Saltash Area Newsletter

May 2024

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

Short Accounts

Last month I wrote about the three watchwords that are for my ministry here: unity, stability and joy. This month I have been thinking about the things that prevent unity, stability and joy. A level of conflict when humans are involved in anything is absolutely normal. We are not going to agree on everything, people in a family, a neighbourhood, a church or any other type of community will disagree on things. It can be as simple as what to have for dinner! This may be an uncomfortable read, but I hope you will agree that it is an important issue to address in order for our church families to become places of joy.

The dangerous conflict, the one that leads to the destruction of relationships is where I want to focus. When a community has had a difficult time, we talk of the relationships being fragile which plays out as anxiety and fear. Coming out of the Covid pandemic we saw this in all walks of life such as schools, social groups etc. People are anxious that the organisation is threatened and may disappear. The Church of England is currently a very anxious system and the level of conflict in it on national and local levels is a strong indicator of the anxiety the people (us!) are experiencing.

One of the dangers for this anxiety is that conflict between people surfaces. Some of it can be historic and brought back up, some of it will be recent. Triangulation then happens; this is where we have an issue with someone, and rather than go directly to the person we have a problem with, we go to other people and 'gossip' about the person. We hope the other person is going to take our side (because we are always right!) and the conversation can build up an astounding amount of righteous indignation and misinformation.

Of course, very few people stop at telling one other person, we now enter full on 'gossip mode' and so many people are involved that factions build.

Triangulation is manipulative, we do it because we don't have the courage to speak – and more importantly listen – to the person we disagree with. Listening to them might reveal that we have made an error, we didn't fully understand a situation or that they had simply made a mistake and hadn't realised. We often prefer the version of events we have already told ourselves, casting ourselves as a victim and the other person as the persecutor.

In *The Message* version of Matthew 18: 15-17 we are told, *"If a fellow believer hurts you, go and tell him – work it out between the two of you. If he listens, you've made a friend. If he won't listen, take one or two others along so that the presence of witnesses will keep things honest, and try again. If he still won't listen, tell the church. If he won't listen to the church, you'll have*

Saturday 27 April
2pm to 4pm,
Landulph Church
Spring Fair

Sunday 28 April
7.45pm
St Michael's Church
Polperro Fisherman's Choir

Saturday 4 May
10am to 1pm
SSNF Church Rooms
Bacon Butties

Monday 13 May
7pm
MOSSAF
Visit to Landulph Church

Tuesday 14 May
2pm
St Stephen's Church
Mothers' Union

Friday 17 May
12pm
S.T.A.R.T.
Trip to Buckfast Abbey

Friday 17 May
7.30pm
St Stephen's Church
Quiz for Christian Aid

Saturday 18 May
3pm to 5pm
St Stephen's Church
Messy Church

Saturday 18 May
7.30pm
Landulph Church
Sterts Choir Concert

MAY SERVICES

Sunday 5 May

St Stephen-by-Saltash
9.30am Family Service

St Michael, Landrake
9.30am Family Service

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash
11.15am Holy Communion

St Erney, Landrake
11.15am Matins

St Mary, Botus Fleming
11.15am All Age Service
6.30pm Sung Evensong

Sunday 12 May

St Stephen-by-Saltash
9.30am Holy Communion

St Michael, Landrake
9.30am Holy Communion

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash
11.15am Holy Communion

St Mary, Botus Fleming
11.15am Holy Communion

Pentecost 19 May

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

St Michael, Landrake
9.30am Holy Communion

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash
11.15am Holy Communion

St Mary, Botus Fleming
11.15am All Age Service

St Erney, Landrake
11.15am Holy Communion

Sunday 26 May

St Stephen-by-Saltash
9.30am Holy Communion

St Michael, Landrake
9.30am Holy Communion

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash
11.15am Holy Communion

St Mary, Botus Fleming
11.15am Holy Communion

Every Wednesday

St Stephen-by-Saltash
10am Morning Service

to start over from scratch, confront him with the need for repentance, and offer again God's forgiving love."

