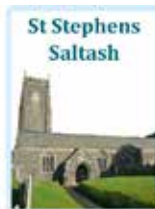
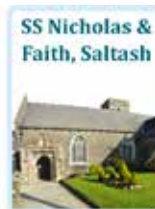
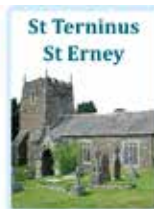
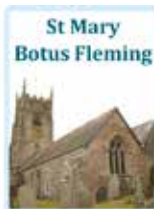


# Saltash Area Newsletter

May 2021



DISCOVERING GOD'S KINGDOM – GROWING THE CHURCH  
[www.saltashteamministry.org](http://www.saltashteamministry.org)



## Rule of Life

*He spent the morning doing nothing and  
the afternoon writing about what he had done in the morning.*

On Arthur Benson, Master of Magdalene College, Cambridge.

In his book *The Place of GOD*, Graham James writes that *Augustine composed a Rule of Life*. He is writing about Saint Augustine of Hippo (not the one that came from Rome to Canterbury). It was, *A rule that became the basis of the Augustinian Order*.

may continue to work from home.)

So what will become our 'Rule of Life' when the pandemic is over and we are left to return to some form of previous existence? For sure, it will not be the same 'Rule of Life' we had before. Along with the uncertainty, the suffering and

**God of Love,**

**As we think about all that has changed this year,  
help us to trust that you are always with us.**

**As we remember those who have died,  
help us to trust that they are at peace with you.**

**As we reach out to others with kindness and care,  
may hope shine out in every heart and home.**

**Amen**

When I was training for the Priesthood my training incumbent gave me a 'Rule of Life'. Morning – reading and study, afternoon – visits, evenings – meetings. If there was no evening meeting you struck it lucky. Such a rule, prior to the pandemic, in recent years was difficult because it was unlikely that you would find many at home during the afternoon with both partners needing to be employed in order to meet the household financial budget. (This, of course, may change again when the pandemic is over and more people

isolation, the pandemic has changed our lives. So what do we expect of the future? In what way do we feel that our lives may even have been enhanced by the pandemic?

While there has been much hardship during the past two years, there has also been a great deal of goodness which has come to the surface of our lives. We have become a more understanding society which is aware of the effects that such an event can have on communities. For the most part it has brought out the best in us – making us aware that ►

## MAY SERVICES

### Sunday 2 May

**St Stephen-by-Saltash**

9.30am Holy Communion

**St Michael, Landrake**

9.30am All Age Service

**St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash**

11am Holy Communion

**St Mary, Botus Fleming**

11am All Age Service

### Sunday 9 May

**St Stephen-by-Saltash**

9.30am Holy Communion

**St Michael, Landrake**

9.30am Holy Communion

**St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash**

11am Holy Communion

**St Mary, Botus Fleming**

11.15am Holy Communion

### Sunday 16 May

**St Stephen-by-Saltash**

9.30am Holy Communion

6.30 pm Evensong

**St Michael, Landrake**

9.30am Holy Communion

**St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash**

11am Holy Communion

**St Mary, Botus Fleming**

11.15am All Age Service

**St Erney, Landrake**

11.15am Holy Communion

### Pentecost 23 May

**St Stephen-by-Saltash**

9.30am Holy Communion

**St Michael, Landrake**

9.30am Holy Communion

**St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash**

11am Holy Communion

**St Mary, Botus Fleming**

11.15am Holy Communion

### Trinity Sunday 30 May

**St Stephen-by-Saltash**

10.00am United Service

we share in this together and ready to offer assistance to others unable to manage for themselves. We have become aware of the dependence that we have upon the various social services in our communities – no need to name them for you know them well. Yes, perhaps we have become a more ‘loving’ people.

Bishop James later writes in his book, *Tragedy does not take away love; it increases it. Perhaps we are more loving people, more sensitive, more concerned for each other because of that moment of grief which overthrew our ideas of what things matter, and opened our eyes again to the importance of our common humanity.*

Certainly the disciples found their lives greatly changed following our Lord’s Resurrection. No longer frightened or scared even in some cases doubting men; they became filled with love and new power and went out into the world to bring about a new normality. It did not happen all at once but took even further suffering, pain, (and yes, death) before the change was achieved.

