

# North Cornwall Cluster of Churches

# Newsletter

April 2022



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 this copy home*

# The season of Lent

As I write a month or so before Easter we are living in a period of considerable uncertainty. The Covid figures are rising again, and though it is evident that the effects for most are mild the danger to the health of the more vulnerable suggests that we should continue to take care. The news from Ukraine is most disturbing and we worry over what if anything we can do to assist those who are fleeing from the consequences of war. But the Spring is with us, daffodils, crocuses and others are flowering in our gardens and it is difficult not to feel a little more liberated than we have been over the past couple of years.

It is above all, the season of Lent. Lent is for many associated with loss and deprivation as we seek to “give things up” in tribute to the season. Actually, although it is a time for reflection and careful thought, it need not and should not be gloomy. The reason for cutting down on things is at once practical and providential. Practical because historically this is a time when our ancestors simply had less to eat until crops started to grow again. Providential because they put this necessary time of deprivation to good use in preparing themselves for a better celebration of Easter. Cutting down on food they also cut down on other sensory stimulation, removing flowers from church and covering up the images. The result was undoubtedly a dulling of sensation but it was not primarily done in a penitential spirit but in an anticipatory one.

Our modern world has lost much in the muddying of the seasons. If we will we can enjoy strawberries in winter and skiing in summer. But the pattern and events of the church’s year remains true to the traditional sequence – at least in the Northern hemisphere! We will enjoy the beauties of the celebration of Easter – or indeed of any other celebratory occasion – all the more if we prepare carefully for it.

Andrew Lewis, Prebendary of Marnays

---

## What is the Answer?

One of my favourite scriptures can be found in the book of Acts, chapter 2 and verses 42-47 and it is about the fellowship of believers. “Everyone around was in awe—all those wonders and signs done through the apostles! And all the believers lived in a wonderful harmony, holding everything in common. They sold whatever they owned and pooled their resources so that each person’s need was met. They followed a daily discipline of worship in the Temple followed by meals at home, every meal was a celebration; exuberant and joyful, as they praised God. People in general liked what they saw. Every day their number grew as God added those who were saved.” (The message). These words never fail to touch my heart and reminds me of the potential for love and friendship within our churches. We have something wonderful to share with others around us, faith filled friendships, warmth, acceptance, and inclusivity. We have what the world needs, in fact, and Jesus said, “Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognise that you are my disciples-when they see the love you have for each other.” John 13:35. Love, is our trademark, it’s what separates us from the world and draws others to Jesus. It’s what binds us together, who wouldn’t want to join us? And yet, the truth is we see our Church numbers dwindling and are largely irrelevant to those within our communities, except for seasonal services and the occasional offices. So, what IS the answer? Jesus is the answer. We are not called to love one another in our own strength and capacity, we simply don’t have it, we are imperfect and a work in progress. However, the key is to love others in the same way as Jesus has loved us, and that’s where the rubber hits the road friends, that’s where we take Jesus’ teachings seriously and not just listen to them but put them into practice. Isn’t that what Lent has been about? An MOT for the soul? Perhaps as we hear afresh the Easter message of God’s sacrificial love for each of us personally, his death on the cross and resurrection we will begin to live as Easter people, loved, forgiven and free. Free to love God and each other, to enjoy the faith friendships we have and to share our lives with others, perhaps then, and only then will people in general like what they see, and our numbers will grow as God adds those who are being saved. With Every Blessing this Easter. Rev’d Geraldine.

# Who Would be a Churchwarden?

As I approach the legally allotted term of six years of being churchwarden at St Minver, I am looking back on a time mixed with the joys and hard work of the largely invisible responsibilities of that post. It may be described as that of a 'front of house manager' where you are seen at all church services, funerals and weddings but unobserved behind the scenes. When I began in 2016 it helped that I had been trained in Institutional Management and had experience as a full-time church administrator in a large suburban church. So I knew a lot of hard work would be involved. Having also been brought up 'tied' to the Rectory gate I also knew what can go on in a parish! I recognised too that it was God's call to me at this juncture in my life. God does call and equip us through our life experiences.

