

Saltash Area Newsletter

Dec 2023 / Jan 2024

St Michael
Landrake



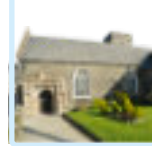
St Mary
Botus Fleming



St Terninus
St Erney



SS Nicholas &
Faith, Saltash



St Stephens
Saltash



A holy place in Saltash, a holy place for Saltash, and a place to encounter the holiness of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.
www.saltashteamministry.org

We are almost in Advent

We are almost in the season of Advent. The shops are filling with their ideas of how to celebrate Christmas. The decorations are going up and there is a distinct atmosphere of excitement and anticipation – and not just from the children. Have you made your Christmas pudding yet – stir up Sunday is near!

However, for many people this has been a worrying and distressing and frustrating year – perhaps now we can remember that, in spite of the



difficulties we have experienced, our faith gives us not just something to hold onto but to rejoice and celebrate. Advent is the time of preparation for the Christmas celebrations. At the same time, if you followed the church calendar in the past, there was a distinct emphasis on repentance! No mention of fairy lights!

So what do we celebrate. The birth of a tiny, frail baby. Born in a stable to a teenage mother and an older father. Not a promising prospect. Yet this low key event was surrounded by angels singing praise!

It is only a month or so before we reach Christmas and the beginning of the new year 2024. What important things have happened for you over the past year? For some people there will have been noticeable personal events happening.

Significant family events to remember. The birthdays, or the weddings or the funeral that mark the lives of people who are special to us. As the old year passes so we remember that we have come to the celebration of a king. The birth of the king – the same weak, vulnerable baby in the stable. We are taken to the crowning

of the year and the beginning of a new year with the birth of Jesus. I know we tend to bury that event under all the fripperies, but it is still

there. We look to the birth of that vulnerable baby as our lord and king.

Although war is still raging in that baby's homeland – and in many other countries – we still pray and hope for peace. We rejoice at the birth of that baby – weak and vulnerable – but destined to be our saviour and we join with the angels in singing Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace and goodwill to all

I wish you all a very happy and blessed Advent and Christmas

Gordon

Thank you for all the good wishes, messages and cards. I am pleased to say that normal service is now being resumed!

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Friday 1 December

The Big Sing

7pm St Stephen

Sunday 3 December

From Darkness to Light

6.30pm SS Nicholas & Faith

Sunday 10 December

Carol Service

6.30pm St Erney

Sunday 17 December

Christingle

11.15am St Mary

Carol Service

3pm Landulph

then mince pies

6.30pm SS Nicholas & Faith

Christmas Eve

Crib Service

3pm St Stephen

4pm St Michael

Carol Service

6.30pm St Mary

Midnight Mass

11.30pm SS Nicholas & Faith

11.30pm St Stephen

Christmas Day

Christmas Holy Communion

9.30am St Michael

10.30am St Stephen

11.15am St Mary

St Stephen's Day

Holy Communion

10am St Stephen



DECEMBER SERVICES

See page 1 for Christmas Services

Advent 3 December

St Stephen-by-Saltash
9.30am Family Service

St Michael, Landrake
9.30am Family Service

SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm Darkness to Light

St Mary, Botus Fleming
11.15am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 10 December

St Stephen-by-Saltash
9.30am Holy Communion

St Michael, Landrake
9.30am Holy Communion

SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash
11.15am Holy Communion

St Mary, Botus Fleming
11.15am Holy Communion

St Erney, Landrake
6.30pm Carol Service

Tuesday 12 December

St Stephen-by-Saltash
2pm MU Advent Service

Sunday 17 December

St Stephen-by-Saltash
9.30am Holy Communion

St Michael, Landrake
9.30am Holy Communion

SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash
11.15am Holy Communion
6.30pm Carol Service

St Mary, Botus Fleming
11.15am Christingle

Landulph
3pm Carols followed by mince pies

Sunday 24 December

St Stephen-by-Saltash
9.30am Holy Communion

SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash
11.15am Holy Communion

Sunday 31 December

SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash
10am Holy Communion
United Service

Wednesdays (not 27 Dec)

St Stephen-by-Saltash
10am Holy Communion

Recent Events

MOSSAF

MOSSAF 2023 came to the end of another successful year when members enjoyed a two-course meal together at the Lord Louis.



We now close down for the winter months but we already have another exciting line up of speakers and nights out planned for 2024, starting in March.

If you are interested in joining us then please speak to Steve Hookway, Roger Rowse or Dave Coot.

November Fair



We were totally blown away by the number of people who attended our November Fair, especially in the first hour. Christmas cakes and tombola prizes were all gone in record time and bacon rolls were sold out by 11.30am. This all helped us to achieve yet another best ever for this event of £2,752.32. A massive thanks to all who helped and supported in any way.



