd** from 10 a.m. It doesn't matter what it is, books, mugs, tea towels etc., it would be much appreciated.

Churches Together in Cornwall

There is a Day Conference at Saltash Baptist church on **Monday 20th June** starting at 10am. Volunteers, both from the Saltash Churches Together Executive and from around the churches are needed help out on the day. The day starts with worship with Bishop Tim Thornton and topics of the day include Waiting on God The Holy Spirit, Pastoral Care & Dementia, Youth Ministry: Reaching our Children and Teens and Equipping Worship Leaders.

If you can help please contact Rev Tom Osborne:
email: tom.osborne@methodist.org.uk or Tel: 01752 844169

Also available online: www.saltashteamministry.org

A Visit to the Coptic Church

A couple of Sundays ago (appropriately, on the Day of Pentecost), I decided to visit the Coptic Orthodox church of St Mary and St George. You may have seen it, just beyond Derriford Hospital. The Copts are a significant and often persecuted Christian minority in Egypt. They speak mainly Arabic, but the Coptic language- now no longer used in everyday speech- is still used in the liturgy.

I was made welcome by the priest and deacons. The sixty or so congregation were mainly from Ethiopia and Eritrea, as well as from Egypt. Men and boys sat on one side, women and girls on the other. Everyone took their shoes off, especially for the eucharist, and most of the women and girls covered their heads with a white covering. There were vividly coloured paintings around the altar area, which was closed off much as our church would have been before the Reformation.

The service, which lasted for three hours, was mainly in English, but with parts in Coptic, Greek and Arabic. The service was chanted throughout, often to the sound of cymbals. After a while, I got used to the rhythm and I hardly noticed it. Many spread out their arms to pray. The words and form of the liturgy were recognisably similar to our own service of holy communion- not just the creed, but many of the responses (Kyrie eleison included!), the Peace and the preparation before and after the Gospel reading. Just think St Nick's, but much more so... the Gospel was carried right round the church, and the incense was so thick it was not always easy to see.

Everybody took communion, even the youngest children. The bread was broken from a large loaf, and people held a small towel to catch crumbs. The wine was sipped from a spoon. At the end, everyone (especially the children) finished off the loaf!

Although the service was long, and not broken up by hymns (there was a short sermon in English with Arabic asides), it was so absorbing that it did not seem as long as it was- except that the congregation stood for most of it. People came and went, and at the end had a shared meal. Overall, my strong impression is that it was not the individual prayers or readings that were meaningful to the congregation- many were read rapidly- but the overall experience of the whole service.

Although I went on the Day of Pentecost, the Orthodox calendar does not match ours. They had just celebrated Easter Day on 1st May. But, as the priest reminded us, there is a mini-Easter every 29th of the (Coptic) month.

It was a lovely experience to share holy communion in a tradition so different yet so similar. I said there were no hymns: after the eucharist, though, everyone joined in a reliving of the Eater story in over thirty verses, with the refrain (to the sound of cymbals):

*Resurrection is my song
Resurrection gave me life
Resurrection makes me strong
Jesus my Lord is alive!*

David Pitcher

Rev John Jukes' Licencing in Telford

Our former Curate, Rev John Jukes has been licensed as the Team Vicar in his new parish. The service was held at St Leonard's in Malinsee. A number of familiar faces from Saltash travelled to Telford to support Rev John and Denise at this service. Here they are pictured with The Bishop of Shrewsbury: The Rt Revd Mark Rylands.



Issy Hawke went along with her family to represent Bishop Cornish School. Rev John and Denise are well known to the school through assemblies and Open the Book.

We were also delighted to catch up Rev Alan Butler and Alison, who were a little bit jet legged having docked in Southampton that morning, on their cruise from New York!

Tea and Toast

Every third Tuesday of the month Mothers Union invite you to Tea and Toast at St Stephen's Church from 0930-1130am. Please bring along friends, children and come and make friends. We will be pleased to welcome you.

Messy Church

Messy Church in May was again well attended. Our valued volunteers helped the families to celebrate Pentecost with many crafts to demonstrate how the gifts of the Holy Spirit which were given to the disciples came with a rushing of wind and flame of fire.

