

OUR NEWS

MAY 2016

ENVIRONMENT AND DIOCESAN PLANS KEY ITEMS FOR SYNOD

Public welcome to attend County Hall, Truro on May 7 for the bi-annual meeting of the Diocesan Synod



The Diocesan Synod takes place on May 7 at County Hall in Truro.

Staff and pupils from St Uny School will be leading the opening worship for the first Synod of 2016 before the 100 or so members get down to business.

Among the items on the agenda this year is the Anglican and Methodist Environmental Policy. Members will be asked to vote on a motion to re-affirm its current policy before there will be presentations to mark the re-launch of the Environmental Awards Scheme.

Following a short lunch break there will be an update on the next phase of work around the Mission and Ministry Fund before members are asked to vote on a motion relating to a new Diocesan Development plan. This plan aims to shape the future of the Diocese for the next two years as well as laying the groundwork for the next five years.

MORE INFORMATION

To see the full agenda go to <http://tinyurl.com/jjf9lgq>

WEDDINGS TEAM BUSY AT LARGEST SW BRIDAL SHOW

A team of people from across the Diocese attended the South West's largest bridal show at the Royal Cornwall Showground in Wadebridge and were kept busy with a steady stream of interest.

Over 70 Your Church Wedding packs were handed out over the two day event which saw over 1,400 people attending.

Revd Dom Jones, who organised the team, said: "While we gave out 70 packs we also spoke to many more couples. It was good to learn over half of those were either having a church wedding or considering it.

"Our presence was also welcomed by the organisers and other stall holders and we've been invited back again next year."

CHRISM EUCHARIST

Over 500 people were welcomed into Truro Cathedral for the Chrism Eucharist on Maundy Thursday which also saw Canon Stephen Dawes, the Canon Theologian, receive a special presentation to mark his retirement after 11 years.

READ MORE

<http://tinyurl.com/hcgkcyf>



BISHOP'S LETTER

“ As some of you may know, before I came to Cornwall I was a Vicar in Essex. In fact, I was Vicar in the town where the TV Show ‘The Only Way is Essex’ is based. You may not have seen TOWIE but you have probably heard of it. ”



BISHOP CHRIS

If you do watch for more than a few minutes, let me encourage you to try to see past the fake tans, plucked eyebrows and extraordinary hair do's, and that's just the men! If you do, what is really striking is how much attention is given to relationships. Even in a programme where appearance reigns above all and superficiality is celebrated, it is the deep hopes, hurts, joys and fears of the human heart that are the real focus.

As men and women of all ages we are created for relationship. Without experiences of love given and love received we are diminished as people. Jesus understood this when he commissioned his new model community, the Christian church, with the instruction “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. John 13:33-35

After the birth of the church at the first Pentecost, the bible records an outpouring of advice and encouragement from the leaders of the early churches, Peter, Paul, John, James and others all had lots to say

about our relationships with one another. Here's just a selection:

Honour one another above yourselves. Live in harmony with one another. Stop passing judgment on one another. Accept one another, just as Christ accepted you. Have equal concern for one other. Serve one another in love. Carry one another's burdens. Bear with one another in love. Be kind and compassionate to one another. Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Admonish one another with all wisdom. Encourage one another and build each other up daily. Spur one another on towards love and good deeds. Love one another deeply, from the heart. Offer hospitality to one another.

What a brilliant and inspiring aspiration for community then and now. These men and women were trying to work out, and to live out with one another what it means to be truly human. They had discovered a new relationship with God in Jesus Christ and now as a result they were discovering a new depth and quality of relationship with one another. They sought indeed to love one another as Jesus had loved them.

No wonder that in those early years of the church, the comment by outsiders was “Look how these Christians love one another”. May that be our goal across Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. In our generation and in our communities may Jesus' love flow through us to meet the deepest and most unchanging needs of others within the church and out into the whole community. We love because he first loved us. **The only way is Jesus.**

SPEAK OUT: THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who has risen to Bishop Tim's challenge to Speak Out 2016.

In church, in coffee mornings, at meetings, with friends, via letters, emails and social media, many have shared their stories in a bid to tell 2,016 faith stories. Thank you. For those who have not, its not too late!

