

# North Cornwall Cluster of Churches

## Newsletter

### December 2019



***See inside for Advent and  
Christmas Day services***

For the parishes of St Kew, St Endellion with St Peter's, Port Isaac  
and St Minver with St Enodoc (Trebetherick) and St Michael (Porthilly)

[www.northcornwallclusterofchurches.org.uk](http://www.northcornwallclusterofchurches.org.uk)

*Please take a copy home*

## Hints of Glory

Sometimes I wonder what the shepherds made of their weird, sudden angelic encounter. Another chilly night out on the hills, perched with backs against sloping rock, passing a bottle around for warmth. Wham – a blazing choir abruptly bursts into being mid-air, belting out the Hallelujah chorus. I bet they leapt out of their skins. It's a strange story. Why did the angels bother telling them? It's as if they couldn't hold it in any longer. God is becoming human, sneaking onto earth in a rundown backwater, and it's such huge news, they can't bear not telling. So they whisper it to the shepherds, thrilling.

I feel for Mary, too. Imagine days of bareback donkey riding, nine months pregnant, aching, exhausted, only to tumble off, mid-contraction, into a dark barn. No bed, no midwife, no reassuring mum, no clean towels or hot water – just a scared teenager and a wide-eyed first-time father, scrabbling in the hay for something clean to wrap the baby in. And then, into this dirty, embarrassing scene, a bunch of shepherds turn up, excitement lighting up their coarse, unshaven faces. What a bewildering story. Hints of glory glitter amidst the gritty, rough ordinariness. The Bible says, 'Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.'



For all the shining window displays and telly ads, real-life Christmas is jam-packed with ordinary, every-day, overwhelming busyness. Making lists, buying gifts, keeping the kids entertained, finding time to wrap presents, struggling to stay out of debt, getting time off work, organising family and dodging rows. But in the midst of all this work and stress, there are also hints of glory; whispers of angels. For me, this often comes at midnight mass. The days leading up to Christmas are overflowing with things to do; but by late night on Christmas Eve, everything is ready: food bought, gifts wrapped under the tree. We come to church in darkness and quiet and sit hushed, waiting. Finally, I'm quiet enough to hear the angel whispers.

This Christmas, in between the busyness and chaos, keep your eyes open for those hints of glory. Christmas means God is with us, in ordinary life: pay attention and you'll look up to find him sitting beside you on the bus. You won't always understand these moments: it is, after all, a strange and bewildering story. But like Mary, treasure them, and ponder them in your heart. You never know – God may be up to something.

*Rose Jones*

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## Thank you for your Gladness and Generosity!

At this busy time of year, I'd like to take a moment to thank all of those people who work so hard in our churches and communities to share God's love with such wonderful generosity and - of course - great gladness. You are amazing - thank you very much! Revd Elizabeth.

# Celebrating with great gladness

St Endellion are celebrating with great gladness, the generosity of all of the donors who have contributed to our new church hall.

The Hall was eventually finished on 1st October just in time for the North Cornwall Book Festival. The new kitchen was used by a band of catering volunteers, making sandwiches and salads on an almost industrial scale for the huge number of people who attended each day. Cakes and tea and coffee were also served in the hall, some beautiful paintings hung on the walls, and the Festival Bookshop moved out of a waterlogged marquee and inside too.

The Hall has taken many years of planning and fund raising and so many people have been involved. There has been great generosity from local individuals, from Friends of the church, from St. Endellion Festivals Trust and its members, from Endelienta, grant making bodies and trusts and from the Arts Council. We have benefited from a tireless fund raising committee and at last, we are there.

There are still many things to do to finish this project, new tables and chairs are needed, curtains are needed to soak up the echo of such a big space and to black it out for particular events and the garden and car park have to be finished. This means yet more fund raising and hard work but, once again, kindness and generosity are coming to the fore. We have received a cheque towards the curtains, people are offering to help with the garden and the veranda outside the main window and we have received a baby grand piano from the family of a former parishioner who died recently.