It was still a steep learning curve whilst I picked up just what the task of being CW involved. The legal duties of a CW are ancient, and as the established C of E it has a complex web of regulations needing to be observed. Responsibilities include just about everything that does not need to be done by the vicar. Apart from supporting the vicar in his/her duties you need to be very organised, practical and these days computer literate. Thankfully most communication is done by email and the box ticking required by the diocese online. The job is indeed what you make it and the more you can delegate the easier it is, something I am not very good at. You oversee the church diary, so Brays call to make sure the church is free for funerals. Acting as Verger you are there for wedding rehearsals and are the first in the congregation to see the bride enter. A large part of the job is looking after the church building and making sure repairs and maintenance are kept up to date. Checking the church for missing slates after storms for instance and clearing the path of leaves during the autumn. I could go on, but you get the message that really the job is as long as you make it.

## CHURCHWARDENS

HOW TO RECOGNISE THEM IN A DOMESTIC SETTING



## A Vacancy – now what?

What is the process for a replacement vicar? We have a diocesan advisor, Julian Briscoe who will be with us all the way until we have produced our Parish Profile. The Parish Profile is the basis of the post advertisement and so must sell our cluster to the applicants. We need to be clear about the challenges and leave scope for achievements for the new priest. Getting this done, approved and published and giving applicants time to apply all takes time. Folk have already come forward to help produce this document and are getting together to do this. Everyone can have a say in the process and the aim is to consult more widely in our communities. The diocese are planning on updating the 1993 built vicarage to modern standards so this will add not only to the attractiveness of the position but building work takes time! Geraldine, Judith, Andrew, Rose, when she returns from maternity leave in May, and our Readers and worship leaders are all here to help us in the coming months. But please, if you feel you can step up in any way to use your gifts to help during the transition do not be shy. We do need someone to consider being nominated for churchwarden at the annual Parish Meeting on April the 27th. - to help Mick and to take us through the next year. Can you play your part in God's Kingdom here in St Minver? Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

*Ruth Varcoe*

# Modern Slavery

## Introduction and outline

It is difficult to understand how, in 2022, that the two words 'Modern' and 'Slavery' can actually occur in the same sentence. But, sadly, some two hundred years after the Slave Trade Act of 1807, Slavery is still an issue. In fact, currently it is estimated that 40.3 million people are in some form of Modern Slavery today, with some 136,000 in the UK.

This series of three articles will look at the following topics: a. Understanding Modern Slavery, b. Detection and c. Prevention

## Understanding Modern Slavery

Before we can detect Modern Slavery and look for the tell-tale signs, we must first understand what Modern Slavery is. As previously mentioned, an estimated 40.3 million people are in some form of Modern Slavery, but how can this happen in 2022? Well at the core of this is DECEPTION; the offer of a better life or opportunity, which turns out to be a lie. The perpetrators of Modern Slavery prey on and exploit the vulnerable who often end up working in difficult degrading conditions with little or no pay. So why do they stay in these conditions? The threat of VIOLENCE to themselves or their families is used to keep them compliant and trap them in their situation.

If we were to outline a 'Business Model' for how this might work, it could look something like this:

1. people are treated as commodities...not as humans
2. lured into slavery through deceit, the job offered turns out to be a lie and they are forced to work in difficult, degrading conditions, for little pay
3. chilling levels of violence and threats used to keep them compliant, so difficult to escape
4. high earnings for the perpetrators
5. plentiful supply of potential slaves

The last point is extremely concerning, given the perfect storm that we see in the UK, namely:

- Soaring energy prices
- Changes to Universal Credit
- Ending of 'Furlough'

As people's finances become more challenged, so they may potentially become an easy target for a perpetrator's offer of 'help'.

The perpetrators are clever and make sure their crimes are difficult to discover and this is helped by our modern busy lives where the perpetrators preying on the vulnerable can often go unnoticed, especially in areas where there is no sense of community and where there are fragmented lives, fragmented families, fragmented relationships.

The Clewer Initiative, who seek to raise awareness of all aspects of modern slavery and help support victims and vulnerable groups by mobilising local churches and communities, use some interesting language. Some of their language and training material points to the fact that Modern Slavery may happen in our communities, but we do not notice it. Modern Slavery happening, but not seen! Some of this language includes: Hidden Voices, Women in the Shadows, Hidden in Plain Sight, We see You

For further information visit the Clewer Initiative website at [theclewerinitiative.org](http://theclewerinitiative.org)  
The next article will explore Detection and the tell-tale signs of Modern Slavery.