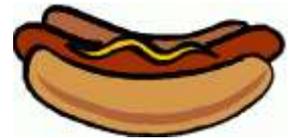
Everyone especially enjoyed the delicious toasted marshmallows from the flames in the porch. Along with the service, these crafts enabled the children to understand the story from the Gospel. The kitchen ladies provided their usual tasty spread, so that eighty people went home satisfied in body and soul.

Next Messy Church: Sat 18 June at 3pm, the theme is Father's Day

What's going on at St Stephen's Church?

Quite a lot is the answer!

Notices from the Social Committee



Summer BBQ – To the Sounds of Saltash Town Band and Saltash Junior Band Friday 24th June - 7.00pm Start

On the grounds of our Church, we are holding a Summer BBQ, Which 2nd Saltash Scout Group will be running. Whilst enjoying our food Saltash Town Band & Saltash Junior Band will be playing. Tickets cost £5 each or you can purchase a family ticket for £12. Burgers, Chicken, Sausages and a Salad Bar will be available. Please purchase your tickets up front so we know how many to cater for. These can be obtained following Wednesday or Sunday Morning Services, listen out in the notices to know who to approach or contact Steve Hookway. On the night please bring your own seat and choice of drink. Should we be hit with bad weather the event will continue but inside. Please feel free to invite your friends, neighbours and family.



Summer Fair – Saturday 2nd July 10.30 – 2.30pm

We have another great event planned for our annual Summer Fair. As usual weather permitting the event will take place outside but will continue inside if raining. With a great selection of stalls including Bric A Brac, Cakes, Plants, Cards, Books, Hoopla, Tombola, Raffle, Guess The Name, Bean Bag Challenge. Also outside will be the popular return of Plympton Owls. Russ will be bringing his beautiful Owls for you to view and hold. Entertainment will be provided by Western Approach Close Harmony who will be singing unaccompanied popular songs, some old, some new,

they are always a joy to listen to. Also returning will be Lydia's Face Painting. Who as well as face painting do glitter & henna tattoos and hair braiding. We are excited to be able to welcome the Southern Troopers ST, who are a group who dress up as Star Wars Characters. Come and meet them and have your photo done. Chewbacca, Boba Fett, Darth Vader and a Jedi or two will all be appearing together with other favourites.

**Craft & Gift Fair – Saturday 2nd July
10.30 – 2.30pm**

While our Summer Fair takes place outside, we have a great selection of traders inside our church waiting for you. *Sunningdale Nurseries* will be back selling fresh Strawberries. Making their first appearance at our church will be *The Gingham Chicken* will be selling their award winning Cornish Fudge, *Kryisia's Glass* with a selection of handmade glass items and *Kudos Mosaics* with their Dartmoor and Cornish Coast inspired Handmade Mosaics. Get your free range eggs from *Westcountry Produce* and Cornish Apple Juice from *Kerensa Aval*. Also attending will be *Annmadecrafts*, *AromAware*, *Essacrafts*, *Katie & Flora*, and *Nicky's Glow Beads*.

Refreshments for events on 2nd July

Our Church Marquee will be selling Hot and Cold Drinks and Cakes throughout the event and the same will be available inside our Church but also light lunches will be available inside. Such as our first time run Sandwich Bar (pick your own fillings). Toasted teacakes and Childrens Lunch bags will also be on offer.

**Rock Choir – Friday 8th July
Doors open 6.45pm for 7.30pm Start**



Over 40 voices will fill our Church with the Choir that has been run locally since 2011. Come and watch ELO's Mr Blue Sky, Queen's Don't Stop Me Now, tracks from Crowded House and Erasure plus recent releases from Jess Glynne and George Ezra be performed with energy and enjoyment plus much more. The choir who recently were a support act for G4 at Plymouth pavilions are looking forward to singing at our Church. So please come

and support them and catch the feel good factor they enthuse. Tickets cost £5 each and will be on sale from 8th June onwards after Wednesday and Sunday morning Services, Piglets Fore Street or contact Steve Hookway.

**Gloucester Coach Trip
Thursday 11th August - £17 per person**

Leaving St. Stephen's Church at 8am and arriving at Gloucester Quays at 11am approx then departing home at 5pm and arriving back at 8pm approx.

