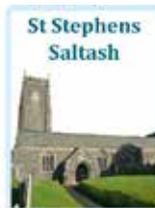
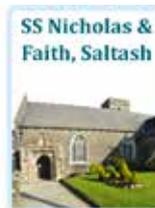
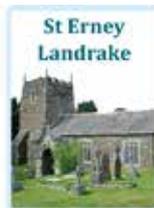
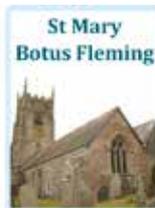
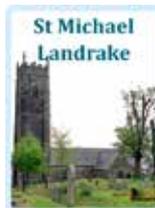


Saltash Area Newsletter

February 2019



DISCOVERING GOD'S KINGDOM – GROWING THE CHURCH
www.saltashteamministry.org



FEBRUARY

Regular Events

Mondays

4, 18 February

2-3.30pm

St Stephen's Church
Craft and Conversation

Tuesday

12 February

2pm

St Stephen's Church
Mothers' Union

Thursday

14, 28 February

7.30pm

St Stephen's Church
Mixed Blessings

Friday

15 February

Noon

S.T.A.R.T Group

Saturday

16 February

3pm

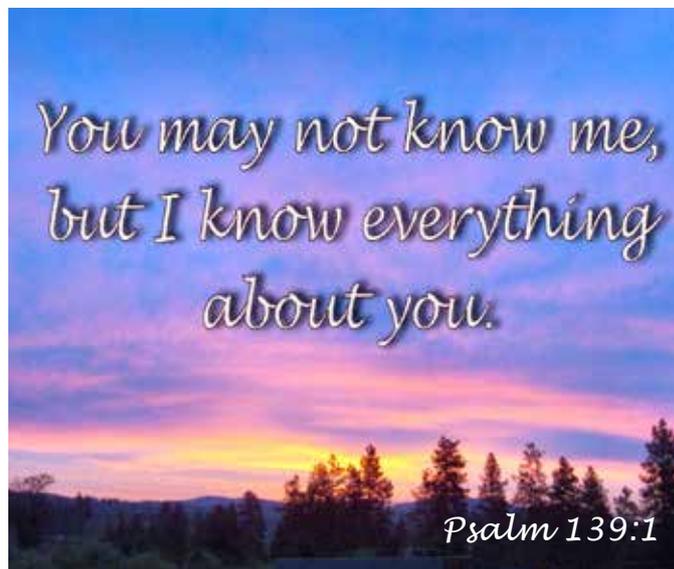
St Stephen's Church
Messy Church
The theme is 'Love Rules'

Tuesday

19 February

9.30am

St Stephen's Church
Tea and Toast



Dear Friends

It is only a short time ago that we were celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. We were marvelling at the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, and the obedience of Joseph and Mary. Sadly, a headline in one of today's newspapers reads, 'Brace yourself for Blue Monday, the worst day of the year.' How soon so many forget! The journalist writes, 'As festive memories fade, you may find yourself contemplating your battered bank account, that bulge around the waist and the grim weather – not to mention the realities of a return to work.' Blue Monday is supposedly the most depressing day of the year!

Although Blue Monday will have passed by the time you read this, to counter any residual doom and gloom, or if you feel in need of a little bit of TLC and a spiritual hug, I hope that the following letter (all the words come from scripture, do check them out) – *The Father's Love Letter* (see overleaf), will encourage and inspire you as it reminds us all that we are all children of God and are enfolded in His loving arms.

With every blessing to you all.

Yours in Christ

Cathy

FEBRUARY

Special Events

Wednesday

6 February

10am to Noon

St Mary's Church Hall
Coffee Morning

Friday

15 February

7.30pm

St Stephen's Church
Plymouth Area
Police Choir

Saturday

16 February

10am

St Michael's
Churchyard
Working Party

Saturday

16 February

7 for 7.30pm

St Nicholas & St Faith
Church Rooms
Quiz Night

Wednesday

20 February

12 noon to 2pm

St Nicholas & St Faith
Church Rooms
Soup & Pud Lunch



SERVICES

SUNDAYS

St Stephen's

- 8am Holy Communion
(1st Sunday)
- 10am All Age Service
(1st Sunday)
Holy Communion
(2nd to 4th Sundays)
- 6.30pm Evensong
(2nd to 4th Sundays)

St Nicholas & St Faith

- 8am Holy Communion
(3rd Sunday)
- 10am Holy Communion

St Michael, Landrake

- 9.30am Holy Communion

St Mary, Botus Fleming

- 11.15am Family Service
(1st Sunday)
Morning Prayer
(3rd Sunday)
Holy Communion
(2nd & 4th Sundays)

St Erney, Landrake

- 11.15am Morning Prayer
(1st Sunday)
Holy Communion
(3rd Sunday)

Saltash Churches Together

- 6.30pm Combined Service
3 February at
St Stephen's

WEDNESDAYS

St Stephen's

- 10.30am Holy Communion

8AM SUNDAY SERVICES

Please note that from February there only will be an 8am Sunday service at St Stephen's on the first Sunday of the month and at St Nicholas & St Faith on the third Sunday.

