

North Cornwall Cluster of Churches

Newsletter

August 2020



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

Alpha Course Online

The Alpha Ministry team have decided to try going online! We will begin with a taster session via zoom on Wednesday 22nd July at 7pm then Continue with the online alpha course weekly from August 5th.

At the time of writing this article we have a lot of interest from people of all ages, some from our outreach activities, many of whom do not attend church regularly or at all. It is an exciting time as the Holy Spirit is at work in people's lives and drawing them to have conversations about the Christian faith. It is truly a privilege to be here 'for such a time as this' (Esther 4:14). "Mission, it's been said, is finding out what God is doing and joining in" (Rowan Williams at the General Synod July 2003).

I would like to invite you to be part of what God is doing and to join in> Join in and pray for the leaders and participants, to invite others to join in (it's not too late to invite them!) and to help us think of creative ways we can bless our participants and help them feel welcome. With every blessing.

Rev'd Geraldine

We're going online



Alpha Update



As we can no longer gather in person, we are taking our course online! Join us as we continue to explore the big questions of life together

Wednesdays 7pm till 9pm starting 22nd July

Alpha begins 7pm with a warm welcome and a DVD presentation to promote discussion, bring a cuppa or a glass! The sessions finish at 9pm. They will be held online using zoom. If you are unfamiliar with zoom instructions and help to access it will be given beforehand.

Alpha is for everyone and everyone is welcome.

Contact Rev'd Geraldine for an invite at gezzalou@aol.com



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Discovering the Good and Beautiful God

At the beginning of lockdown, a small group of young people with a pile of questions about faith and spirituality started getting together once a week on zoom to read a book called 'The Good and Beautiful God' and discuss the many and varied topics covered in this book. We named ourselves Kalos – the ancient Greek for good and beautiful – and while since finishing this book, our pile of questions has only grown, so have our faith in and curiosity about God. Recently, we have been reading together the gospel of Mark, and guided by the knowledge – and endless patience – of Rose, have found ourselves thinking about God and Jesus more than ever before in our lives. I personally have found Kalos to be a thought-provoking and often challenging experience, and I hope that my pile of questions keeps growing for many years to come.



Hildy Wild

Holy Habits, then and now part 2.

We continue to review our Holy Habits themes from the past year; not to put them to bed and make room for some new ones, but so that we may reflect upon them with the hope that they are integral characteristics to our Christian way of life. It is an opportunity to consider how these habits have been with us through the Covid19 lock down and how we might relate to the Holy Habits in the months to come.

Worship

In January a large group of us met with our instruments in a worship workshop. That feels like such a long time ago, a distant memory of being in close proximity with others, singing loudly and playing our instruments with gusto. We were challenged to be open minded towards new expressions of worship and encouraged to try worship styles unfamiliar to us. I'm guessing that for most of us it is very difficult to enter into worship outside of our preferences but then with lock down, our regular forms of collective worship was taken from us and we have been forced to seek new accesses to worship. Within our cluster, we quickly set up online services that broadly reflected the different forms of worship around the cluster which many enjoyed the novel and familiarity working side by side. Others found this more difficult and have been able to find on line worship closer to their own ways and those without internet access have found "Songs of Praise" on the BBC and the CofE's dial a service (0800 804 8044) to be sustaining acts of worship.

Currently, it is not safe to return fully to our pre-covid acts of worship and it isn't practical to return to the volume of worship we were providing so the challenge of worship will remain before us for some time. But the gift of being unsettled in our worship is that it helps us to better understand our relationship with worship and our relationship with God, but we need to be able to sit with those unsettled feelings long enough to hear the wisdom from it.

Interestingly, our online services are reaching a far wider audience a trend than appears to be true across the country. Perhaps it is that the services are shorter or easier to follow or that people can attend with full anonymity and some of those people will be attendees to other churches but for many of the people it is their place to access worship, prayer and hearing the gospel.

Serving

Serving was the Holy Habit for Lent, with the Passion of Christ being our guiding principle of what serving looks like, and perhaps Graham Kendrick's Easter song "the servant King" our anthem. Locked up as we were, and our Easter services cancelled, serving others might have seemed far from our thoughts. And yet, as we noted last month with Gladness and Generosity, difficulties can bring out the best in people and our service to others meant protecting them by minimising risk of infection and networks were set up to provide food and phone contact for those shielding. Those who serve in food shops, public transport, and the health services and front line cares became known as essential workers.