There is so much to see & do at Gloucester Quays. Close to the historic city of Gloucester, you can enjoy an action-packed trip to the stunning new Outlets. More than 50 stores are on offer including many high street favourites. Gloucester

June 2016

Cathedral is only a 5 minute walk away of which there is a holy communion that takes place at 12.30pm for those who are interested.
Tickets are on sale now. At the time of writing only 15 seats remain for this trip.



THANK YOU

Thanks to all who helped and supported at the recent Food n Drink Fair which raised £1163.48 and also the fantastic concert by Keltique which raised a further £188.28. Without you these events couldn't happen.



HELP – SUMMER FAIR – WE NEED YOU

We really need help at this year's Summer Fair. Several people are away or been hit with health problems – A rota to help with refreshments together with a list of requirements will be at the West End of our Church towards the end of June. However if you can help and would prefer to help on a stall instead please let Steve Hookway ASAP. If you can kindly donate a Raffle Prize then these can be placed in the box at the back of our Church. Gordon Richards would be glad to receive any Bric a Brac you may have and Cakes would be appreciated for the Cake Stall which can be brought to Church from 2pm on the Friday or before the event starts on the Saturday morning. If you have a wallpaper table which could be borrowed for the event please let Steve or Roger know ASAP. Plants for the Plant Stall can also be brought from 2pm on the Friday or before the event starts on the Saturday morning. We will also need help putting up the Marquee and other stalls on the Friday and also packing away, so please listen out in the notices for dates and times. Many hands make light work.

Steve Hookway can be contacted by Te: 07855 600241
or email stevenhookway@hotmail.com

The next meeting of the St Stephen's Ladies Group will be held on Thursday 16th June at 7.30 pm in the Church when we will have a speaker from the Lions.
Please come and join us.

Also available online: www.saltashteamministry.org

Mothers Union

In May, the **Mothers Union** welcomed Sue Nicholes to our meeting. Sue led a workshop for members - thinking about living with dementia and how to cope. Members first thoughts about dementia were all fearful, but after the workshop we all felt more able to cope with the disease, whether as carers or sufferers. We can now call ourselves Dementia Friends.

On the 20th May, twelve members attended the Spring Council meeting at Tresillian near Truro. We celebrated the Eucharist - although we were a little late as our coach was held up in traffic.

In the afternoon we looked at memorabilia that county groups had brought along. We had taken a scrap book that celebrated 100 years of Mothers Union in South East Cornwall . We also took one veils that members could remember wearing in procession many years ago. Sandra gave short talk on the items. A most interesting day.

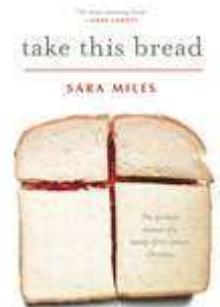
The Mothers Union meets at St Stephen's on the second Tuesday of the month at 2pm. On **Tues 14 June** the speaker is from Marie Curie Nurses, on **Tues 12 July** there is a talk about Eva's Little Stars.

Book Corner

Take this Bread: A Radical Conversion by Sara Miles

From Laura Bushell Hawke

"The story of an unexpected and terribly inconvenient Christian conversion, told by a very unlikely convert, **TAKE THIS BREAD** is not only a spiritual memoir but a call to action".



This book was recommended to me by my Vocations Adviser. Sara Miles is an American author who came to her faith later in life, this explores how she came to be a Christian and how she went on to set up a successful FoodBank from her church.

Sara is a journalist, in a lesbian relationship, has a daughter from a previous relationship and had an aesthet upbringing. Sara unexpectedly goes in to a local church and on tasting the communion wafer has a realisation. This is a very candid, highly entertaining account of her faith journey. I found it challenged me to think about how I give sustenance to others, in various forms and would certainly recommend it to others.

Do you have book on the Christian faith that you would like to recommend?
Send the editors your review!

The next deadline for this newsletter is **23 June** to be published on 3 July
Please send your article to: saltashparishnewsletter@gmail.com
or pop it in to the Team Office.

Also available online: www.saltashteamministry.org