While Lent is now over, the year of OUT (and Speak Out) continues. To share your story email speakout2016@truro.anglican.org or via [#speakout2016](https://twitter.com/speakout2016) on Twitter. All the stories will be added to the Faith section of our website and on to Tumblr. To read some of the stories [click here](#)

WALK WITH +TIM

As part of Speak Out 2016 Bishop Tim will be striding out into the countryside on **July 30**. Join him at Laneast Church at 10am for a walk to St Clether Church for 12 noon. Prayer stations will be set up in St Clether Church. There will be a short lunch break before the walkers set off again at 1.15pm for St Clether Holy Well chapel where a simple communion service will be held. It will then be back to St Clether Church for Cream teas and evening prayers. If you cannot join the walk you are still welcome to join in prayers.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO MARK QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

The Queen's official 90th birthday weekend is June 10 - 12. Here, Joseph Friedrich shares details of events, online resources, liturgical materials, general advice and the celebration map - it is fascinating to see which churches are doing what all over the country. Churches can follow [@CofE_ChurchCare](https://twitter.com/CofE_ChurchCare), use [#HMQ90](https://twitter.com/HMQ90) and share their plans by emailing queensbirthday@churchofengland.org or queensbirthday@churchofengland.org

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MISSION CASE STUDY

'BALANCING INNOVATION AND ROUTINE' KEY TO YOUTH WORK



Margaret Morris, voluntary children's and youth worker at St Mary's Church in Callington, started filling in for six weeks of Sunday school in 1992. Now 24 years later Margaret is running successful youth work within the church.

Growing up Margaret attended a Methodist church with very active youth work. "That was very sustaining and enriching for me and set me on a good path."

In 1986 Margaret and her husband moved to Cornwall and started attending the local Anglican Church. The couple had two young children and Margaret started helping out at the Sunday school. "I thought I was needed for six weeks and here I am 24 years later and I'm still doing children's work and youth work."

Why youth work? Margaret says: "I think it is just the passion for youth work and because people put time and effort into me as a teenager and it made me feel I wanted to give back."

Margaret and three others currently run "Sunday Live" on a Sunday morning which sees ten young people from both church and non-church backgrounds attending. They also run a social event on a monthly basis that includes ten pin bowling, games evenings or their annual walk from Cothele to Calstock stopping for fish and chips at the end. There is also projects to help others.

The team meet once a term for planning and send out all of the dates and permission forms in one go. They also meet regularly for prayer and Margaret emphasised the importance of this:

"You can never say too much about the prayer side of things, you really need a lot of people praying for you. You are on the front line which is why prayer is so important."

They also run 'Cooking is Fun' an afternoon club for children and young people aged from five to 15. They cook meals in the church kitchen which promotes healthy living and food preparation skills.

Margaret, who now runs her own catering business, came up with the idea and the class has been running for just over a year. Margaret said: "It is also bringing parents in to church who we otherwise wouldn't see."

Margaret has found that sustaining young peoples' interest over a period of time can be difficult. "You need to have things that are fresh but you also need things that repeat so they have familiar things they look forward to. Part of us likes that tradition but you also need to mix that in with being innovative as well. And do things that are different."

Her advice to others: "You have got to have a passion for it. It takes up a huge amount of time. You can't do it by yourself."

Over the past few years Margaret has found it very rewarding to help young people on their faith journey.

SHARE YOUR STORY
WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR MISSION
STORIES. GET IN TOUCH:
comms@truro.anglican.org

NEW SCHOOL RESOURCES FOR CHURCH VISITS

New resources have been produced to enhance school visits to churches. USB sticks are currently being distributed to schools to promote the opportunity to visit a church and provide materials for teachers to use during the visit which will enable them to meet the National Curriculum requirements for key stage two. Rural deans are also being provided with the materials to distribute within their deaneries.

A bank of these and any new resources will be available on the Diocesan website.

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WORSHIP LEADER SURVEY

The Discipleship Team will be contacting all Local Worship Leaders and Local Pastoral ministers with a short survey at the end of June.

The purpose of the survey is to give the team an idea of the range of work Local Worship Leaders and Local Pastoral Ministers are undertaking on behalf of parishes. It is hoped that where appropriate this will enable the team to update and improve the training and ongoing support offered to local ministry teams.

The survey will be sent out in the next week or two via email or post.

SUPPORTING CHARITY

The Diocese of Truro will be represented at the Us (USPG) Conference and council meeting in June with Revd Canon David Steven attending.

Us, a church based charity, is working on behalf on migrants in partnership with the Diocese of Europe and the Greek Orthodox Church as well as supporting the work of the Salvation Army in Athens.

MORE INFORMATION

<http://www.weareus.org.uk/>

LET'S START A CONVERSATION



Following the retirement of the Canon Theologian Stephen Dawes, we are starting a series featuring guest contributors.

This month we welcome Revd Christopher Newell

We have been very good in the Church, and here I refer specifically to the Church of England, of not facing up to the matters that, sadly divide us as much as those that unite us. It is as if we feel that people will criticize us for making public our disagreements and presenting to the world a false unity.