With the easing of restrictions, serving others as a Holy Habit teaches us to first and foremost be grateful and graceful to all those who have served us through lock down and towards those who themselves coming out of the restrictions. If we can meet others with great gentleness, patience, and understanding that they have had a tough time and may still be going through tough times then our service to them will be worthy of our Christian calling.

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Black Lives Matter, reminds us to serve without prejudice. That is easier said than done as we carry prejudice about one group or another at varying levels. Serving others call us to face our prejudices and allow God to minister to us through prayer. The focus of BLM in the past months also gives us the opportunity to explore if we might be harbouring colonial attitudes in our serving and giving; it is the subtle difference of pity and empathy, of holding onto power or seeking to empower the other.

Prayer

Prayer as a Holy Habit brought us from Easter to Ascension Day and fitted in with the “Thy Kingdom Come” season of prayer that many churches worldwide take part in. Some of us will have found the extra time within lock down to pray helpful. We were encouraged to find new expressions of prayers such as using our daily exercise time to walk and pray, which was a blessing to many especially as we had such good weather at that time. For others, with the upset of the daily and weekly routines it became harder to pray. When reviewing our prayer life we can easily fall into the trap of thinking we haven’t been praying enough, we’re not as good as so-and-so, we haven’t been listening/ God hasn’t been saying anything or trying to count up answered prayers to prove our worth or effectiveness. A more helpful review is simple to call to mind what forms of prayer have been helpful or not to you, and let that be the invitation to your prayer life for the season to come. It might be worth reviewing what things you have been praying about and how has that changed over time, what does that tell you about yourself and your relationship with God?

There are 10 Holy Habits for the ongoing life of church and community, taken from acts 2:42-47.

1. They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship,
2. to the breaking of bread
3. and the **prayers**.
4. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common;
5. **they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.**
6. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home
7. and **ate their food**
8. **with glad and generous hearts,**
9. **praising God** and having the goodwill of all the people.
10. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.



ONLINE SERVICES
www.northcornwallclusterofchurches.org.uk

August Zoom Meetings

It seems like everything is evolving and changing as the pandemic restrictions are being lifted and we are moving toward our 'new normal'. The same is true for our fortnightly Church family zoom meetings. Originally, they were set up for each church family so that we could meet and keep connected during the lockdown. What a joy those first meetings were as we saw the faces of friends we had not seen in ages and caught up with everyone's news!

Our zoom meetings have grown in the sense that they have become a safe place where we can share fellowship and discuss faith. We have now combined all the groups into a fortnightly meeting, uniting friends across the cluster and we are sharing in Marcus Jones' short course called 'God in my pocket.'

We will continue to meet on Mondays: 27th July 10th August and 24th August at 7pm until we will have completed the course. Each week's study is a stand-alone session, and everyone is welcome to attend.

All I need is your e-mail address to share the login details. Please let me know if you are interested. We will break through September and meet again on zoom in the Autumn to share in another study. Many thanks to all those who have attended the zoom meetings through lockdown, it has been a huge blessing.

Rev'd Geraldine.

LET'S GET TOGETHER!

CLUSTER FAMILY ZOOM MEETINGS

**MONDAYS: 27TH JULY, 10TH AUGUST
AND 24TH AUGUST**

EVERYONE WELCOME. STARTS AT 7PM.

**FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT GERALDINE:
GEZZALOU@AOL.COM | 07957 609085**

Prayer for Christian Unity

At Lyon, in France, there is the 6th century church of St Martin d'Ainay which was built on the site of a Roman temple. So says the Reverend Christopher Donaldson (former vicar of St Martin's church, Canterbury) in his book "In the Footsteps of St Augustine – The Great English Pilgrimage – from Rome to Canterbury (1400th Anniversary AD 597 – 1997). At some time a priest at this church was Paul Irénée Couturier (28 July 1881 – 24 March 1953) who was born and died at Lyon, and was ordained in 1906. He helped to inaugurate the movement for unity of all Christians and the architect of the Weeks of Prayer for Christian Unity in the 1930s and 1940s, and his vision of spiritual ecumenism paved the way for the founding of the World Council of Churches in 1947. The Weeks of Prayer became global and has gone from strength to strength on the sound basis of Christians of all denominations being asked to meet together often in silent prayer to pray 'for the unity of all Christians, 'as Christ wills and by the means He chooses.' The Prayer for Christian Unity in 2021 is being prepared by the Community of Grandchamp in Switzerland, which is a monastic community gathering sisters from different churches and countries. This community was established in the first half of the 20th century and had close ties with both the community of Taizé and Abbé Couturier, the seminal figure in the history of the Week of Prayer for Christian unity. Today there are about fifty sisters in the community committee who seek the path of reconciliation between Christians across the human family and with respect of the whole of creation. The Theme for 2021 is "Abide In My love... You shall Bear Much Fruit." (John 15:5 – 9) Dates are January 18 – 25.