# This Time Tomorrow

**Mary Chamberlain (artist & creative practitioner)**

This time tomorrow, normally would see me in London working in an old (and cold!) church in London with 40 Tamils. I run art sessions throughout the day as part of a larger charity that offers English lessons, Art and Counselling to Tamils from Sri Lanka who have come to the UK seeking asylum.

I am writing this at 1 o'clock, a time which would see us gathering for a large Sri Lankan lunch to eat together. I have learnt over the years which foods are the especially hot ones, within a range of 'hot'... At this time I would have run two art sessions and be running another couple after lunch. We have recently been looking at knitting as well as art, and I have been enjoying reading about and learning of the therapeutic effects of knitting. It is great to see the men enjoying it as much as the women.

Challenges include the practical of keeping warm, travel logistics of journeying in from Oxford, allowing time for breaks in the day and keeping resourced with creative ideas.

Joys are so many! I have been working with this charity for five years and completely love it. It is endlessly satisfying enabling people to create art work (and now knitting) that they are proud of.

Prayers would be appreciated for energy and inspiration with this work. As to the future, for opportunities for this type of work in the South West and Cornwall.

Right now though, for these two months of February and March, I am based near Delabole with my husband Tim and time has a different rhythm, focused on my own making and art work.

Prayers appreciated for making art work here, good rest for my return to Oxford energized and focused, and for all things creative and connected with people in our lives in Cornwall.

[www.marychamberlain.co.uk](http://www.marychamberlain.co.uk)

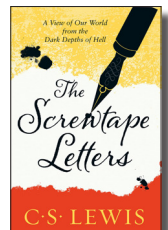
---

## BOOK REVIEW: The Screwtape Letters by C S Lewis

First published in 1942 and dedicated to J R R Tolkien.

'The devil..the prowde spirite.. cannot endure to be mocked.' Thomas More

This slim volume, written in the dark days of WW2, provides an account of one man's journey to faith and redemption through the eyes of a young devil, Wormwood, who has been sent to keep him away from all things Christian by any means possible.



The young devil is mentored by his Uncle Screwtape – a malicious old spirit who is quick to point out his nephew's failings in a series of letters to him.

The book, while revealing Lewis's deep knowledge of the human condition and the struggle for faith, is also extremely funny. Writing from the devil's point of view the small sins and failings of us humans are exulted over and encouraged. Any steps towards the Light cause dismay.

Lewis's clear understanding of everyday temptations and backslidings would make uncomfortable reading were it not for the black comedy. The humour throughout is almost enough to make one sorry for young Wormwood as his patient gradually moves towards a deeper and more constant faith.

It will not take you long to read – it is a slim volume and, if you can find a copy, in a good size print. I commend it to anyone whether already sound in faith or struggling.

If you can't find one on Amazon or in a second-hand bookshop I am willing to lend mine... as long as you are never tempted to retain it. But then, if you are reading this, you won't be.

Jo Heydon



## St Endellion Easter Festival, 9-17 April 2022

After a gap of two years, the Easter Festival returns to live musicmaking in St Endellion.

Highlights of the programme include two performances of a brand-new Jeremy Sams translation of Bach's St Matthew Passion, conducted by the Festival's Artistic Director, David Watkin, and with Mark Padmore in the role of Evangelist on Friday 15 and Saturday 16 April.

Sir James MacMillan returns to conduct his hauntingly beautiful Stabat Mater alongside Finzi's Farewell to Arms. He also talks about his autobiography Scots Song at a literary lunchtime "concert" in St Kew. In collaboration with Endelienta, to celebrate the launch of their monthly book talk series, celebrated author Patrick Gale gives a talk on his most recent novel, Mother's Boy, a fictionalised biography of Charles Causley.

Adam Hickox will conduct the final concert, a magnificent programme that includes Mozart's Jupiter Symphony, Errollyn Wallen's Cello Concerto and the world premiere live performance of the Rhiannon Randle piece Thy Presence, My Light. Andrew Watkinson and Shuna Wilson join us for the opening chamber concert, featuring the Easter Festival Co-Chair Katy Thomson, performing music by Elgar and Shostakovich.

With a host of other delicious chamber music, meditative candle-lit moments as well as choral Evensong and Eucharist, the 2022 Festival Programme is packed with Endellion magic.

For the full programme and online booking go to [www.endellionfestivals.co.uk](http://www.endellionfestivals.co.uk). Tickets can be booked by phone on the day on 07771 796643 or on the door if available.