*Yet over time we grow and change; habits that once seemed ‘natural’ come to seem strange. New things, new perceptions are taken for granted.* (Candle in the Flame: Rowan Williams.)

This can be true for us as Bishop James also writes, *Experiences are delivered to us.* It is our choice whether we bury them or allow them to rise and change us from our self-seeking selves and continue in the newly discovered self-giving selves that have been revealed through the pandemic.

In the power of the Holy Spirit we can do this.

Father Brian

# Greetings from Kent

## Reverend Cathy Sigris

Dear friends,

It seems a long time ago since the 25th August last year when I was licensed by the Bishop of Dover (+Rose) in St Mary’s Church, Chilham as the Priest-in-Charge of the King’s Wood Benefice, a group of five rural parishes. Chilham is probably the best known village as it was used as the village setting for the production of Emma

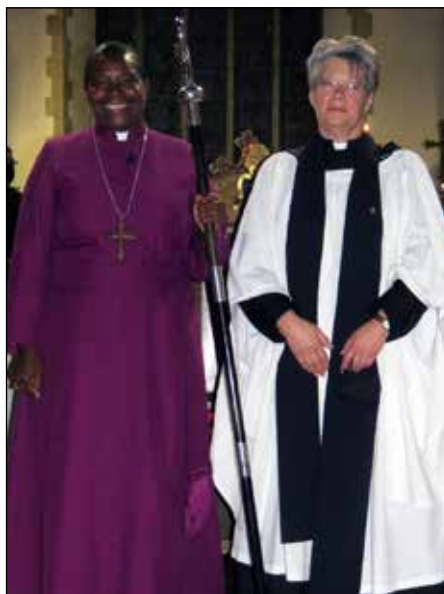
and has also been used for many Agatha Christie stories – especially Poirot. One of my other parishes, Godmersham, used to be owned by Jane Austen’s brother, and when one drives or walks along

the road to the church, there is almost an expectation of seeing one of the Bennet family members!

So, having arrived during lockdown without visiting any of the parishes or seeing the house where I was going to live, was to say at the least ‘interesting’. Just before my licensing service, limited to 80 because of the social distancing rules, there was a local power cut. Phones started ringing as those attending were asked to bring torches as others in the church began to light candles. It

looked very atmospheric. Bishop Rose then arrived and five minutes later the lights came back on. The power of prayer is truly amazing!

During most of my time here we haven’t been able to hold services in our churches, so I held Zoom services. They seemed to be very popular and certainly the members of the choirs were very glad to be able to sing along at home.



We returned to our church buildings on Easter Sunday. It really did seem very appropriate – a wonderful way to celebrate the resurrection – not only of Christ but also of our church services.

As we head out of lockdown I am

certainly looking forward to being able to get out and about and to meet people socially and to have refreshments with members of the congregation after our services.

I am also looking forward to welcoming a curate to the Benefice in July.

My thoughts and prayers are with you all as you continue to develop a Parish Profile and look forward to the appointment of a new parish priest.

Every blessing.

Yours in Christ, Cathy.

## General Knowledge Quiz

1. Shakehand grip and penhold grip are common grips in which sport?
2. To the closest mile, how long is the course of the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race when it is held on the Thames?
3. What is the name of Nemo's dad in Finding Nemo?
4. What name is given to a badger's home?
5. There are three native species of snake in the UK; smooth snake, adder, and which other?
6. What name is given to baby hedgehogs?
7. The game of snooker originated in which country in the latter half of the 19th century?
8. What is the biggest island in the world?
9. What nut is used to make marzipan?
10. Which country owns every panda in the world?

Answers on p4



I would like to thank my church family for all the messages and prayers during my recent heart surgery and for Freddie (my grandson) during his ongoing medical procedures.

My heart surgery seems to have been successful, although I'm still going through the recovery process. My special thanks to Steve Hookway for his support and for keeping everyone up to date and passing the messages on to me.

I hope to be back with you all soon.