We constantly represent ourselves as a family but what family do you know who doesn't have arguments about all manner of things and yet remain devoted to each other?

Isn't a family's health and well-being symbolised by accepting each other as we are, and enabling each other to grow together whilst not being clones of each other?

In recent months, the Archbishop of Canterbury has hosted a gathering of leaders of the Anglican Communion concerning the agonizing issue of human sexuality.

Now I know there is tremendous opposition to the very idea of homosexuality in the fast growing churches of Africa and mainly in countries where homosexuality is not only illegal but gay people live in fear of their lives.

As Christians of a global family, can we not ask hard but loving questions of each other and our theology and practice, especially when these practices seem to implicitly condone violence against our

neighbour, whatever their sexuality?

Equally, can those of us who consider that gay people who want to live in the God-given covenantal relationship of marriage not listen to how distressing this feels to many and enter into a painful but ultimately healing dialogue?

We are a family not of identikit human beings, but chosen by God and made in God's image to live out a life of love, compassion, and understanding, whatever our colour, gender, ability, or sexuality.

I long for the day when the Church, globally and locally, may celebrate in its ministers who can declare their sexuality, the loving partnerships of which they are a part and my church can allow me to preside over the holy sanctity of marriage to all who seek it.

Many of you will disagree with me passionately. So let's start a conversation and not try to hide in the shadows, hoping this will all go away. It won't.

Revd Newell is a regular contributor to St Goran with St Michael Caerhays Parish Magazine.

GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

WANT TO JOIN THE TEAM?

GET IN TOUCH:

comms@truro.anglican.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAY

- 1 Rogation Sunday**, prayers for Farmers
- 1 Godparents' Sunday**
- 2 Craft stalls**, Paul Church
- 2 Dawn Chorus & Levon an Bys**, Paul Church
- 5 National Day of Prayer for Police**
- 7 Diocesan Synod, County Hall, Truro, 9.30am, public welcome**
- 7 Day of reflection**, St Endellion Church, 10am
- 7 Organ Recitals**, All Saints Church Falmouth, 2.30pm
- 7 Internet Spirituality**, St Mary's Church, Penzance, £5, 7pm
- 7 Saturday Sessions at Kea Church** <http://saturdaysessions.weebly.com/>
- 8-15 Thy Kingdom Come week** of prayer for Pentecost <http://thykingdom.co.uk/>
- 8 Red Cross 150th anniversary display**, Truro Cathedral
- 8 Exploring & experiencing Forest Church**, Paul Church Hall, 10am-3pm £5 (bring lunch)
- 8 Washaway Gallery Choir**, St Broeke Church, 6pm
- 9 Exploring & experiencing Christian Mindfulness**, St Mary's Church, Penzance, 12noon £5
- 10 Dementia Awareness Session**, Paul Church Hall, 10.30am, £2. penleecluster@hotmail.co.uk
- 12 Streams Together Prayer**, Epiphany House, Truro, 7pm
- 12 Flower Festival**, St Saviour Church, Polruan, 9am
- 12 Introduction to Project Outcomes**, 9.45am, Lanner, Book 01872 274351.
- 16 CARM Painting Retreat**, Epiphany House
- 16 Quiet Day**, St Just in Roseland Church, 10am
- 19 Johnny Cowling**, Tregony Chapel, 7.30pm
- 20 Mother's Union Spring council Meeting**, Tresillian Village Hall, 10am
- 21 Taize Service**, Epiphany House, 7-8pm
- 21 Dawn Chorus & Levon an Bys**, St Mary's Church, Penzance, 7.30pm
- 21-22 Madrigals workshop**, St Endellion Church
- 25 Quiet Day**, Epiphany House, £18 01872 272249 to book
- 27-30 Flower Festival** St Andrew's Church Stratton, Once upon a Time - Stories from Childhood, 10am-5pm
- 28 (-June 5) Wadebridge & District Camera Club**, St Endellion Hall
- 28 (-June 1) A celebration of the Spirit of Mount's Bay**, St Mary's Church, Penzance, 10.30am
- 29 Cream Teas**, St Saviours Church, Polruan, 2.30pm
- 29 Mousehole Male Voice Choir**, St Mary's Church, Penzance, 7.30pm
- 30-31 The ZigZag Way**, St Euny Church, £10/£9 01726879500

GET IN TOUCH

If you have a news story or a diary date to share, please get in touch: 01872 360037 comms@truro.anglican.org before the 17th of each month.

OTHER LINKS

SRO Briefing <http://tinyurl.com/hn5b5oo>
InReview <http://tinyurl.com/hvn5eel>
InFocus <http://tinyurl.com/hvld2mj>
DotCandy <http://tinyurl.com/zsjng7e>

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