NORTH  
CORNWALL  
BOOK FESTIVAL

St Endellion  
22nd - 25th September 2022  
[www.ncornbookfest.org](http://www.ncornbookfest.org)



### Dates for your diary:

In addition to the Book Festival we are introducing a number of Author Events which will take place throughout 2022.

Patrick Gale will be discussing his new book 'Mother's Boy' on 12th April (1.15pm) at St James' Church, St Kew (please go to the [littleboxoffice.com/endelienta](http://littleboxoffice.com/endelienta))

Rachel Joyce will be talking about her book 'Marion' on 19th May at St Endellion Hall (please go to the website [www.ncornbookfest.org](http://www.ncornbookfest.org))

Please follow us on Facebook NorthCornwallBookFestival and Instagram @NCornBookFest

The  
**Wednesday morning**  
  
**Community Cafe**  
 every Wednesday morning  
 OPEN from 10am-12noon  
 Port Isaac Village Hall  
 COME FOR A CUPPA, CAKE & CHAT  
 everybody welcome

**PERCEVAL INSTITUTE**  
**MONTHLY 3rd SATURDAY**  
**JOIN US FOR**  
**THE NOSTALGIA CAFE**  
 2 - 4 pm  
 Refreshment and Entertainment  
 To help loneliness in a secure setting.

**PERCEVAL INSTITUTE**  
**MONTHLY 1st FRIDAY**  
**JOIN US @**  
**THE CHATTER & NATTER CAFE**  
 10.30 -12 noon

**Contact information**

<p>Geraldine Ashton          07957 609085</p>	<p><b>Administrator – Baptisms, Weddings &amp; Funerals</b>          Elizabeth Williams 07976 552 236 <a href="mailto:lizwilliams@live.co.uk">lizwilliams@live.co.uk</a></p> <p><b>Administrator – General Enquiries &amp; Communications</b>          Gavin Tyler <a href="mailto:gavin@northcornwallclusterofchurches.org.uk">gavin@northcornwallclusterofchurches.org.uk</a></p>
---	---

<p><b>Clergy</b>          Geraldine Ashton          07957 609085          Rose Jones          On maternity leave          Andrew Lewis          01840 211161          Judith Pollinger          01208 880181          Corinne Tournay          07908027826</p>	<p><b>Readers</b>          Peter Coster          01208 880332          David Elliott          01208 863905          Henry Gompertz          01208 869421</p> <p><b>Church and Chapel wardens</b>  <i>St James, St Kew</i>          Andrew Campbell          01208 841115          Rob Soley          01208 841366</p>	<p><i>St Endellion with St Peter's, Port Isaac</i>          Robert Sloman          01208 880412          Jill O'Grady          01208 880312  <i>St Peter's:</i> Pat Pearson          01208 880969  <i>St Minver</i>          Ruth Varcoe          01208 862954          Mick Sumra          01208 862550  <i>St Enodoc</i>          Bill Nimmo          01208 862665  <i>St Michael</i>          Jane Pain          01208 863178</p>	<p><b>Next issue</b>          The deadline for text and or pictures* for the May issue is:  <b>12th April 2022</b></p> <p>* Please note that permission is required for people in photographs and written parental consent for children.</p>
--	---	--	--

## Cluster services and Events - April 2022

Date	St Kew	St Peter's	St Endellion	St Minver	St Enodoc	St Michael
Sunday 3	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Morning Worship	11am Eucharist	10am St Minver United Service Holy Communion		
Sunday 10 Palm Sunday	11am Joint Morning Worship	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Eucharist	11am Joint Morning Worship at St Kew	3pm Evensong	6pm Evensong
Thursday 14 Maundy Thursday		7pm Holy Communion & Vigil				
Friday 15 Good Friday			12noon-3pm Service of 3 Hours	12noon Reflections at the Cross		
Sunday 17 Easter Sunday	9.30am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Eucharist	11am Holy Communion	8 & 9.15am Holy Communion	8 & 9.15am Holy Communion
Sunday 24	9.30am Joint Morning Worship at St Minver	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Eucharist	11am Joint Morning Worship	3pm Evensong	6pm Evensong
<b>Weekly Services:</b> 8.30am Tuesday Holy Communion (BCP) St Endellion						

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



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)