Dave Coot

## Christian Aid Week



10-16  
May

Envelopes for donations will be available in St Stephen's and SS Nicholas & Faith churches. Please leave full envelopes for collection after Sunday services in the coming weeks

Gordon Richards St Stephen's,  
Mike Beer SS Nicholas & Faith

## Mothers' Union

In common with many other groups, Mothers' Union have not been meeting throughout the past year due to Covid. A lot of our members are over a certain age and have been shielding. We have kept in touch over the telephone, and leaders throughout the diocese have held Zoom meetings to keep up-to-date.



Those working at headquarters, in Mary Sumner House, have been furloughed, but the fundraising has continued. Many of our members have been knitting for Charity – either hats, jumpers or squares for blankets.

During the brief period last summer when we were not in lockdown, some members were able to attend a wave of prayer service in St Stephen's Church. Of course we could not sing hymns, but by reading aloud the words we appreciated how sacred they are, and how beautiful the English language can be. Our prayers for the world were more heartfelt than ever.

We were grateful to Reverend Pam Sellick who attended the service with us. It was a shame that we could not serve our usual tea and cakes but hopefully this September it will be possible.

Twenty-two members renewed their membership in January of this year. We have so missed our monthly get-togethers and are looking forward to restarting our meetings, probably in June, by when members should have had their two jabs.

Sandra Mckee

## Messy Church

Messy church managed to meet twice in 2020 before the lockdown called a halt to procedures. We have yet to resume but hope to restart in September.



Anybody who thinks they could help by joining the committee and/or who have ideas for Messy Church in the future, will be welcomed as some of our helpers are retiring. This part of our church life is so worthwhile and needed to introduce young people to the Christian faith. Please make yourself known to Sandra Mckee in church or ring 846803.

Sandra Mckee



# Talking to Jesus

**Sarah Yardley**

**Mission and Ministry Lead,  
Creation Fest UK**



In our daily lives, so many things can rob us of our conversation with Jesus. I have made it my great aim lately to prioritise people and presence over projects.

Life is easing out of lockdown

(again), which means it feels a bit like the accelerator has been pushed to the floor in our daily rhythms. Cornwall is full, shops are opening, days are longer.

Last weekend, I read this little line in a book by Ruth Haley Barton and I cried: *What I wanted to say to God was: 'I miss you.'*

I wonder if it is the story of every leader to realise that our time is stolen so quickly. We are distracted by ten thousand things, most of them important, and in the midst of the daily bustle it is easy to miss the beauty of simply being with Jesus.

In my reading, particularly in Samuel and Chronicles, I am reminded of the constant pursuit of intimacy with God, and that the leaders and followers who carried the most joy are the ones who carried a constant, active conversation with the God who loves.

Today's prayer is a simple one, borrowed from my friend Mike Andrea, director of 24/7 Prayer:

**Jesus, I love you.**

**This is what I started with**

**And this is what I'll end with.**

Answers to General Knowledge Quiz page 3.

1. Table tennis
2. 4 miles (4 miles & 374 yards)
3. Marlin
4. A Sett
5. Grass snake
6. Hoglets
7. India
8. Greenland
9. Almonds
10. China



A teenager asked his father if they could discuss his use of the car. His father said, 'You get good A level grades, study your Bible and get your hair cut, then we'll talk.' The boy agreed.

Some time later, the father said, 'I'm pleased with your grades and I note you've been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed with your long hair.'

The boy said, 'OK, but I've noticed in my studies that Samson, John the Baptist and probaby Jesus all had long hair.'

His father replied, 'And did you also notice that they walked everywhere they went?'



# Can You Add a Caption?



Please email your captions to [newsletter@saltashteamministry.org](mailto:newsletter@saltashteamministry.org) with 'caption' as the subject.



## Samaritan's Purse Update

Thank you to everyone who supported the Samaritan's Purse Appeal. Six hundred and forty two boxes, along with many generous donations of money were collected locally. These boxes were distributed in Belarus, Georgia, and Moldova bringing joy and happiness to many children. *Margaret Dell*

## Hoe Public Mayflower Service Sunday 11 July 2021



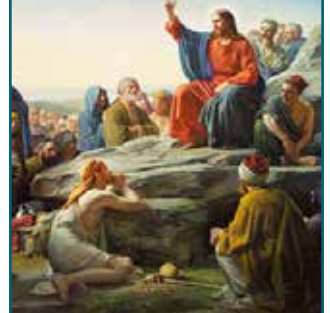
Postponed from the Mayflower events of 2020, The Hoe is hosting the major Mayflower celebration.

