

North Cornwall Cluster of Churches Newsletter

June 2021



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

www.northcornwallclusterofchurches.org.uk

A time to dance

Last month marked a number of milestones. In Liverpool, 5000 clubbers crammed into a warehouse for the first legal rave in over a year. In London, thousands of hyped up football fans streamed back to Wembley for the FA Cup Final. As part of the government's roadmap out of lockdown, we are seeing the return of concerts, sports matches, and festivals.

Summer in Cornwall is festival season: it kicks off in spectacular style with May Day (or Obby Oss if you're willing to make the trip across the estuary), takes in the Royal Cornwall Show and the St Endellion Summer Festival, and winds its way through music, food and dancing until we reach Wadebridge Folk Festival and Port Isaac's Shanty Festival.

Early summer also sees a host of religious festivals; after a month of abstaining from food and water, at Eid Muslim breaking their fast with a mouth-watering celebratory feast. Christians celebrate Pentecost, or Whitsun, sometimes described as the church's 'birthday'. After Jesus ascended, he told his disciples to wait and pray; Pentecost was the moment they had been waiting and praying for, when the Holy Spirit came and filled the disciples (and all disciples since) with courage and power. It marks the beginning of the church's mission in the world, to reach out 'to the ends of the earth' with the good news of God's love for all people.

Over the millennia, religions have learned the importance of feasting as a 'discipline'. Just as fasting is a discipline which helps us focus on prayer and those in need, feasting is a discipline which helps us focus on joy and goodness. The famous poem from the Biblical Book of Ecclesiastes reflects this:

There is a time for everything... a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance...

Festivals aren't just overflows of natural excitement: they are important milestones in the year when we gather to celebrate life, and nature, and all the good things God has given us.

This year that feels more important than ever. As we reopen society, some of us will feel dizzy with relief, wanting to rush out to the nearest pub and celebrate with friends and strangers. Others will be feeling anxious; worried about how quickly things are moving, concerned about relapses, struggling to switch off the necessary caution we have been living with. It's important to remember too that there are still many vulnerable people amongst us: lots of adults have yet to receive the vaccine, and some are unable to receive it for medical reasons. It's not the time to start hugging strangers in the street.

But it is the time to turn our attention away from the doom and despair of the past year. These past twelve months have been hard and heavy and painful. Yet we are not defeated. Now is the time to look up from our fears and remember how good life is, how beautiful the world is, how wonderful our communities and friends and families. Now is the time to turn our eyes to the good things we have and celebrate.

This doesn't have to mean squeezing into overcrowded spaces and dancing. It simply means turning our eyes to the goodness of God, and feasting on it. For some of us this will come naturally. For others, it will feel strange and alien. But for all of us, this is a time to laugh, to dance, to love, and to heal.

Revd. Rose Jones

Holy Habits: Making Disciples

Every year, over the ten days between Ascension Day and Pentecost, Archbishop Justin Welby's initiative Thy Kingdom Come challenges us to pray for five people to get to know Jesus for the first time.

Sharing the gospel with others can seem intimidating. What if they aren't interested? What if they think we're foolish? What if they ask questions I can't answer? Thankfully, it's never our job to convince people that the gospel is true or that Jesus is alive. It is the Holy Spirit who works within people's hearts to help them see Jesus for the first time. Making disciples, and growing the Kingdom of God, is God's mission.

But that doesn't mean we don't have a part to play. Part of being a disciple is encouraging others to join us. Sometimes this does mean explaining to others what we believe about Jesus. Sometimes it means demonstrating it with our actions. Sometimes it means gathering up our courage and inviting someone along to a small group, or a church service, or a Christian event for the first time. It also means helping those who are interested learn more about who God is, and what being a disciple looks like in practice.

All of this begins in our hearts. Do we truly want others to get to know Jesus? Why is it important for our loved ones to discover God? Why did we become Christians in the first place? All these are good questions to help us reflect on why making disciples matters.

One way to start putting it into practice is to take Justin Welby's advice and pray for five people. Choose them carefully: Who do you know whose life could be turned around by becoming Christian? Who do you love and wish could know the peace and freedom Jesus brings? When you have your five, pray every day for their eyes to be opened and for them to have an encounter with Jesus. Then, trusting in God's goodness and the power of prayer, wait and see what God does.

Revd. Rose Jones

A message from Revd Rose

As May draws to a close, I am sad to be pressing pause on my curacy – although it's for a very exciting reason! I am expecting my first child in mid-June, and will be on maternity leave until this time next year. I will be taking the opportunity to worship as a family with Claire so you won't see me around at services very often, although I will certainly pop in from time to time to say hello and show off the baby!

It's been a bit of a bumpy pregnancy at times and I want to say a big thank you to those who have supported and prayed for me, not least Elizabeth and the rest of the team who have gone out of their way to make it possible for me to work flexibly. As normal life picks up again and with a full-time team member down, they will be working extra hard – so please do keep them in your prayers!

In the meantime, I will continue to pray for you all and hope you will do the same for me.

Revd. Rose Jones

Bee Day

Family Service

Sunday 27th June 11am

St Minver Church

Interactive service for all the family, celebrating and supporting the important work of our humble honey bees, with a blessing for bee keepers and flower arrangers.

To help us maintain good Covid security, please let Revd Elizabeth know if you intend to attend and if you will be with us as a family, bee keeper or flower arranger.



07758 407661. Elizabeth-wild@live.co.uk

ST ENDELLION & ST PETER'S CHURCH, PORT ISAAC FETE

Wednesday August 11th

On the assumption that Covid restrictions will be lifted, plans are now well underway and we will be appealing for donations to the various stalls. So if, for example, you have anything suitable for the Tombola, please don't get rid of it, but pass it our way! Boxes will be at the back of both churches for all donations which will be gratefully received!

Also as the jam and chutney making season approaches, perhaps you could make an extra pot for the Produce Stall? Thank you.



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Next issue

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

16th June 2021

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

Cluster services and Events - June 2021

Date	St Kew	St Peter's	St Endellion	St Minver	St Enodoc	St Michael
Sunday 6	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Worship	11am Eucharist	11am Holy Communion	3pm Evensong	6pm Evensong
Online Service: Morning Worship						
Sunday 13	9.30am Morning Worship	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Eucharist	11am Morning Worship	3pm Evensong	6pm Holy Communion
Online Service: Morning Worship						
Sunday 20	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Worship	11am Eucharist	11am Holy Communion	3pm Evensong	6pm Evensong
Online Service: Evensong						
Sunday 27	9.30am Morning Worship	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Eucharist	11am Family Service	3pm Holy Communion	6pm Evensong
Online Service: Morning Worship						
Weekly Services: 8.30am Tuesday Holy Communion (BCP) St Endellion						

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



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