



DIOCESE OF TRURO

DISCOVERING GOD'S KINGDOM
GROWING THE CHURCH



OUR NEWS

MARCH 2017

CARING FOR CREATION, WHILE BUILDING RESILIENCE

Luci Isaacson joins the diocese as its Environment Officer, working with the Church's environment core group to develop its strategy.

Are you willing to take some small steps to reduce your carbon footprint? That's the challenge I am putting to you this year – and together we can make a real difference.

The challenge follows the Bishop's carbon-cutting activities in the lead up to the United Nations Climate Change Conference, and now I am encouraging Christian disciples across the whole diocesan community to act on caring for God's creation with the same pledges. During the five months before the conference, 10 high profile individuals undertook two pledges a month to cut carbon and get resilient to climate change. Now I will be inviting you here, every month, to do one pledge, together.

I hope you find the challenge enjoyable and will look forward to joining in and undertaking Pledge One today:

Pledge One

I pledge to ring my electricity supplier over the next 24 hours and see if I can switch to green energy (if not I will find one).

It is asking you to make a phone-call, to embark on the journey yourself, in your home. I do hope you enjoy your experience finding out about it, which might also

give weight to your conversations as you share reading the Bible in the Bishop's Lent Challenge.

We would like to celebrate your activity so please 'check the box' on the website or find a flyer coming to your church soon. You could place it on your wall and enjoy ticking them off as you go and then you can post it to us. You can record your activity at <https://tinyurl.com/jmqhnx>

By joining in, and all having the same experience of doing one pledge a month, every month this year, to try and make a difference, no matter how small, we also all become more resilient to climate change. By October you could be enjoying saving as much as 4.43 tonnes of carbon a year, which makes a great difference and you'll naturally be thinking more about your surroundings and how you might better protect yourselves and your families. This helps us to work out how to share with others to do the same.

If you would like to know more, collect flyers for your church or book the 8 panel Carbon Logic Story boards, please do get in touch with me on luci@climatevision.co.uk or 01872 241239.

Luci Isaacson, Diocesan Environment Officer

THY KINGDOM COME PRAYER MOVEMENT

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement which the Archbishop of Canterbury is inviting people around the world to join. He is calling on Christians to pray that people might know Jesus Christ during a focused time between Ascension and Pentecost from 25th May – 4th June 2017.

The hope is that:

- People will commit to pray with God's world-wide family - as a church, individually or as a family;
- Churches will hold prayer events, such as 24-7 prayer, prayer stations and prayer walks, across the UK and in other parts of the world;
- People will be transformed through prayer by the Holy Spirit, finding new confidence to be witnesses for Jesus Christ.

READ MORE <https://tinyurl.com/hcgjahs>

EXPLORE CHURCHES

ExploreChurches.org is a new website provided by the National Churches Trust which highlights and promotes churches across the country. The potential for our churches in Cornwall to attract visitors and for those visits to be enjoyable and rewarding as well as being an opportunity for mission and fund-raising is huge. The National Churches Trust are planning to launch a complete section for Cornwall and it's churches to promote our beautiful and unique churches countrywide. If your church would like to be a part of this opportunity, look out for the forms that will be sent out in the next couple of weeks to churchwardens.

READ MORE <https://tinyurl.com/hst4slo>

BISHOP CHRIS'S LETTER

“ For me pilgrimage is an experience of body, mind and spirit. As humans we are all of these things, and more besides. ”



BISHOP CHRIS

Pilgrimage is nothing new but it is again attracting increasing numbers of people from within the Christian Church and beyond.

Ancient pilgrimage routes are being rediscovered, and new ones created. The modern world is rediscovering this ancient wisdom and rebranding it as mindfulness. What is it all about? Well I'm sure the best answer to that is 'come and see', and join me as I travel from St Germans Priory to St Michael's Mount between March 31 and April 13. You don't have to come the whole way - join me for a day, or part of a day. **You can see my itinerary here** <https://tinyurl.com/z2s9arp>

What is the appeal? For me pilgrimage is an experience of body, mind and spirit. As humans we are all of these things, and more besides. So we feel most alive and ourselves when each different aspect of us is engaged in an activity. That for me is what pilgrimage can be.