Plymouth Churches have use of the staging and PA to communicate the faith of the Pilgrims for the first hour of the day's events.

It is an unmissable opportunity to share our faith, through expounding their faith, at this significant public event.

All churches are asked to give this event their support. A once-in-a-generation opportunity – please plan to be there!

## Parables



Do you have a favourite parable? Or one you'd like to know more about?

Let us know by emailing [newsletter@saltashteamministry.org](mailto:newsletter@saltashteamministry.org) with 'Parable' as the subject. Each month someone will write about the parable with the most votes.



Our latest needs are:

- Milk Powder
- Tinned Fruit
- Sponge Puddings
- Size 6 Nappies
- Tinned Custard
- Razors

Please donate food at Waitrose, Lidl or the Co-op and/or donate money via the Saltash Foodbank website: <https://saltash.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money>



# Pentecost – One in the Holy Spirit

Brenton Blandford

There's no better time to celebrate the diversity of the Kingdom of God than on the Day of Pentecost. Separately, our differences are too diverse to list, but put together, our individual uniqueness creates a beautiful kaleidoscope we call the Body of Christ.

Sadly, today we see people and nations torn apart by racism, religious divisions, man-made borders and cultural bigotry. We have become a culture of us-versus-them, where the 'other' is to be

mark used by people to differentiate one person from another. In God we are one and God continues today to pour out his Spirit on all humanity.

On the Day of Pentecost, reported in the Book of Acts, people gathered in Jerusalem from all corners of the Roman Empire. They represented competing economic interests, diverse cultures, a myriad of languages and different religious traditions. Nevertheless, God's grace was given freely to all who heard the message preached by St Peter,

movement that would change the history of the world forever.

The message of Christ hasn't changed, but those who claim to be his followers have often failed miserably in living up to that message. The greatest temptation facing Christians isn't necessarily losing their passion, but rather, losing sight of the fact that in Christ there is neither Jew nor Greek, male nor female. In God's kingdom there are no illegal aliens or undocumented workers.



feared and never trusted. This is not a new occurrence, but one would have hoped that humanity would have learned from its past mistakes and recurrent genocides over the ages; however, here we are in the 21st century, repeating history again, with chilling efficiency and cruelty.

Pentecost is a reminder that God's Holy Spirit is given freely to all people with no respect for race, culture, socio-economic standing, gender or any other distinguishing

and thousands converted to Christ. These strangers who converged on Jerusalem returned to their homes and spread the message of Christ, and the church began to spread like a wildfire engulfing dry brush.

From its inception, the church was a diverse group of people who hailed from a variety of cultures and languages. It was in the midst of this great diversity that God sent the Holy Spirit upon his church and started a

We who have died with Christ in baptism are resurrected to be a new people bound in love and service to one another.

The Holy Spirit works by transforming the lives of believers. Just as Jesus glorified humanity when he ascended to the Father, the gift of the Holy Spirit restores our relationship with God.

In the fourth century, St Basil, who was one of the early church fathers wrote, [Through the Holy Spirit we](#)

are restored to paradise, led back to the Kingdom of heaven, and adopted as children, given confidence to call God 'Father' and to share in Christ's grace, called children of light and given a share in eternal glory.

In order for this transformation to take place, we must be willing to surrender ourselves to Christ and God's will for our lives.

Jesus promised his disciples that he would send the Holy Spirit whose fruits are love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faith, meekness and self-control. These fruits are the qualities of Jesus that the Holy Spirit develops in our lives as we grow in our faith. That's who we are and who we are to become as Christians. The Holy Spirit transforms the believer into the image of Christ and obliges the Christian to share in the Church's apostolic and missionary activity. Just as the disciples' bold and fearless witness at Pentecost led to the conversion of more than 3,000 people, so too are we called to bear witness of God's love for the world today.

