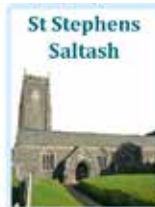
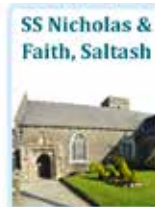
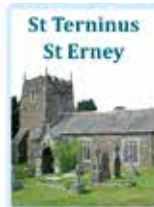
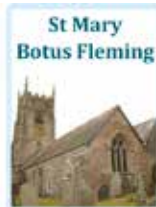


# Saltash Area Newsletter

March 2020



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



## March

### Regular Events

**Monday  
2, 16 March**

2-3.30pm  
St Stephen's Church  
Craft and Conversation

**Monday  
9 March**

7pm. The Ploughboy  
M.O.S.S.A.F  
Meeting of Men Of  
St Stephens And Friends

**Tuesday  
10 March**

2pm  
St Stephen's Church  
Mothers' Union

**Thursdays  
12, 26 March**

7.30pm  
St Stephen's Church  
Mixed Blessings

**Tuesday  
17 March**

9.30am  
St Stephen's Church  
Tea and Toast

**Thursday  
19 March**

7.30pm  
St Stephen's Church  
Ladies Group

**Friday  
20 March**

Noon  
S.T.A.R.T Group

**Saturday  
21 March**

3pm  
St Stephen's Church  
Messy Church

## Tithing – Giving in Grace



Dear Friends,

The words 'tithing' or 'stewardship', and all that they mean, often have the same effect on people as the word 'sin'! Toes curl up and it isn't really something that we want to discuss or think about. However, tithing and stewardship constitutes a rich and holistic biblical model of giving that guides, motivates and underpins the generosity of many Christians in times past and today.

Over the next few weeks, we will be exploring more about stewardship and tithing in our services, but first a little background that you may find helpful.

Whilst there is no absolutely unambiguous New Testament instruction to Christians to give 10% of their income, there is absolutely clear, unambiguous New Testament teaching to give, to give generously and proportionately, to those in need, to support fellow Christians, and to support ministry. The biblical material on tithing addresses each of these central themes directly. Tithing would have been the acknowledged base-line of giving for people of faith, and it gives us a realistic yet challenging starting point. For these reasons, tithing is worth talking about.

Talking about money often raises feelings of anxiety or embarrassment, but money matters. It matters to us and it matters to God. Jesus' teaching includes a number of parables where he talks about stewarding what we are given to produce fruit for the kingdom. This includes money: burying our talent in the ground equates not only to not offering our time and skills, but also to stashing all our money away rather than spending it directly on the kingdom. Jesus also warned about hoarding money (the rich fool in Luke