There is the joy of walking itself, that simple action for which our bodies have long been designed. Becoming aware of my body, its twinges, aches and pains, the sense of balance, the feel of the air on my skin and the sense of progress through a landscape are a life-giving reconnection with nature and my own physicality.

Then there is the mental stimulus of beauty perceived, especially the mundane

beauty that lies unnoticed around me most of the time, a wild flower blossoming in a Cornish hedge, the sound and the colours of the sea as it meets the land. Add to this the fascination of old ways. Coming to ancient churches hunkered down into the Cornish earth or silhouetted on the distant hillside. Discovering the stories of the holy men and women who lived, built and made their mark here remembered in place names and holy wells. This gets me thinking about my own life and the mark I may leave. And being open to the elements with nothing to shield me from the vagaries of the weather. That heightens my senses and makes me more attentive to wind and cloud and the changing light.

“Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.”

Jeremiah 6

And then in the silence and solitude of the path and the ancient sanctuary I can listen, truly listen for the whisper of God. That still, small, personal voice so hard to discern amidst the noise and bustle of 'normal' life but here found unexpectedly and delightedly. Often in places where people have come and prayed and lived out their discipleship in lives of service to God and to others. That is where once again I hear the call back to him who made me and loves me and walks with me every step of the way if I but take time to notice. Of course, Jesus was a walker. Notice how often things happen to him along the way between one place and next, in which conversation blooms and minds open to the truth.

That is what pilgrimage means to me and I'm keen to encourage others to try it for themselves. Come and join me.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY CHANGES & UPDATES

Licensed Clergy

The **Revd Heather West*** has moved to the Rectory at South Petherwin. She continues as Assistant Curate of the Three Rivers Benefice.

The **Revd Annie HenryHolland*** resigned on 31 January as Associate Priest of Ludgvan, Marazion, St Hilary and Perranuthnoe. She was licensed as a Public Preacher in this Diocese on 3 February.

On 3 February the **Revd David Isiorho*** was licensed as Priest in Charge of Charlestown, Par and Tywardreath.

The **Revd Gary Eve** has moved to Polruanby-Fowey and was licensed on 5 February as Associate Priest of Lanteglos-by-Fowey, Lansallos, Talland, Lanreath and Pelynt. He is no longer Assistant Curate of St Germans.

Clergy RiP

The **Revd Peter Skellern** sadly passed away on 17 February.

The **Revd Robin Thomas** sadly passed away on 27 January.

Clergy with PTO

The **Revd Jonathan Mosedale*** has moved and has new contact details.

The **Revd Pam Sellix*** has been given PTO category B. She is no longer an Associate Priest of Saltash.

The **Ven John Reed*** has been given PTO category A.

The **Revd A J (Jim) Vincent** has rescinded his PTO in this Diocese.

Benefice changes

A pastoral scheme affecting the benefices of Duloe, Herodsfoot, Morval and St Pinnock; St Martin w St Nicholas, Looe; and Liskeard & St Keyne came into effect on 5th February 2017. The details are as follows:

- The parish church of **St Pinnock** is closed for regular worship. The parish of St Pinnock no longer exists and its area has been transferred to the parish of Liskeard.

- A new benefice called “**The Benefice of Duloe & Herodsfoot**” has been created. Its area comprises the parish of Duloe and the parish of Herodsfoot. The Revd Peter Bellens is named as the Rector of this benefice.

- A second new benefice called “**The Benefice of Looe & Morval**” has been created. Its area comprises the parish of St Martin with St Nicholas, Looe and the parish of Morval. The Revd Philip Sharp is named as the Rector of this benefice.

Church House

DAC

We are delighted that Sue Thorold will be taking on the role of the DAC secretary when Clare Jones retires in March.