Art, music and Pilates groups are booking the hall, a wedding reception will take place there in December and we the congregation are working hard to make it a really valuable place for our church and local community for many, many years to come.

The Bishop will dedicate the hall when he comes to preach at the Easter Festival Evensong on Palm Sunday and we will all celebrate with gladness the kindness and generosity of so many.

*Jill O'Grady*



Join us at our Christingle

## St Minver Church

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 4pm**

For more information please contact Marcus, 07923913727, ncc.childrenfamily@gmx.com  
www.northcornwallclusterofchurches.org.uk www.facebook.com/childrenandfamilyNCC

The Children's Society

christingle.org  
Charity Registration No. 221514

christingle 2019



## Good Mornin' Community cafe

**ST KEW ACE ACADEMY SCHOOL**

**Adult Christmas Craft activities**  
**Everyone welcome**

4<sup>th</sup> Dec- Willow Star

11<sup>th</sup> Dec- Orange Pomander

18<sup>th</sup> Dec- Table centre piece

Activities and play area for younger children.

*Refreshments & activities are free, donations are gratefully received.*

**Wednesdays 9-10.30am**

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## Events at St Endellion December 2019

**The Portorius String quartet Sunday 1 December 3pm**

£8. Accompanied under 16s free. Ticket includes tea and cake.

The Portorius Quartet - Sophia Prodanova & Nicole Petrus Barracks – violins, Diogo Ramos – viola, and Nathan Giorgetti – formed at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in 2017 where they receive chamber music tuition from Krycia Osostowicz, leader of the Dante Quartet.

The Quartet has performed in the Bechstein room of the Wigmore Hall, Clare Hall in Cambridge University and in Festivals in France. Future engagements include a concert tour to Plovdiv, Bulgaria and to Portugal. They will perform string quartets by Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven.

Tickets from [www.endelienta.org.uk](http://www.endelienta.org.uk)



**Endelienta**

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## St Minver Lychgate Railings

St Minver PCC have applied to remove the railings approaching the Lychgate. Since the granite steps have been removed they are no longer needed and they are now rusty and unsightly. Their removal would help to restore the original lychgate.

Should anyone have an objection or question please contact the churchwarden, Ruth Varcoe, on 01208 862954 or [varcoeuk@aol.com](mailto:varcoeuk@aol.com) by 31st December.

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## Worship Music Training Day

Saturday 1st February, Perceval Institute in St Minver

For all who play instruments or sing and are interested in developing their gifts and learning more about playing in worship bands – no strings attached! All ages welcome. More details to follow.

*Rose Jones*

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## Update on St Peter's

With work beginning on the toilet extension and repairs the church will be closed to the public during the week. Services will take place as normal each Sunday at 9.30am, but from the New Year services will be held in Port Isaac village hall until the work is completed.

**Carols by Candlelight in Memory of Ted Childs** will take place at 4pm on Sunday 8th December. Port Isaac Chorale, the Gulls and other guests will be taking part.

**The Christingle service** will take place at 3pm on Christmas Eve and Communion at 10pm.

*Pat Pearson, Chapel Warden.*

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## Carols

'Please, Sir, may we sing a carol?' the people asked Parson Woodforde on Christmas morning. 'Yes, but wait until I am out of the church.' This was in 1788. Apparently clergy had been anti-carol for ages.