## Diary Dates Coming Up

**Mondays  
2 March to 30 March**

Noon to 2pm  
St Stephen's Church  
Lent Lunch & Reflection

**Wed 4 March**

10am to Noon  
St Mary's Church Hall  
Coffee Morning

**Sat 7 March**

7pm  
SSNF Church Rooms  
Beetle Drive

**Sun 8 March**

8pm  
Silent Auction closes

**Sat 14 March**

10am to Noon  
St Stephen's Church  
Children's Society Box  
Opening and Coffee

**Wed 18 March**

Noon to 1.30pm  
St Mary's Church Hall  
Surprise Lunch

**Thursdays**

**19, 26 March, 2 April**  
2.30pm to 4pm  
St Stephen's Church  
Bible Study

**Sat 28 March**

10am to 1pm  
St Stephen's Church  
Hot X Buns & Easter Fun

**Fri 17 April**

7.30pm  
St Stephen's Church  
Plymouth Area  
Police Choir

**Sat 18 April**

7.30pm  
SSNF Church Rooms  
Burraton Boys

## MARCH SERVICES

### Sunday 1 March

#### St Stephen-by-Saltash

8am Holy Communion  
9.30am All Age Service

#### St Michael, Landrake

9.30am Family Service

#### St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

11am Sung Eucharist

#### St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Family Service

#### St Erney, Landrake

11.15am Morning Prayer

### Sunday 8 March

#### St Stephen-by-Saltash

9.30am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

#### St Michael, Landrake

9.30am Holy Communion

#### St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

11am Sung Eucharist

#### St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Holy Communion

### Sunday 15 March

#### St Stephen-by-Saltash

9.30am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

#### St Michael, Landrake

9.30am Holy Communion

#### St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

8am Holy Communion  
11am Sung Eucharist

#### St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Morning Prayer

#### St Erney, Landrake

11.15am Holy Communion

### Mothering Sunday 22 March

#### St Stephen-by-Saltash

9.30am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

#### St Michael, Landrake

9.30am Holy Communion

#### St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

11am Sung Eucharist

#### St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Holy Communion

### Sunday 29 March

#### St Stephen-by-Saltash

10am United Service

### Every Wednesday

#### St Stephen-by-Saltash

10.30am Holy Communion

12:15), and told one otherwise law abiding young man that to inherit the kingdom he needed to give up his possessions (Mark 10:17-22).

Why would Jesus do that? Not that the man would earn salvation if he did so, but to challenge him to find if his heart was truly set on God. Clearly, our use of money has to undergo a conversion for us to be living as Christians. Read about Zacchaeus in Luke 19 as our model here.

Exactly what this means in practice needs to be discussed. It cannot mean giving very small percentages and keeping the rest or spending it only on ourselves. In fact, the response of the first Christians to Christ seen in the early chapters of Acts was radical: they sold their possessions and gave to the poor, and lived out of a common purse. While it's reasonable to argue we do not have to live like this, how we live out the same principle of dedicating our wealth to God as part of our total self-giving is a serious question. If those disciples thought they should handle their money like this, how should we?

Christian discipleship is understood as offering ourselves wholly to God, summed up in Paul's phrase as being living sacrifices (Romans 12:1-2). *I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.* If we even begin to see all that we are and have as an ongoing offering to God, both in thanksgiving and in service, then it must be clear that a pound coin in the collection bag does not begin to answer the question of what being a disciple means in the area of financial giving. Giving for disciples is surely going to have to be generous, indeed ... sacrificial!

Giving generously and proportionally in relation to income are very clear Christian, New Testament, principles (see 2 Corinthians 8-9). How much do we give? Again, defining percentages for generosity and proportionality is a tricky business. For some a tithe is a sacrificial and generous act; for those who are seriously well-off, giving 10% might require very little sacrifice, nor be very generous. Our giving has to be worked out as part of basic Christian discipleship, in which generous and proportionate giving are simply part of the package. It has to be worked out in the context of an understanding of our wealth as fundamentally not ours at all, but held in trust for God. Each Sunday we say, 'Yours Lord is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.'

So over the next few days and weeks I would ask you to consider the advice given in a Pastoral letter from the House of Bishops, '... all those who have the Church's welfare at heart must ask themselves not merely "what does the Church need in the circumstances now facing it?" but "what am I called to give gladly out of the bounty God has given me?"'

As we head towards Lent please thank God for paying the ultimate sacrifice for us and think and pray about the amount that you give back to God as we explore what stewardship means for each and every one of us.

Yours in Christ,  
Cathy

## Recent Events

### Messy Church

Despite the appalling weather, around 40 people attended messy church in February. We were all there to celebrate our love for God and for each other.

The noticeboard was filled with love birds and butterflies of love. Love trees were decorated and a window hanging showing a great big heart was made by the children.



Lots of children left wearing friendship bracelets that they had fashioned and with heart-shaped biscuits to eat – decorated with love.

Rev Cathy showed the story of the good Samaritan on the screen and read the passage from the Bible in which we are told of the two greatest commandments, love God and love your neighbour.

Tea and conversation finished the afternoon session and we all headed off home through the wind and rain.

Next month we meet on the 21 March and will be thinking about mothering.

### Mothers' Union



The February meeting was the annual lunch in the local area. 24 members and friends including the Rev'd Cathy and Rev'd Pam braved the gales and the rain and arrived at 'The Cardinals Hatt'. We enjoyed the carvery and other selections

from the menu. Amongst plenty of laughter and chatter was a general knowledge quiz written by Sandra. This was great fun, and the joint winners were Lorna and Lesley.

After a very enjoyable lunch and afternoon we returned to our homes, through the wind and rain.

### Celebrating VE Day in May

Do you have any family photos or memorabilia that we could use to put together a small display in the parishes? If you have, do let Cathy know and we can put together a small exhibition/area in the church.