* Contact details can be found in the online directory <http://www.trurodiocese.org.uk/directory-live/>

MISSION CASE STUDY

FORMER TEACHER EMBRACES ROLE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WORKER IN LISKEARD

Having spent 20 years in a teaching environment and as a mother of three, Jane Asquith is perfectly placed to take on the role of children and families worker in the Liskeard parish of St Martin's, Dobwalls and St Keyne.



Taking over from her predecessor in April last year, Jane has embraced the role within the three churches, all of which have an active relationship with the families and children in the parish.

With the help of volunteers, she runs two playgroups for babies to pre-schoolers which sees more than 30 families attend regularly.

Jane explains: "It's a great way to introduce the church to local families in a relaxed way. In fact, one family has started attending services at St Martin's, as well as their own church, since coming to the playgroup."

Informal services like the Café Service also play a large role in making the church accessible and open to local families. The service takes place once a fortnight in the church hall and is set up in a café style so the congregation are sat in groups around tables to encourage more conversation and discussion. A breakfast of croissants and pastries is also on offer, which is popular with the children and parents alike.

St Martin's Church has always worked closely with the local schools and Jane is

continuing the good work. She runs a Friday club at St Martin's School, which is regularly attended by 15 pupils and has a waiting list for those who would like to attend - current volunteer numbers mean this is not possible at the moment. The club often carries on the topic used by the Open the Book team in the school earlier in the week and supplements this with games, DVDs and acting sessions, as well as a drink and snack.

Jane is also the main point of contact for families who would like their child to be welcomed into the church through baptism. She will meet the family prior to the baptism, talking through the process and details of the ceremony with them.

Jane goes on to say: "I also like to take part in the service when I can - reading a prayer or presenting the candle. I feel it's important to show continuity as their main point of contact in the church."

Jane would like to reach out to the parish's elder children in the future. She plans to develop the relationship with the local secondary school, Liskeard School and Community College, and is hoping to get involved in the independent counselling group that is situated in the school.

READ MORE <https://tinyurl.com/jt25g79>

ALL CHURCHES TRUST TO EXTEND ROOF PROTECTION SCHEME FUNDING

All Churches Trust, the charitable arm of Ecclesiastical Insurance Group Limited is offering funding to churches considering the installation of a roof alarm to help prevent the fairly recent trend of lead theft from church roofs.

The deadline for applications has now been extended to 31st March 2017.

READ MORE <https://tinyurl.com/jcryg48>

CROSS OF ST PIRAN AWARDS 2017

Two special services will be held next month to honour the 20 recipients of the Cross of St Piran for 2017.

The awards, which recognise the outstanding service given by lay people across Cornwall, were introduced by Bishop Tim soon after his arrival in the Diocese.

Among those honoured this year are a church organist, an environmental campaigner, the executive principal of a schools' trust, and an aid worker for their work with refugees.

They will be presented with their crosses at two ceremonies to be held at St Piran Church, Perranzabuloe at 3pm and 6.30pm on Sunday, March 5th.

READ MORE <https://tinyurl.com/jz9l4a6>

PARISH OFFICERS TRAINING

This year the Diocese of Truro is offering two free training days for Parish Officers.

They will take place on Saturday 11th March from 10am - 3.30pm at Bodmin College, Lostwithiel Road, Bodmin, PL31 1DD, and on Saturday 2nd September from 10am - 3.30pm at Truro College, Threemilestone, TR1 3XX.

The day will include a series of presentations, workshops and group discussions to explore the individual roles and responsibilities of parish officers and to highlight the range of resources available to help you in your vital and valued contributions to your parish ministry.

READ MORE & BOOK YOUR SPACE
<https://tinyurl.com/jz5zj53>

PARISH GIVING SCHEME: TWO YEARS ON

“ It is imperative that we make it as easy as possible for people to donate and that includes both existing donors and potential new donors. ”



REBECCA EVANS
PARISH SUPPORT ADVISOR

We are now close to marking two years since the first intrepid parish within the Diocese of Truro signed up to the Parish Giving Scheme. We now have over 25 per cent of parishes signed up to the Scheme and more coming on board each month.