The Holy Spirit compels us to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbour as ourselves. One way we do this is by reaching out to the unloved, the hard to love, and the rejected in our midst and loving them, emulating our Heavenly Father's love for us who are called by His name. An elderly man of some affluence once asked a priest how he could possibly learn to serve the least in society. The priest answered, "You will be able to serve others when

you see the crucified Christ in every person you meet, regardless of their social standing." That is a tall order to fulfil, but not an impossibility for those who allow the indwelling Holy Spirit to work in them.

Every time we who are baptised into the Body of Christ approach the Eucharistic table, we are reminded of God's love for us. It is around the holy table gathered with our brothers and sisters in Christ that our Heavenly Father graciously accepts us as living members of his own Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, and feeds us with spiritual food in the blessed Sacrament. Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcome new believers into the blessed family we call the Body of Christ. As they pass through the waters of baptism we are asked to do all in our power to support them in their life in Christ. All of us have an important role to play in their spiritual development. It is no small thing what we do around the baptismal font, since all of us take solemn vows for which God will hold us accountable.

Just as the Holy Spirit was poured out on peoples of every language at Pentecost, so the Holy Spirit today continues to draw people from every culture, language and ethnicity into the family we call the church catholic. Pentecost is an awe-inspiring day of joy and celebration on many levels. Through the Holy Spirit, we welcome strangers into our midst and become family, and we welcome the Holy Spirit into our lives and become transformed into the image of Christ.

**May the gift of the Holy Spirit given at Pentecost renew us today and stir up within us those spiritual gifts which God has so richly and freely given to us when we were baptised into Christ's holy church. Amen**

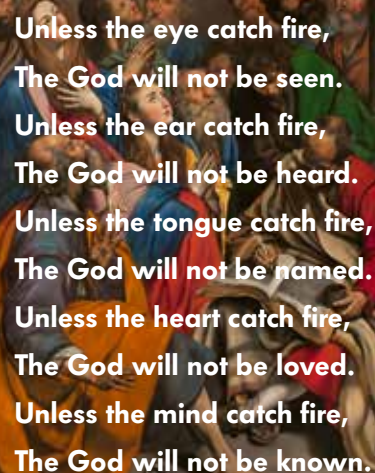
## Devon & Cornwall Police, Counter Terrorism Network

is seeking to recruit individual, independent, faith based recruits for an advisory / critical friend role.

Details of the role – <https://www.counterterrorism.police.uk/ctan/>  
Would anyone interested please contact Chris for further details – [ctipchair@gmail.com](mailto:ctipchair@gmail.com)

## Pentecost

by William Blake



Unless the eye catch fire,  
The God will not be seen.  
Unless the ear catch fire,  
The God will not be heard.  
Unless the tongue catch fire,  
The God will not be named.  
Unless the heart catch fire,  
The God will not be loved.  
Unless the mind catch fire,  
The God will not be known.

## Evensong



Evensong will resume on Sunday 16 May at 6.30pm in St Stephen's and will take place on every third Sunday thereafter.

**Annual Parochial Church Meetings:** 9 May (after service) - STST, 24 May - Landrake, 30 May (after service) - SSNF.



# Service of Commemoration

On Thursday 22 April 2021, St Stephen's Church held a Service of Commemoration on the 80th anniversary of the loss of six Saltash Auxiliary Firefighters in the Plymouth Blitz of 1941



*Procession at the start of the service*



*Standing beside a fire engine used in the Plymouth blitz in 1941*



*Outside the Church door*

The service commemorates the sacrifice made by six auxiliary firefighters in Saltash on the night of April 22, 1941, when they rushed to the aid of families affected by the bombing raids on Plymouth.

The service was based, as far as possible, on ones held at St Stephen's Church, Saltash and St Andrew's Church, Plymouth in 1949.

The Service was recorded and can be viewed on the Saltash Team Ministry website:  
<https://saltashteamministry.org/service-of-commemoration.html>

*Pictures taken by Helen Reid, Audrey Miller and Ruth Edmondson*



*Bishop Hugh Nelson, Bishop of St Germans*



*Firefighters wearing the uniform of the time standing beside a fire engine used in the Plymouth blitz in 1941*



*Lt. Cdr (Rtd) Barry Brooking speaks to families of the six firefighters after the service*

**Please email articles to: [newsletter@saltashteamministry.org](mailto:newsletter@saltashteamministry.org) by 20 May 2021.**