### Coronavirus Update

Following guidelines that have been sent to us from the Diocese I would like to remind everyone that:

Whilst there is no need to panic it is sensible to take precautions and observe good hygiene practices, so:

1. If you are feeling unwell please stay at home. Don't feel that you have to be brave and soldier on!
2. Anyone handling the wafers or celebrating must either wash their hands in soap and water or use antiseptic hand gel after sharing the peace and before handling the bread/wafers.
3. Parishioners with coughs and sneezes must refrain from handshaking during 'The Peace' and should receive Communion in one kind only – i.e. wafer but not wine.
4. Intinction (the action of dipping the bread/wafer in the wine at a Eucharist so that a communicant receives both together) is not recommended (even by celebrants or communion-administrators) as this represents an infection transmission route. Therefore, for the time being, congregants, administrators and celebrants should not dip the wafers into the wine.
5. Everyone has the choice to receive just the wafers – if they wish – for the time being.

Everyone's help and understanding is greatly appreciated at this time. If or when there are further updates or a change to the guidelines these will be communicated as quickly as possible.

### The Archdeacon's Visitation

This will take place on 14 May for our Deanery. Further information to follow.





## The Vestry Meeting and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Each year, we are obliged, by law, to hold two meetings. The first is called the Vestry meeting where new churchwardens are elected for the forthcoming year. The Vestry Meeting is then followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) to conduct other parish business.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is an important meeting for the whole church. It is the opportunity for the members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll to elect the people they want to be on the PCC. The congregation can ask questions and comment about the finances of the church, the state of the church building, or about any matter of concern to the parish.

The PCC has to take account of any views expressed at the APCM. It is an opportunity to have an open discussion to chat about what is going well, is there anything where we can improve and what would we like to see happen in the next year or so.

These meetings may be held between the 1 January and 31 May of each year. This year our APCMs are taking place on the following dates:

### **St Mary's Botus Fleming**

7pm Wednesday 15 April, St. Mary's Church Hall

### **St Nicholas & St. Faith**

10am – Sunday 19 April, Church Hall  
(the meeting takes place before morning service)

### **St Michael, Landrake**

7pm Monday 20 April, St Michael's Church

### **St Stephen-by-Saltash**

11am Sunday 26th April  
(following the morning service in the Church)

Official notices, together with the financial and written reports will be displayed and available in the churches at least two clear Sundays before the meeting is held. There will also be other notices asking for nominations for Church Wardens and also PCC members. Please do come along to the APCM in your parish church and support those who are trying to manage 'Church Matters' on your behalf. If you would like to become a Church Warden or a member of a PCC, please contact me, or one of the current PCC members in your church.

Please look out for the notices and reports and pray about whether you are called to be a Church Warden or a member of the PCC.

Yours in Christ,  
Cathy

## Recent Events continued

### Men of St Stephens and Friends

In February, we met up at the Sports Bar of the Ploughboy Inn where we were joined by one new member. Here, we enjoyed social togetherness covering many subjects of conversation over a pint.

Games of Dominoes and Pool were also enjoyed.

New members always welcome. £1 subs. Tea/coffee and biscuits. We next meet on Monday 9 March at 7pm in the Social Area of our Church where Rev'd Gordon Cryer will be our guest speaker on his 'Life in Ministry'.

In April we will be going to the China Fleet Club for their Steak Night. For further information please contact Dave Coot.



### Food Market and Table Top Sale



A big big thank you to all who helped and supported our Food Market and Table Top Sale on Saturday 8th February. It was a very busy event. We raised a fantastic £953.67 which is our best ever by over £350! A great team effort.



# Recent Events continued

## St Nicholas & St Faith Jackets & Puds



Enjoying lunch . . .



And baby came too . . .

There was a good attendance at the Sunday lunch. Guests enjoyed jacket potatoes and a selection of fillings prepared by the Church Social Committee and other helpers. There was also a great variety of puddings.



Concentrating hard . . .



A huge thank you to the helpers

# Lent

Welcome dear feast of Lent: who loves not thee,  
He loves not Temperance, or Authority,  
But is compos'd of passion.  
The Scriptures bid us fast; the Church says, now:  
Give to thy Mother, what thou wouldst allow  
To ev'ry Corporation.

The humble soul compos'd of love and fear  
Begins at home, and lays the burden there,  
When doctrines disagree,  
He says, in things which use hath justly got,  
I am a scandal to the Church, and not  
The Church is so to me.