So the question surely is, has it made a difference? We're pleased to report that the answer is most definitely yes! Many treasurers and gift aid officers have had their workload significantly reduced by the introduction of the scheme and have been pleasantly surprised by the ease with which it is operated. Donors too have found the Scheme simple and effective to use. 52% have signed up to increase their giving annually in line with inflation which will go some way to counteracting the issue of static giving. Some parishes have seen a reduction in their costs as they have taken the decision to move away from an envelope system. With a large number of donors switching to the Parish Giving Scheme and changes in legislation relating to gift aid, they found that envelopes were simply not necessary.

The legislative changes have meant that cash donations in the plate under £20 have become eligible for gift aid regardless of the status of the donor and therefore this has become a further potential way to boost a church's income. I would continue to urge all parishes to utilise the Parish Giving Scheme. It is not for all donors and we fully understand that but it is a method of donation and not having it reduces the potential number of donors a parish can appeal to; in particular, in the wider community.

“We joined the Parish Giving Scheme a year ago and we are very pleased we joined because it has increased our cash flow (no need to wait for the Tax refund), reduced the work of the Treasurer & also the person who deals with the Gift Aid Tax Claim. It's so good to see the monthly credits as one figure, rather than multiple entries.”

Caroline Hooper, St Breward Treasurer

Driving home from work the other day I was listening to Radio 4 - a programme on charitable giving and it was stated that in the last 100 years the proportion of income donated to charity has not changed but that the method of giving has - with a huge increase in direct debit as opposed to a massive reduction in cash donations. It is imperative that we make it as easy as possible for people to donate and that includes both existing donors and potential new donors.

If you would like to find out more about the Parish Giving Scheme please contact pgs@truro.anglican.org.

READ MORE <https://tinyurl.com/j3pbc3e>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH 2017

- 1 Cornish Crosses: Understanding the Evidence** Penzance, at 2pm and Bodmin Parish Church at 7pm, fee £52
- 4 Phil Knox - From Youth to Christ**, Illogan Church, 10.30am - 3pm, Free but contributions welcome. Call 01209 843938.
- 5 Cross of St Piran Award**, Perranzabuloe Church, 3.30pm & 6.30pm
- 8 Meet the Funders**, Truro, 9.30 - 3.30pm
- 11 Taize Service** Epiphany House, 7pm.
- 11 Helen Chadwick Song Theatre**, St Endellion, 7.30pm & afternoon workshop, £10 entry to all
- 11 Parish Officers Training Days - Bodmin**, Bodmin Community College, 10am - 3.30pm, free
- 11 St Matthew Passion by Bach**, Truro Cathedral, 7.30pm, £16 (under 19s free), www.hallforcornwall.co.uk
- 17 - 19 Individual guided retreat weekend**, Epiphany House, 4pm, Cost £175 inc accomodation & meals
- 18 Revelation & Imagination**, St Endellion Church, 10 - 3pm,
- 23 Truro Theological Lecture in the Chapter House**, Truro Cathedral, 7 for 7.30pm, £4
- 22 - 29 Contemplative Prayer Pilgrimage to Assisi**, Cost £950 to inc. all flights and travel from Bristol, accomodation and all food except first evening meal in Rome.
- 24 - 26 Daffodil Festival**, St Erth Church, donations
- 29 Pilgrim - A course for the Christian Journey**, Cullompton Community Centre
- 29 A Breath of the Sea Air**, St Winnow Parish Church, 7.30 - 8.30pm, donations
- 30 Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra Brass Ensemble**, St Endellion Church, 7.30pm, £10
- 31 The Great Lerryn Quilt Raffle**, St Winnow Church, Tickets from The Ship Inn, Lerryn
- 31 Luke Bond Farewell Organ Recital**, Truro Cathedral, 1.10pm, free

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

IN FOCUS <https://tinyurl.com/hpywcvw>
IN REVIEW <https://tinyurl.com/j6fwp2k>
GO CHATTER <http://tinyurl.com/jbgfdbz>
SRO NEWS <https://tinyurl.com/zvots9c>

ORGANIST WANTED

St. Swithin's Church, Launcells require an organist. If you are interested, please contact Fr. David Barnes on 01288 352254.

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