The Father's Love Letter

My Dear Child

You may not know me, but I know everything about you. *Psalm 139:1*
I know when you sit down and when you rise up. *Psalm 139:2*
I am familiar with all your ways. *Psalm 139:3*
Even the very hairs on your head are numbered. *Matthew 10: 29-31*
For you were made in my image. *Genesis 1:27*
In me you love and move and have your being. *Acts 17:28*
I knew you even before you were conceived. *Jeremiah 1:4-5*
I chose you when I planned creation. *Ephesians 1: 11-12*
You were not a mistake, for all your days are written in my book. *Psalm 139:15-16*
I determined the exact time of your birth and where you would live. *Acts 17:26*
You are fearfully and wonderfully made. *Psalm 139:14*
I knit you together in your mother's womb. *Psalm 139:13*
And brought you forth on the day you were born. *Psalm 71:6*
I have been misrepresented by those who don't know me. *John 8:41-44*
I am not distant and angry, but am the complete expression of love. *1 John 4:16*
And it is my desire to lavish my love on you. *1 John 3:1*
Simply because you are my child and I am your Father. *1 John 3:1*
I offer you more than your earthly father ever could. *Matthew 7:11*
For I am the perfect father. *Matthew 5:48*
Every good gift that you receive comes from my hand. *James 1:17*
For I am your provider and I meet all your needs. *Matthew 6:31-33*
My plan for your future has always been filled with hope. *Jeremiah 29:11*
Because I love you with an everlasting love. *Jeremiah 31:3*
My thoughts toward you are countless as the sand on the seashore. *Psalm 139:17-18*
And I rejoice over you with singing. *Zephaniah 3:17*
I will never stop doing good to you. *Jeremiah 32:40*
For you are my treasured possession. *Exodus 19:5*
I desire to establish you with all my heart and all my soul. *Jeremiah 32:41*
And I want to show you great and marvellous things. *Jeremiah 33:3*
If you seek me with all your heart, you will find me. *Deuteronomy 4:29*
Delight in me and I will give you the desires of your heart. *Psalm 37:4*
For it is I who gave you those desires. *Philippians 2:13*
I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine. *Ephesians 3:20*
For I am your greatest encourager. *2 Thessalonians 2:16-17*
I am also the Father who comforts you in all your troubles. *2 Corinthians 1:3-4*
When you are broken hearted, I am close to you. *Psalm 34:18*
As a shepherd carries a lamb, I have carried you close to my heart. *Isaiah 40:11*
One day I will wipe every tear from your eyes. *Revelation 21:3-4*
And I'll take away all the pain you have suffered on this earth. *Revelation 21:3-4*
I am your Father, and I love you even as I love my son, Jesus. *John 17:23*
For in Jesus, my love for you is revealed. *John 17:26*
He is the exact representation of my being. *Hebrews 1:3*
He came to demonstrate that I am for you, not against you. *Romans 8:31*
And to tell you that I am not counting your sins. *2 Corinthians 5:18-19*
Jesus died so that you and I could be reconciled. *2 Corinthians 5:18-19*
His death was the ultimate expression of my love for you. *1 John 4:10*
I gave everything I loved that I might gain your love. *Romans 8:31-32*
If you receive the gift of my son Jesus, you receive me. *1 John 2:23*
And nothing will ever separate you from my love again. *Romans 8:38-39*
Come home and I'll throw the biggest party heaven has ever seen. *Luke 15:7*
I have always been Father, and will always be Father. *Ephesians 3:14-15*
My question is... Will you be my child? *John 1:12-13*
I AM WAITING FOR YOU. *Luke 15:11-31*

Your loving Father

Recent Events

Mothers' Union

On Tuesday 8th January, MU welcomed Mr Jonathan Libby from the Methodist Central Hall, Plymouth. Jonathan has responsibility for young adults in his church, and is also the Methodist Chaplain for Plymouth University. Jonathan spoke to us about a project very dear to his heart. He helps provide gifts and funds to an orphanage in the West Bank village of Bethany in Israel. The orphanage, called 'Jeel Al Jamal', was started by a Christian couple in 1972, who had found Palestinian boys living on the streets. They had lost their families through war or separation and the state made no provision for them. The orphanage is for boys only, but they also equip and manage a school for both boys and girls. These projects can only succeed through the generosity of people providing funds, and this is where Jonathan has helped. We thanked him for the visit and pray for his work to continue.