True Christians should be glad of an occasion  
To use their temperance, seeking no evasion,  
When good is seasonable;  
Unless Authority, which should increase  
The obligation in us, make it less,  
And Power itself disable.

Besides the cleanness of sweet abstinence,  
Quick thoughts and motions at a small expense,  
A face not fearing light:  
Whereas in fulness there are sluttish fumes,  
Sour exhalations, and dishonest rheums,  
Revening the delight.

Then those same pendant profits, which the spring  
And Easter intimate, enlarge the thing,  
And goodness of the deed.  
Neither ought other men's abuse of Lent  
Spoil the good use; lest by that argument  
We forfeit all our Creed.

It's true, we cannot reach Christ's forti'eth day;  
Yet to go part of that religious way,  
Is better than to rest:  
We cannot reach our Saviour's purity;  
Yet we are bid, 'Be holy ev'n as he,'  
In both let's do our best.

Who goeth in the way which Christ hath gone,  
Is much more sure to meet with him, than one  
That travelleth by-ways:  
Perhaps my God, though he be far before,  
May turn and take me by the hand, and more:  
May strengthen my decays.

Yet Lord instruct us to improve our fast  
By starving sin and taking such repast,  
As may our faults control:  
That ev'ry man may revel at his door,  
Not in his parlour; banqueting the poor,  
And among those his soul.

*From The Temple (1633) by George Herbert*

## What's On

### Lent Lunches & Reflection

St Stephen's Church  
Mondays from  
2 March to 30 March  
12.30-2pm



Lent Lunches will be held again this Lent. They will be soup and bread/roll followed by cheese. Following the lunch there will be a short reflection and time for discussion over a cup of tea or coffee. We are asking for a minimum donation of £3. All profits will be donated to Saltash Foodbank.

If you would like to attend, please put your name down on the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

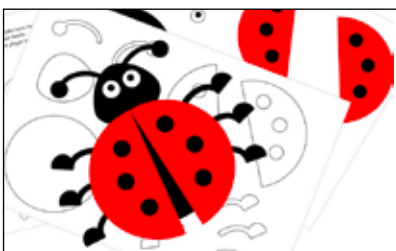
### Coffee Morning

St Mary's Church Hall  
Wed 4 March, 10am to Noon

Just £2 for coffee, biscuits and conversation.

### Beetle Drive

SSNF Church Rooms  
Sat 7 March, 6.30 for 7pm



Tickets £3.50 to include tea/coffee and cake. Please bring your own drink if you would like something stronger.

### Silent Auction in aid of St Stephen's Church Closing Date 8 March



Make sure to get your bids in on time. See page 8 for the lots and how to bid.

### Children's Society Box Opening St Stephen's Church Sat 14 March, 10am to Noon



If you don't have a box, please come along for coffee and cake. All money raised will go to the Children's Society. There will also be a bring and buy table.

### Surprise Lunch

St Mary's Church Hall  
Wednesday 18 March  
Noon to 1.30pm



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

### Bible Study

St Stephen's Church  
Thurs 19 March, 26 March  
and 2 April, 2.30-4pm



These Bible Studies will explore how we can all take steps to live a more spiritually healthy and thriving Christian Life.

## St Stephen's Church Clothing Range

Due to popular demand we will be placing an order for items from our St Stephens Clothing Range.

Polo Shirts:	Navy or Sky	£14
Sweatshirts:	Navy or Sky	£16
Full Zip Fleece:	Navy	£25

If interested please contact Steve Hookway 07855 600241 or email [stevhookway@hotmail.com](mailto:stevhookway@hotmail.com) by 22 March at the latest.



Payment up front please. Note once items are created they can't be exchanged, so please get your size right. The size can be checked before the crest goes on.



## Spring Cleaning on your own is no fun!



Come and join the St Stephen's band of cleaners to bring down the cobwebs during Lent. Please wear old clothes and bring along some dusters and dustpans and see if we can bring a little sparkle back into Church. We have dates available:

Tue 3 March – 10am to Noon  
 Thu 5 March – 10am to Noon  
 Thu 12 March – 10am to Noon  
 Tue 17 March – Noon to 2pm  
 Tue 24 March – 2pm to 4pm  
 Thu 26 March – 10am to Noon

Please sign up if you would like to help. Lots of activity in short bursts is probably the best way to complete the most work. We look forward to seeing you. *Sylvia*

PS We may even get time for coffee and biscuits!