Tradition has it that on 25 April AD 590 as a religious procession in Rome reached a bridge over the Tiber, the Archangel Michael appeared on the dome of Hadrian's mausoleum with a flaming sword in his hand. He sheathed his sword and so put an end to the plague. Perhaps on Archangel Michael's feast day on 29 September we should all pray for the captain of the heavenly host and protector of Christians to sheath his sword and so put an end to the Coronavirus.

William Garland

SUNDAY SERVICES IN AUGUST

We are delighted that we can begin to worship together in person again. Initially we are offering one Cluster Service at 11am in one of the larger churches. Places are limited, so please contact Revd Elizabeth if you are planning to come (Email or phone 07758 407661). We ask you to follow all of the safety advice you are given when you attend, and do not come if you are ill.

Although we will be doing all that we can to make things safe, please be aware that there is still a risk, especially for those in vulnerable groups.

We are continuing to record short services in different styles and uploading these to our facebook group and YouTube via our website:

www.northcornwallclusterofchurches.org.uk
www.facebook.com/groups/northcornwallcluster
www.youtube.com

Sunday 2nd August: Trinity 8

11am – Online: All Age Worship - Marcus Jones
11am – Cluster Service at St Endellion:
Holy Communion - Elizabeth Wild

Sunday 9th August: Trinity 9

11am – Online:
Morning Worship – Geraldine Ashton
11am – Cluster Service at St Kew:
Morning Worship – Geraldine Ashton

Sunday 16th August: Trinity 10

11am – Online:
Morning Worship – Rose Jones
11am – Cluster Service at St Kew:
Holy Communion - Elizabeth Wild & Rose Jones

Sunday 23rd August: Trinity 11

11am – Online:
Taize Prayer – Elizabeth Wild
11am – Cluster Service at St Minver:
Taize Prayer – Elizabeth Wild

Sunday 30th August: Trinity 12

11am – Online: Morning Worship - Marcus Jones
11am – Cluster Service at St Endellion:
Holy Communion - Elizabeth Wild



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75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe

Throughout the world there were supposed to be many events organized over the period 8-10 May paying tribute to those people from all walks of life who saw us through the six years of war throughout the Second World War.

Nationally such events have been cancelled owing to the current pandemic; however, a nationally agreed trimmed program will be carried out. Therefore, in St Kew parish the tribute will consist of:

Saturday 15 August at 1110am the Cry for Peace will be read out by a churchwarden at the War memorial at St James the Great church followed by the ringing of a church bell 75 times.

Other parishes are encouraged to organize their own tribute. If assistance is required please contact William Garland 01208 881134.

The great St Kew
SCARECROW COMPETITION

Photo entries Wadebridge Foodbank
£5, in aid of & St Kew church



Enter by 3 prizes!
August 8th

Get your entry form Winners e-mailed on
by e-mailing August 11th
StKewfundraising@gmail.com Photos in September's mag

Contact information

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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 July issue is:

19th August 2020

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



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Need support?

If you need a listening ear, spiritual guidance, or someone to pray with you, get in touch with Revd Elizabeth

07758 407661 

elizabeth-wild@live.co.uk 

Worship online

Join us for weekly online worship services.

You can find these on our website and YouTube channel

Connect with us

Join our Facebook group to get to know us and enjoy community. This is our online space where we share news, ask for prayer, and spend time together

Giving

Your support enables the ministry of our churches to continue. Without it, we could not continue to reach out to our community or keep these ancient buildings open and alive with worship and welcome. If you'd like to donate, follow this QR code or head to www.northcornwallclusterofchurches.org.uk/giving