Nowhere does Jesus say go and moan to everyone else and cause unhappiness in your community! Once we have spoken to the other person, we keep a short account, in other words we have the conversation and put the situation behind us. We do not hang on to the past. Ephesians 4: 25-27 reminds that by not doing this we leave ourselves and our church families open to spiritual attack, *"So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbours, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil."*

If we are the person being drawn in to the triangle, we should be discerning about the diet of information we are feeding on. Before we greedily consume gossip, or news we should ask ourselves to **think**:

is it True?
is it Helpful?
is it Inspiring?
is it Necessary?
is it Kind?

We must use **think** before we pass on what we have learnt. When we pass on information, we should ask ourselves our real motives for doing so – are we doing it to be helpful or hurtful? Are we trying to inform or inflame a situation? Who are we trying to hurt?

Of course, if we are in conflict and have not kept short accounts with our sisters and brothers in Christ, we also must consider if we are worthy to approach the communion table with them, as Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 11: 17-34. I recommend reading this through the lens of thinking about conflict in our church family.

It is nigh impossible to get other people to change their attitudes and behaviours. The great news is that we all have the ability to change our own attitudes and behaviours! We can stop ourselves from triangulating, we can go straight to the person who has hurt us and have a two-way conversation with them, we can pray with them, we can choose not to spread hurtful, inflammatory information and we can choose not to indulge negativity when we hear it. If we suspect someone has come to us to triangulate and manipulate an argument, we can gently tell them to take it up with the person they are angry with and not listen to the attempt to recruit you to their side of the argument.

If we want to scratch the itch of the need to gossip and pass on information, let it be the good kind – what amazing things has Jesus done in your life recently? Where has the Holy Spirit moved you this Pentecost? What wonderful things are happening at church and in the Deanery? There are so many joyful things happening that we should have plenty to talk about!

As Christians, let us be the non-anxious, courageous, community. Let us be joyful in our interactions with each other, because it is still Easter, we should be full of resurrection hope and Jesus is still King. Alleluia!

Dursona
Laura

It Happened in May

1. Queen Victoria opened 'The Great Exhibition' at Crystal palace in what year?
   a) 1851 b) 1861 c) 1871

2. Who won the Pulitzer prize for Drama in May 1955 for Cat on a Hot Tin Roof?

3. Which potter famous for his 'jasperware' opened his first pottery business in Burslm in 1759?

4. Who was the English boxer who died in 2011, was famous for his 'hammer' and is the only British boxer to have be awarded a knighthood?

5. In 1536 which English Queen was arrested and imprisoned on charges of adultery, incest, treason and witchcraft?

6. In May 1952 the worlds first jet airliner made its maiden flight from London to Johannesburg. What model was it?

7. Nicaraguan-American model, actress, and activist was born as Bianca Pérez-Mora Macías in 1945, who is she better known as?

8. Which cricketer, born in May 1969, is the only batsman to have ever scored a century, a double century, a triple century, a quadruple century and a quintuple century in first-class games?

9, Which novel by Margaret Mitchell won the Pulitzer prize for fiction in May 1937?

10. The Anne Frank House museum opened in 1960 in which city?

Answers on p5

Recent Events

MOSSAF

For our April meeting we welcomed our first guest speaker of the year, Archdeacon Kelly.

Kelly had invited Rev'd Laura along to ask her questions that Laura thought would interest the group. Kelly spoke about life in her teenage years, and although her background did not have faith in it, she decided whilst at a Methodist church mission evening that her life would be with God and to become a Christian. She joined a Baptist Church and found herself in a leadership role where she did her first sermon at just 16. Later, she decided to train for the ministry and was ordained at Coventry Cathedral.

Kelly met her husband Simon at a children's holiday club, he had been ordained 10 years previously.

She became a curate, and later, a parish priest in Nuneaton. Kelly subsequently became Archdeacon at Bodmin after meeting Bishop Philip and his wife Ruth who suggested the post may be available. She applied at the last minute and was successful. She loves the change and has never regretted it, however would return to parish ministry if it became an option in the future.

Members of MOSSAF then asked various questions about the highs and lows of her position, what she enjoys in her spare time and her children.

Another very enjoyable evening was had by all.

New members always welcome – please contact Steve Hookway (stevenhookway@hotmail.com or 07855 600241).

Our next meeting will be on 13 May when we will enjoy a visit to St Leonard and St Dilpe Church in Landulph.