JANUARY SERVICES

Sunday 7 January

St Stephen-by-Saltash
9.30am Family Service

St Michael, Landrake
9.30am Family Service

SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash
11.15am Holy Communion

St Mary, Botus Fleming
11.15am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 14 January

St Stephen-by-Saltash
9.30am Holy Communion

St Michael, Landrake
9.30am Holy Communion

SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash
11.15am Holy Communion

St Mary, Botus Fleming
11.15am Holy Communion

St Erney, Landrake
11.15am Matins

Sunday 21 January

St Stephen-by-Saltash
9.30am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

St Michael, Landrake
9.30am Holy Communion

SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash
11.15am Holy Communion

St Mary, Botus Fleming
11.15am Family Service

Sunday 28 January

St Stephen-by-Saltash
9.30am Holy Communion

St Michael, Landrake
9.30am Holy Communion

SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash
11.15am Holy Communion

St Mary, Botus Fleming
11.15am Holy Communion

St Erney, Landrake
11.15am Holy Communion

Every Wednesday

St Stephen-by-Saltash
10am Holy Communion



Epiphany Quiz

1. How many Wise Men (Magi) visited Joseph, Jesus and Mary in Bethlehem?
2. Which King of Israel wanted to kill the baby who would grow to become the Messiah?
3. Who wrote the text of the Epiphany carol "We Three Kings of Orient Are"?
a) Phillips Brooks b) John Henry Hopkins Jr
c) Charles Wesley d) Father Josef Mohr
4. The story of the visit of the Wise Men (Magi) appears in the Gospel according to whom?
5. Which of the following is not a kind of Three Kings Cake?
a) La Rosca de Reyes b) Dreikönigskuchen
c) Galette des Rois d) Kulitch
6. Whose poem "The Journey of the Magi" begins
*A cold coming we had of it, just the worst time
of the year for a journey, and such a long
journey?*
a) William Butler Yeats b) Henry Wadsworth
Longfellow c) O Henry d) T S Eliot
7. What is the origin and meaning of the word "epiphany"?
a) From the German, meaning "after Christmas" b) From the Greek, meaning "before Lent" c) From the Greek, meaning "to show forth" d) From the Latin, meaning "astrologers or magicians"
8. "The Adoration of the Magi" was commissioned in the late 15th Century as an altarpiece for the Augustinian monks of San Donato a Scopeto in Florence. It was unfinished and now hangs in the Uffizi Gallery in Florence. Who painted it?
a) Sandro Botticelli b) Andrea del Verrocchio
c) Leonardo da Vinci d) Fra Angelico and Fra Filippo Lippi

Answers on p4



Recent Events continued

Remembrance Day Coffee Morning



It was standing room only at the very successful Remembrance Day coffee morning at Botus Fleming. The Cargreen singers came along to entertain us with wartime songs, many of which we joined in with.



Mother's Union

In November, 12 members gathered in St Stephen's Church for prayers and then we crafted decorations for our Christmas Tree which will be entered in the Festival at St Nicholas and St Faith Church.

We had an update on proposed plans for the amalgamation of all the Diocese in the South West area into one larger Mothers' Charity – sounds familiar!

We are now collecting good quality children's clothes for our clothes bank. Please phone 07462 377257 if you have any.

On 12 December we will be holding out Advent Service at 2pm at St Stephen's to which all are invited. We would love to see you there.



Recent Events continued

Messy Church



We had a very busy Messy Church in November. It was very uplifting to see so many children and their carers in Church having a great time. A little early – but we were thinking about Advent and preparing for the coming of Jesus Christ.



We made calendars and wreaths, suncatchers and presents to place around the tree on the board. We also found time to craft angels to decorate the Messy Church tree in the festival at St Nicholas and St Faith Church. Do go and have a look at them.

In our worship we thought about what kind of saviour the people of the Old Testament were expecting – and what kind of saviour Jesus Christ turned out to be. We thanked God for his gift of his only son and for his love and patience shown to us all at all times – not just for Christmas.

As usual, our worship finished with the Messy Grace and was followed by teatime. Thanks go to all who make Messy Church possible.

The next meeting is on 16 December at 3pm.



Bank the Food

Please point the camera on your mobile phone at this QR code. Click the displayed link to download the 'Bank the Food' App. This will enable you to see which items Saltash Foodbank needs right now!

Our latest needs:

- Christmas Puddings (various sizes)
- Chocolates and Sweets
- Tins of Ham
- Instant Custard Sachets
- Savoury Biscuits / Snacks
- Jars of Jam
- Mince Pies
- Coffee
- Men's Toiletries / Gifts



Make a difference this Christmas!

Please donate food at Waitrose, Lidl, Food Warehouse, the Co-op or in the boxes at the back of the Saltash Churches and/or donate money via the Saltash Foodbank website:

saltash.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money

The Magi by Malcolm Guite

It might have been just someone else's story;
Some chosen people get a special king,
We leave them to their own peculiar glory,
We don't belong, it doesn't mean a thing.
But when these three arrive they bring us with them,
Gentiles like us, their wisdom might be ours;
A steady step that finds an inner rhythm,
A pilgrim's eye that sees beyond the stars.
They did not know his name but still they sought him
They came from elsewhere but still they found;
In palaces they found those who sold and bought him,
But in the filthy stable, hallowed ground.
Their courage gives our questing hearts a voice
To seek, to find, to worship, to rejoice.