After a break for tea and cake Rev Cathy enrolled three new members into MU. We are pleased to welcome Margaret Briggs, Pat Lissenden, and Elaine Smith as part of the MU Family.

Messy Church



The theme for January's Messy Church was 'New Beginnings'. We are looking forward to the new year and renewing our commitment to the teachings of Jesus. The children (and adults) made new badges to wear at Messy Church, they planted bulbs to see new life growing. They made a cot mobile for a new baby, to celebrate the baby Jesus. They had fun painting and decorated the board for all to see. After worship with Rev Cathy, which included a song written by Darren, we all enjoyed a tasty tea. Next month's theme is 'Love Rules', if you would like to be involved in encouraging young people to think about Christianity, then please contact Sandra McKee.

At St Stephen's

Before Christmas we held two very successful events.

Firstly a Christmas Shopping Evening on Friday 30th November which raised a fantastic £1,194.84, which was well over £200 up on the previous year. We were simply overwhelmed by the attendance this event received, as more people kept coming through the door. A big thank you to Ocean City Sound who entertained us during the evening and got us in the mood for the festive season with Christmas Carols and songs.



This was followed by our Christmas Concert by The Polperro Fishermen's Choir on Friday 7th December. We were again delighted to see so many people support this event. Compere Adrian Wilton had us all in stitches with his jokes and tales. We were treated to a selection of Christmas favourites from not only the choir but also from Darren Jane who also surprised us by his singing too.

The evening raised a superb £789.07.



Thanks yet again to all who helped and supported these events to make them such a huge success.

Recent Events (continued)

Christmas Tree Festival

Thank you to everyone who supported our 2018 Festival, especially those who came and acted as stewards. Comments received were it was the best ever and a total of just over £4,400 was raised for church Funds. We have five new organisations who expressed an interest in entering a tree for 2019. Yes it is hard work, but very rewarding. Our Christmas Raffle was very well supported, and we had some 27 prizes this year.

Christmas Flowers

Thank you to Carol and her team for the lovely display of Christmas flowers in St Stephens Church. Much appreciated by all the congregations.

Message From Ron Piney

Thank you all so much for your support, prayers, cards and kindness following the sad loss of my wife Jean.

S.T.A.R.T Group

is a club for Christian men and we meet on the third Friday of each month at noon. If any men in the congregation are interested in joining us, just speak to Len Maddock (Irmaddock22@talktalk.net).

On February 15, there is a Rhodda's Company talk and on March 15, a talk by Bruce Hunt on Education in Saltash.

You Look Pretty

'There's nothing special about a Christmas tree,' you might say. They come in varying colours as well as differing sizes. You can decorate them if that takes your fancy or leave them bare. The decorations can vary as well: bright fairy lights in varying shapes, long rope lights – each of which can flash away or not as takes your fancy. You can add golden or silver bells, bright red or blue delicate balls. Some add strips of tinsel, ribbons, or coloured paper chains. If you really want to make your tree tempting then, of course, you can add chocolate shapes covered in coloured foil paper. Yes, when it comes to Christmas trees there is nothing special about them, only how they are presented.

Unless....unless you manage to find seventy together all in the same place; all decorated individually and all representing a particular organisation or charity. Now that is something special!

That is what I found when I visited St Nicholas and Faith Church the other day. Seventy Christmas trees all lit up and spread about the aisles and side chapels. It really did warm my heart to see the effort that so many had made to provide this delight just for me – well and the others who came along to see them. So many people had taken so much trouble to show that Christmas trees were indeed special!

Two in particular took my eye. These were not grown outside in a distant forest on Dartmoor or in a plantation somewhere in Cornwall. These were individually crafted from the imaginative mind of their creator/s and spoke clearly of the body that had taken the trouble to think 'outside the box'. I was so taken with them that I thought I would share them with you. Something different, true: but well done to all who took part and so turning many a dark day into a pleasurable occasion.

Brian Anderson



RNLI Tree



Livewire Tree

What's On

Coffee Morning
St Mary's Church Hall, Botus
Wednesday 6 February
10am to Noon



Just £2 for coffee, biscuits and conversation.