*Extracted from Forever Wormingford by Ronald Blythe (Canterbury Press 2017)*

*William Garland*



# Advent and Christmas

FESTIVE SERVICES ACROSS THE  
NORTH CORNWALL CLUSTER OF CHURCHES

## Sunday 1st December

4pm - Christingle, St Minver  
6pm - Advent Carols, St Michael

## Sunday 8th December

4pm - Candlelit Carols, St Peter's  
6pm - Carol Service, St Kew

## Sunday 15th December

6pm - Carol Service, St Minver

## Thursday 19th December

3pm - Mothers' Union Advent  
Carol Service, St Endellion

## Sunday 22nd December

3pm - Blue Christmas Service,  
St Endellion

6pm - Service of 9 Lessons &  
Carols, St Endellion

## Christmas Eve

3pm ST PETER'S CHRISTINGLE  
3pm ST ENODOC CAROL SERVICE  
4.30pm ST KEW CHRISTINGLE  
4.30pm ST MINVER CRIB SERVICE

10.00pm ST PETER'S  
HOLY COMMUNION

11.30pm ST KEW  
HOLY COMMUNION

11.30pm ST ENDELLION  
SUNG EUCHARIST

## Christmas Day

9.15am ST ENODOC HOLY  
COMMUNION

9.15am ST MICHAEL'S  
HOLY COMMUNION & CAROLS

11am ST ENDELLION  
SUNG EUCHARIST

11am ST MINVER  
FAMILY CAROLS

## Sunday 29th December

6pm ST MICHAELS  
ALTERNATIVE CAROL SERVICE



# Cluster events for children & families



## Messy Church

**February 2020**

There will be no Messy Church in December and January.



## Junior Church

Perceval Institute

fair  
**Sun 1<sup>st</sup> and 22nd December 10.45am**  
Bible story, games and craft before we join the adults for Communion



## Mini fingers

Perceval Institute

**November**  
**Every Friday term time 10am- 12**  
Baby and toddler club, with play, songs and activities. All welcome. £2 per family



## Good Morning Café

St Kew Ace Academy School

**Every Wed term time 9.00-10.30am**  
Make Christmas crafts with refreshments or just come for the chat and friendship. We have toys for toddlers too.



## Come and Sing

St Minver Church

**Next on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2020 5pm**  
Gentle service suitable for all ages, singing new songs and old favourites.

Facebook: childrenandfamilyNCC  [ncc.childrenfamily@gmx.com](mailto:ncc.childrenfamily@gmx.com)  
[www.northcornwallclusterofchurches.org.uk](http://www.northcornwallclusterofchurches.org.uk)

## Marcus Muse

By its nature, children and family work requires a lot of gladness and generosity and it always gives me pleasure to see it within our churches and volunteers each week both to me personally and to those whom we serve.

There is a cost in giving with gladness and generosity though which we don't always notice until we reach the low points of life; and when gladness and generosity are in scarce supply it can become accentuated by Christmas festivities.

In the carol "In the bleak Midwinter", we ask "What can I give him, poor as I am?" closing with "Yet what can I give Him, give my heart."

We may have a lot of gladness and generosity this Christmas or we may not but like the widow and her mite we give from our hearts what we can trusting that Jesus will come to each of us this Christmas. The challenge for us is to remember to give gladness and to be generous with ourselves, our clergy, wardens, church volunteers as well as our seasonal visitors and not forgetting our own families too.

# What is a 'Blue Christmas' service?

From the middle of November, shops, media and advertising collude to convince us that Christmas is magical, full of joy and fulfilment. Cares are banished and laughing children reinforce the message that sadness and anxiety have no place in the festivities.



But what if bereavement and loss mean that sorrow is the overwhelming emotion felt at Christmas? How do we observe it then? 'Blue Christmas' is an American service specifically designed for those whose mood is 'blue' in this season. We will be running an Anglicised version to meet the needs of those who feel on the edge of seasonal merriment for whatever reason, or for those who would prefer a quiet, reflective service.

The service itself is very simple – selected verses of a carol and readings to narrate the Christmas story; prayers which acknowledge pain and emptiness alongside the Christian hope; and reflections which gently speaks of light in darkness. The service has times of silence, not rushing to fill every moment with word or song and candles are lit at various points throughout the service.