Answers to Quiz on p 5:

1. 3
2. Herod
3. John Henry Hopkins Jr
4. Matthew
5. Kulitch (a Russian Easter cake)
6. T S Eliot
7. From the German, meaning "after Christmas"
8. Leonardo da Vinci

Christmas Tree Festival 2023

**Saturday 25 November
to Friday 15 December**

FREE ENTRY – donations invited



**Well over 70 trees will be on show
including several new entries**

Opening Times

Saturday 25 November: 10am to 6pm

Refreshments available until 4pm

Sunday 26 November: 2pm to 6pm

Monday to Friday: 2pm to 6pm

Saturday 2 December: 10am to 7.30pm

The Burraton Boys will be singing in the afternoon.

Refreshments available until 4pm.

Mulled wine and shortbread after 6pm.

Sunday 3 December: 2pm to 6pm

Monday to Friday: 2pm to 6pm

Saturday 9 December: 10am to 6pm

Grace Notes Acapella will be singing in the afternoon. Refreshments available until 4pm.

Sunday 10 December: 2pm to 6pm

Monday to Friday: 2pm to 6pm

On Friday 15th there will also be a concert with Brunel School, and SSNF Choir

Grand Christmas Draw

First prize is an alcoholic hamper, second prize £100, third prize a luxury hamper and many other prizes.

Recent Events continued

Landrake Christmas Bazaar

St Michael's Christmas Bazaar raised £743. It was a lovely afternoon and well supported by the village.

Christmas Shopping Evening



On Friday 24 November St Stephen's Church held their first Christmas Shopping Evening since Covid times. It was yet another busy event indeed raising over £1,300.

Thanks to everyone who came and supported us on a very cold evening and not forgetting everyone who helped make the evening a success.



Prayer for Advent

O God of Love,

Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.

He is a sign of your love.

Help us walk in that love during
the weeks of Advent,

As we wait and prepare for his coming.

We pray in the name of Jesus,
our Saviour

Amen



Countdown



I would like to thank everyone for the kind words from you regarding my recent appearance on the TV show 'Countdown' I had a fantastic day and despite not winning it was a great experience. Everyone there were so friendly and supportive. To meet Claire from the group STEPS was just fantastic. *David Coot*



There are still a few spaces on our stewarding list for the Christmas Tree Festival, so if you can spare an hour or two we would be very grateful, please would you sign up on the list at the back of SSNF.



Darren and some of the volunteers from Cornwall & Devon 'Sending Love to Ukraine' would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has donated either items or cash for their continued trips to Ukraine. A special thank you to Hilary Green for all of her bargain hunting goodies that she keeps finding and supplying and to Ray and Mary Wills for taking another full car load to Callington ready for its onward journey.

What's On

Christmas Tree Festival

SSNF Church

**Saturday 25 November
to Friday 15 December**

See page 5 for details..

Messy Church

St Stephen's Church

Saturday 16 December, 3pm

Christmas Party.

S.T.A.R.T.

Wednesday 20 December

Christmas Meal with Probus
at China Fleet

Mothers' Union

St Stephen's Church

Tuesday 9 January, 3pm

S.T.A.R.T.

Friday 19 January

Messy Church

St Stephen's Church

Saturday 20 January, 3pm

Food Market and

Table Top Sale

St Stephen's Church

Saturday 3 Feb, 9.30 to noon

There is an exciting list of Food Traders already lined up for St Stephen's first event of 2024. Bacon Rolls and Toasted Tea Cakes will be on sale. Entry is free.

Make a note in your 2024 diary.

Australian Evening

SSNF Church Rooms

Saturday 24 February

Why not come along and join our beach party, perhaps dress for a day on the beach with sun cream, sunglasses swimsuits! and hats.

Oh and don't forget your 'esky', full of cold beers etc. Tickets will be £6.50, more details at a later date.

Carol Singing in Botus Fleming

19 & 20 December

meet at 6.30pm

at St Mary's Church



All welcome



The second and final phase of the project, to change the tower and altar lighting from halogen to LED at St Stephen's church, has been completed in the last couple of days by the fabulous electrical contractors, M H Hart & Son. A huge thank you to Dave, Phil, Jamie and other M H Hart workers who completed this project very professionally and left the church just as they found it.

At the last Creation Care meeting, we had a talk from Christian Aid. At the end of the meeting we were set a challenge by DEO Ben Lillie – to make a recycled/sustainable Christmas decoration to show at the next meeting. I have a pile of unused weekly sheets that I use for scrap paper on my desk which I will use to make a decoration. What decoration would you make? *Helen Reid*

Please email articles for the next issue to: newsletter@saltashteamministry.org by 20 January.