Plymouth Area Police Choir
St Stephen's Church
Friday 15 February,
10am to 2pm

We are delighted to welcome back the Plymouth Area Police Choir who, under the guidance of the very talented and experienced Brian Gerry, have become recognised as one of the premier male voice choirs in the South West.



The evening promises to be very entertaining with songs such as *Those Magnificent Men In Their Flying Machines*, *Nessun Dorma*, *Bring Him Home (Les Mis)* and *A Jolson Medley* in the set list.

By popular demand our very own Darren Jane and Claire Fry will be returning to play some pieces while the choir take a much earned breather.



Tickets are on sale now from Roger Rowse following Sunday Morning Service or from John Petherbridge following Wednesday Morning Services. You can purchase from Piglets, Fore Street or pay on the night.

Churchyard Working Party
St Michael's Churchyard
Saturday 16 February, 10am



If you'd like to join in, please check the details with Caroline (carolinenorris@gmail.com) in case of any changes to the arrangements.

Quiz Night
St Nicholas & St Faith Church Rooms
Saturday 16 February, 7
for 7.30pm



Quiz Night with John White. Teams of 6 please, if possible. Coffee and cake will be served in the interval. Please bring your own drink if something a little stronger is needed. Tickets £2.50 available from Margaret (mje1503@gmail.com) or Leslie (☎ 842521).

Soup and Pud Lunch
St Nicholas & St Faith Church Rooms
Wednesday 20 February
12 Noon to 2pm



£5. Come along and meet up with your friends for a chat and socialise.



The Inauguration of Bishop Philip Ian Mountstephen

Two members of St Stephen's PCC, John West (pictured) and Steve Hookway, represented us at the inauguration service in Truro Cathedral on Saturday 12 January.

St Stephen's Fellowship Fund 2018

Coffee and tea have been available after morning services for over 30 years at St Stephen's. This enables us to join with others in fellowship, and to welcome visitors and new members to our Church.

Many years ago, it was decided that donations would be asked for, and the monies raised would be focused on external charitable causes, such as The Bible Society and Action Aid.

As time passed, your donations have increased and other charities have been added to our list. We publish a list of the societies and organisations we support twice a year, along with letters of thanks we receive and accompanying magazines. 2018 has been one of the most successful years to date with £900.80 raised from these donations, and an additional £116.15 from a retiring collection for the Kerala Appeal.

I would like to thank all those who have volunteered for our rota and who always cheerfully provide drinks, biscuits and conversation. Without them, there would be no after worship getting together and our congregation would be poorer.

If you have not yet joined us for coffee, or if you would like to become one of our wonderful volunteers, please speak to one of the team.

*Eleanor Newland
Honorary Treasurer*

Poem of the Month

Will 'EE Come to Saltash?

Will 'ee come to Saltash when the sun is in the sky?
And will 'ee come to see us when the wind is blowing high?
Then walk along the foreshore, see the boats put out to sea,
When the tide is running fast and us has Cornish cream for tea.

Will 'ee come to Saltash to see where Drake did stroll
Where he met Mary Newman, then played bowls on Plymouth Hoe.
Will 'ee visit ancient streets where the Black Prince did ride,
And where he crossed the Tamar, rowed over by a Saltash crew with pride.

Tis here is fair Essa, that famous folks did walk,
There was Killigrew of Ince Castle,
Who didn't half make folks talk. He had four wives they tell me,
Kept one in each tower did he, got sixteen years in
prison and no Cornish cream for tea.

Then there was sturdy Ann Glanville, tough as old boots was she,
Rowed against a men's crew, beat them all with a women's crew did she.
Do you know of Turner, an artist of national renown, he came to Saltash,
Put on canvas our river and town.

I am sure you've heard of Brunel and his bridge of 1859,
with the railway running over on just a single line.
Then came Moura Lympany, a Saltash maid was she,
played the piano the world over, coming back for a Cornish cream tea.

For it is here our Saltash story, these people can be found
They left the shores of Cornwall and the world thy travelled round.
Many places did they visit but nowhere did they find
Such a welcome as in Cornwall and the folks they left behind!

Do have a dish of tea m'dear when you comes down along a'we,
With saffron cake and cream m'dear and strawberries too for tea.
It may be wet and windy down in this Cornish land,
And you may get Saltash rig, m'dear when the weather is out of hand.

The welcome is warm and sunny down here the whole year round,
With a pasty for your supper, life in Cornwall is pretty grand.
Then there is star gazy pie, my dear will make your toes all tingle.
Now to dance the Floral dance and end this Saltash jingle.

by Audrey Miller ©