It's our privilege to offer a space where the reality of life with its grief and pain does not have to be left at the church door but can sit alongside the hope and light which is the real heart of Christmas. Refreshments will be served at the end. This service will take place on Sunday 22nd December at 3pm at St. Endellion Church. Everyone will be warmly welcomed. More information from: <https://churchsupporthub.org/article/blue-christmas/>

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## Contact information

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**Rector** Elizabeth Wild  
[elizabeth-wild@live.co.uk](mailto:elizabeth-wild@live.co.uk)  
07758 407 661

**Administrator – Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals**  
Elizabeth Williams 07976 552 236 [lizwilliams@live.co.uk](mailto:lizwilliams@live.co.uk)

**Children & Family Worker**  
Marcus Jones 07923913727

**Administrator – General Enquiries & Communications**  
Gavin Tyler [gavin@northcornwallclusterofchurches.org.uk](mailto:gavin@northcornwallclusterofchurches.org.uk)

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### Clergy

Geraldine Ashton  
07957 609085  
Rose Jones  
01208 592353  
Andrew Lewis  
01840 211161  
Judith Pollinger  
01208 880181  
Corinne Tournay  
07908027826

### Readers

Peter Coster  
01208 880332  
David Elliott  
01208 863905  
Marcus Jones  
07923913727  
Henry Gompertz  
01208 869421

### Church and Chapel wardens

*St James, St Kew*  
Andrew Campbell  
01208 841115  
Rob Soley  
01208 841366

### *St Endellion with St Peter's, Port Isaac*

Robert Sloman  
01208 880412  
Jill O'Grady  
01208 880312

*St Peter's:* Pat Pearson  
01208 880969

*St Minver*  
Ruth Varcoe  
01208 862954

Mick Sumra  
01208 862550

*St Enodoc*  
Bill Nimmo  
01208 862665

*St Michael*  
Jane Pain  
01208 863178

### Next issue

The deadline for text and or pictures\* for the October issue is:

**11th December 2019**

\* Please note that permission is required for people in photographs and written parental consent for children.

# Cluster services and Events - December 2019

Date	St Kew	St Peter's	St Endellion	St Minver	St Enodoc	St Michael
Sunday 1 <b>Advent 1</b>	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Worship	11.00am Sung Eucharist	11.00am Holy Communion 4pm Christingle	3pm Evensong	6pm Advent Carol Service
Sunday 8 <b>Advent 2</b>	6pm Carol Service	9.30am Holy Communion 4pm Carols by Candlelight	11am Sung Eucharist	11am All Age Worship	3pm Evensong	9.15am Holy Communion 6pm Evensong
Sunday 15 <b>Advent 3</b>	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Worship	11.00am Sung Eucharist	6pm Carol Service	3pm Evensong	<i>Carol Service at St Minver</i>
Sunday 22 <b>Advent 4</b>	9.30am All Age Worship	9.30am Holy Communion	11.00am Sung Eucharist 3pm Blue Christmas 6pm Carol Service	11.00am Holy Communion	3pm Holy Communion	6pm Evensong
Tuesday 24 <b>Christmas Eve</b>	4.30pm Christingle 11.30pm Holy Communion	3pm Christingle 10pm Holy Communion	11.30pm Sung Eucharist	4.30pm Crib Service	3pm Carol Service	
Wednesday 25 <b>Christmas Day</b>			11.00am Sung Eucharist	11.00am Family Carols	9.15am Holy Communion & Carols	9.15am Holy Communion & Carols
Sunday 29	9.30am Holy Communion	<i>No service today</i>	11.00am Sung Eucharist	11.00am Holy Communion	3pm Evensong	6pm Alternative Carol Service

Correct at time of printing. Please check weekly pew sheets for more information

## Weekly Services

8am Tuesday Holy Communion (BCP) St Endellion, 10am Wednesday Holy Communion St Minver

For the parishes of St Kew, St Endellion with St Peter's, Port Isaac  
and St Minver with St Enodoc (Trebetherick) and St Michael (Porthilly)

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