## Help, Please



We are now looking for Easter Egg donations for our Hot Cross Buns and Easter Fun event on Saturday 28 March. If you can help then please place your Easter Eggs in the box in the Social Area. Tesco's have some great deals on as do many other supermarkets.

Sign up lists for help with refreshments and cakes are now at the back of our Church. All help is very much appreciated.

## What's On continued

### Hot Cross Buns and Easter Fun

St Stephen's Church  
 Sat 28 March, 10am to 1pm

Craft and Food Stalls, Fundraising stalls, Bumper Easter Draw, Hoopla, Easter Egg Tombola, Guess the weight of the Simnel cake, Guess the Easter Bunny's Name, Treasure Hunt. Refreshments will be served throughout. Free Entry.

Traders include: Amanda's Glass, Aromaware, Chalky Boardz, Claire's Craft Kitchen, Cornish Gouda Co, Everything Cornish, Julie Turner Cakes Nicky's Glow Beads & Gifts, Saltash Lions Club, Sunningdale Nurseries, The Little Craft Conservatory, Trehill Farm Produce, Wood Turning by Terry Dore and Zammits.

**Saltash Bakery** will be also attending this event including their delightful Bunny Buns. Luisa sells out quickly so get here early.



For the first time Saltash-based **Duchy Pens** are attending. They make hand-turned crafts, mainly pens in wood and acrylic. They also supply ink, refills and traditional stationery supplies. New for this



year is the servicing and repairing of pens and pencils, so if you have an old fountain pen, why not bring it along?

### Plymouth Area Police Choir

St Stephen's Church  
 Fri 17 April, 6.45 for 7.30pm



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.

By popular demand our very own Darren Jane and Claire Fry will be playing some pieces while the choir take a well-earned breather.



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

### Burraton Boys SSNF Church Rooms Sat 18 April, 7.30pm



Pasty and Cider Supper Tickets £5.

# St Stephen's Church Fundraising Silent Auction

## Lot 1: Pirates of Penzance



A pair of tickets to see The Pirates of Penzance at Devonport Playhouse on Tuesday 24 March 2020. 7.30pm start. A PSG Theatre Production.

## Lot 2: Plymouth Raiders



A family ticket voucher to watch a Plymouth Raiders home match of your choice during the 2019/2020 season at Plymouth Pavilions.

## Lot 3: The Sound of Music



A voucher for a pair of tickets to see The Sound of Music at Devonport Playhouse between 28 April and 2 May 2020. Evening Performances start at 7.30pm.

## Lot 4: Plymouth Albion



A voucher for two ground match day tickets to watch any Plymouth Albion home fixture during the 2019/2020 season.

**Bidding will close at 8.00pm sharp on Sunday 8 March**

**Winning bidders will be contacted at the end of the auction to arrange payment/collection of their item.**

**Items must be paid for within seven days of end of auction otherwise the second highest bidder will be invited to claim the item.**

All bids of £1 or more will be accepted but please bid in amounts of 50p or £1 only.

## How to Bid

- E-mail: [ststephenschurchsaltash@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ststephenschurchsaltash@hotmail.co.uk)
- Text: 07855600241 clearly stating Silent Auction
- Hand in at 7 Tower View, Saltash or in the box marked *Silent Auction Bids* in St Stephen's Church
- On the website: [saltashteamministry.org/silent-auction.html](http://saltashteamministry.org/silent-auction.html)

## All Auction bids must state:

- Lot Number and Brief Description of Item
- Your Name, Address, Contact Number and also email address if applicable.
- The Amount You Wish To Bid (in amounts of 50p or £1)

## Lot 5: Eden Project



A family entrance ticket to The Eden Project. No Expiry Date. Please note couples can still use this voucher if they wish.

## Lot 6: Cornish All Blacks



Two Match day tickets to watch any Cornish All Blacks home fixture at Launceston Rugby Club.

## Lot 7: Compton Acres



Entrance voucher for up to two adults and three children for Compton Acres, Poole. Valid until 20 June 2020.

## Lot 8: Gyles Brandreth



A pair of tickets to see Gyles Brandreth in his new show, 'Break a Leg' at the Red House Theatre, Plymouth on Saturday 25 April, 7.30pm start. Plus the opportunity to meet him in the interval if you wish.