Many thanks to Carolyn and Ian Whittaker who kept services running in Landrake during the interregnum. *Dona Cooper*

Recent Events continued

Tom Hannigan

In early April, rising young Saltash talent, Tom Hannigan, kindly performed a fundraising concert, which raised £427 for St Stephen's Church funds.

The evening which featured tracks ranging from The Beatles and The Kinks to the The Killers and Keane was completed with some of Tom's own songs.

Thanks to the team who helped behind the scenes and also to Tom for a fantastic night.

Messy Church

Over 40 adults and children attended April's Messy Church. The theme was The Lost Sheep and Messy Church fell on the Saturday before Good Shepherd Sunday.

There were lots of food crafts made including cheerio crooks, sheep biscuits and popcorn bags, We decorated sheep for the board and made paper plate sheep. Jill read the story of The Lost Sheep and we managed to sing The Lord is my Shepherd in two parts.

We finished as always with a lovely spread of food. Thank you to all that helped out.

Say no to the mow. Mowing your lawn less and letting parts grow long saves you time and helps give nature a home. If you want to make an even bigger impact on wildlife, wait to mow your lawn or a section of it until August to support even more animals.

Contribute to citizen science and get to know what (and who!) lives in your church's green space – sign up to take part in Churches Count on Nature (8-16 June 2024) at caringforgodsacre.org.uk/churches-count-on-nature-faqs

Diocesan Synod Nominations Sought

Synod – Coming together and finding a way.

Bishop Hugh says, "To do this well we need members from different communities and traditions who represent the whole life of the church in Cornwall, the Isles of Scilly, and our parishes in Devon."

See the back page for information.

Where is this?

This picture was found in the belfrey of SSNF.

If any one can shed some light on which church this is, please email: dr.andyevans@icloud.com

Saltash foodbank

Please donate food at Waitrose, Lidl, the Co-op or at the back of St Stephen's or SSNF Churches and/or donate money via the Foodbank website: saltash.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money

Our latest needs:

- UHT fruit juice & squash
- Sugar (500g)
- Angel delight / custard
- Tinned meat (not fray bentos)
- Tinned carrots
- UHT milk / Milk powder
- Deodorants
- Disposable razors
- Shaving foam
- Shampoo
- Hair conditioner

May Morning

I lie stretched out upon the window-seat

And doze, and read a page or two, and doze,

And feel the air like water on me close,

Great waves of sunny air that lip and beat

With a small noise, monotonous and sweet,

Against the window – and the scent of cool,

Frail flowers by some brown and dew-drenched pool

Possesses me from drowsy head to feet.

This is the time of all-sufficing laughter

At idiotic things someone has done,

And there is neither past nor vague hereafter.

And all your body stretches in the sun

And drinks the light in like a liquid thing;

Filled with the divine languor of late spring.

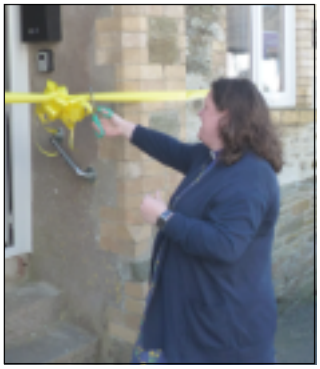
By Stephen Vincent Benét

Answers to Quiz on page 3:

1. a) 1851 2. Tennessee Williams 3. Josiah Wedgewood
4. Henry Cooper 5. Anne Boleyn 6. de Havilland Comet
7. Bianca Jagger 8. Brian Lara 9. Gone With the Wind
10. Amsterdam

Recent Events continued

St Michael and St Terninus Churches



We held an official re-opening by Reverend Laura Bushell Hawke of our newly refurbished parish room as a community asset, where anyone can talk to our local councillor, police representatives, parish council and also get help with applying for benefits.

A huge thank you to the flower arrangers who really pulled the stops out for both churches with their Easter arrangements. Our buildings looked amazing for the larger than average congregations.

Out of doors, we have started the year by improving our hedging boundaries (a quinquennial task!) and are grateful to all those able to turn out for the monthly work parties to achieve this.

At St Michael's, the community vegetable plot has seedlings emerging, so we look forward to a longer harvest season, due to the earlier start this year. Last year's harvest ran until the Christmas Hampers, which featured a number of late vegetables and herbs.

What's On

Spring Fair

Landulph Church
Saturday 27 April, 2-4pm

There will be music, games, plants, a raffle, a treasure hunt, tombola, craft stalls, cream teas and much more to enjoy! Why not pop along for a fun filled afternoon? Entry is free.

Concert

St Michael's Church
Sunday 28 April, 7.45pm

We will be entertained by Polperro Fisherman's Choir. A raffle will be run and a finger buffet is included in the £7.50 ticket price.

Book at Landrake Stores or email landrakesterneyfundraising@gmail.com

Bacon Butties

SSNF Church Rooms
Saturday 4 May, 10am to 1pm

As well as delicious bacon butties, coffee/tea and cake will also be available!

An Evening with Johnny Cowling

7.30pm, Friday 14 June at St Stephen's Church

Johnny Cowling, a talented Cornish comedian and entertainer, will be singing to raise funds for St Stephen's Church.

- **Raffle**
- **Light Refreshments available**
- **Tea, coffee and soft drinks available**
- **Optional Pasty**

Tickets £12 (+60p booking fee) includes a pasty (optional)

https://www.trybooking.com/uk/DFEV

Or contact Helen: ☎ 01752 844456
event@saltashteamministry.org

Pentecost

Film on Devonport

I am currently writing the script for a film on Devonport. I understand the people of the Tamar Valley were instrumental in supporting the market there. Does anyone have any photographs of them attending the Market or stories they would be willing to speak about on film or information that can be relayed by some other means.

It is the 200th anniversary of the naming of Devonport and the film is in celebration of this event.

Mary Wills
raymar4771@gmail.com

SSNF Summer Exhibition

Toys Through the Ages

So far we have been promised the loan of many toys, but it will be good to have some more, so if you have any Teddy Bears, Dolls, Dolls Prams, Spinning Tops, Scooters, Bicycles, Toy Cars, Lego, Meccano etc, please contact Leslie Stevens or Margaret Evans.

There will be a notice for stewarding at the back of the church soon, so if you can spare an hour it would be much appreciated.

What's On

Quiz for Christian Aid

St Stephen's Church
Friday 17 May, 7.30pm

Come along and support Christian Aid. £3 per person with maximum of six people per team.

Tickets can be bought from: https://st-stephen-by-saltash-church.sumupstore.com/ or on the door.

Sterts Singers

Landulph Church
Saturday 18 May, 7.30pm

Not to be missed – tickets £8 from Richard Hosking. ☎ 01752 846873

Prayer for Ascension Day

Dear Lord Jesus Christ, before your Ascension into heaven you told your disciples to be your witnesses to the ends of the earth, having been empowered by your Holy Spirit. We also pray for the filling of your Spirit, that we might share the Gospel message in our words and actions.

Amen

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

You matter, your church and its community matter, your faith matters.
We need to hear from you and for you to feel heard by us.

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO DIOCESAN SYNOD?

Synod - Coming together and finding a way

Diocesan Synod is a vital coming together as leaders from across the diocese to find our way under God. To do this well, we need members from different communities, traditions, ages, and experiences, who represent the whole life of the Church in Cornwall, the Isles of Scilly and our two parishes in Devon. Synod is an opportunity to speak up and be heard, and to listen carefully and lead.

WHAT DOES IT INVOLVE?

- THREE YEAR TERM
- THREE HYBRID MEETINGS A YEAR

WHO CAN STAND?

- ANYONE OVER 16 ON THE ELECTORAL ROLL
- A COMMUNICANT MEMBER

HOW DO I STAND?

- SPEAK TO YOUR DEANERY SYNOD MEMBERS, CLERGY PERSON, CHURCHWARDEN, OR PCC SECRETARY
- COMPLETE A NOMINATION FORM BEFORE MAY 23, 2024

WHAT NEXT?

- VOTING PAPERS ISSUED MAY 23, 2024
- VOTING CLOSES JUNE 17, 2024
- FIRST DIOCESAN SYNOD MEETING SEPTEMBER 14, 2024

MORE INFORMATION 01872 274351
VISIT WWW.TRURODIOCESE.ORG.UK/GOVERNANCE

DIOCESE OF TRURO