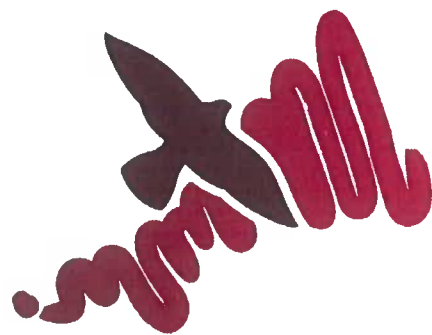


Newsletter

September 2026

The Season of Creationtide

**The churches of St Mary Magdalene,
Werrington, St Giles, Boyton, North
Tamerton and Virginstowe (the Benefice of
St Mary's and the Upper Tamar Parishes)**



**DIOCESE
OF TRURO**

Welcome to our September newsletter, with details of services, diary dates for events across the Benefice, prayer resources, news about what has been going on and more.

Welcome to our September newsletter. We hope you enjoy the content and find the events diary and articles helpful. Contributions for the newsletter are always very welcome.

We are entering the Season of Creationtide, the time when the Christian family worldwide unites from September 1st to October 4th, to celebrate, pray and take action to protect our common home. It is a special season where we celebrate God as creator, and acknowledge creation as the divine continuing act that summons us as collaborators to love and care for the gift of all that is created. As followers of Christ from around the globe, we share a common call to care for creation. We are co-creatures and part of all that God has made. Our well being is interwoven with the well-being of the earth. This year the theme is "Living Water" inspired by Ezekiel 47.9 and 12.

The leader of the Holy Orthodox Church says "We cannot and should not hope to address climate change without working closely with one another. As we have repeatedly stated "We are all in the same boat". Creation care is a collective mandate and responsibility." (His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, Bartholomew).

Details of our harvest celebrations are in this newsletter, and are always a highlight of the year and reminder of the rural communities our churches serve, but the Season of Creationtide goes beyond our celebration of the harvest.

Rev Helen

Associate Priest

Midweek Communion, St Mary Magdalene 9.30am on



Wednesdays



Services in September

September 2026 The Season of Creationtide	Sept 6th Green	Sept 13th Green	Sept 20th Green	Sept 27th Green
			Deuteronomy 28.1-14	
	Job 37.14- 24	Job 38.1-18	2 Corinthians 9.6-15	Leviticus 25.1-7
	Revelation 4	Romans 1.18-25	Luke 12.16- 30	Hebrews 4.1-11
	Matthew 8.23-27	Matthew 5.13-16		John 6.1-15

Boyton	MP 0930 TS		HC 0930 HD
Werrington		HC 0915 HD Teddy Service 1430 HD	MP 0915 RL
St Giles	HC 1100 HD		Harvest 1100 R Tr
Virginstowe		MP1100 MH	HC 1100 HD
North Tamerton	HC 0930 HD	M Song 1000 JO	MS 100 JO
St Mary Magdalene	Family Service 1030 DS Evensong 1730 JW	HC 1030 Baptism HD	MP 1030 DS MW

What has been going on in our church communities?

Boyton's Barbeque

The weather was perfect for Boyton's summer barbeque, and the hall and outside tables were full of people enjoying an abundance of delicious food, and each other's company. No one was deterred by SWW's best efforts closing the road.

Spring clean at St Mary Magdalene

A band of volunteers have been working hard in church, so the building looks spick and span.

St Mary's welcomed Bobby and Amira, with their family and friends, for their baptism. The church congregation welcomed the two new members of the Christian family. We also congratulate Arthur, being baptised at the end of August, and pray for them all on their journey of faith.

The choir has August off, so worship has a different, summer, flavour, but they will be back in September and we hope they are refreshed and in good voice. See elsewhere in this newsletter for details of former Director of Music, Robin Stubbs' Saturday lunchtime concert, and September's music.

Werrington

Werrington enjoyed Charlotte and Myles' wedding, Mia's baptism, and are delighted that the clock is working again.

Plans are advancing for a Teddy Service in mid September, including teddy themed music and the opportunity for teddies to abseil down the church tower. You are never too old to enjoy a teddy service!

Church warden news

Our church wardens meet quarterly. They worship together, plan the service pattern for services right across the benefice, and share ideas, challenges and support for one another in a demanding role.

They have just met, and talked about (among other things) safeguarding including future PCC codes of conduct, and taking photos at a Sunday morning service; harvest; Bishop David's visit to St Giles and Virginstowe on Advent Sunday; finance; the Five Questions our strategic rural dean has set us; a marriage direction for the benefice; where are the next generation and how to learn what each of our communities want from our churches.

The next meeting will focus solely on mission and outreach.

Thank you to each of them for all they do.

iKnowChurch (Church Organiser)

As you know, we have subscribed to some church management software, called iKnowChurch. This will give us a shared diary, a database so we can record for example PCC members, church officers etc and the capacity to send out emails and newsletters from the database communicating by groups we choose. The diary, and the capacity to use the software to send out newsletters and notices are likely to be particularly helpful.

As we gather contact details for all the churches, you may receive a privacy notice and request to sign up. Please respond!

Safeguarding

A reminder that our safeguarding officer in the rural churches is Sheila Annesley 07341 921927 . Please note Sheila's new number, now she no longer has a landline.

The safeguarding officer in St Mary Magdalene is currently Rev Helen 07802 732494 or 01566 771115.

NEED TO RAISE A SAFEGUARDING CONCERN?

- **URGENT** - Immediate risk of harm? - Contact the Police on 999
- **URGENT CHILD SAFEGUARDING** - Contact Social Care MARU on 0300 1231116 or email: multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk
- **URGENT ADULT SAFEGUARDING** - Contact Adult Social Care on 0300 1234 131 or 01208 251300 (out of hours)
- **NON URGENT** - Email non urgent concerns to safeguardingconcerns@truro.anglican.org Or training/DBS/Dashboard/Hub enquires to safeguardingqueries@truro.anglican.org

Safeguarding is everyone's concern.

Diary Dates

Coffee mornings in Boyton at 10am every Thursday, alternating between the Church Hall and the Chapel Hall. Everyone welcome.

Bloke's Breakfast The first Wednesday of each month men's breakfast at Trethorne, organised by Harry Wellington at GF Gubbin Funeral Directors and particularly useful for men on their own or who have lost a loved one, but all welcome. Call 01566 785340 to book.

Saturday 5th September 11am-2pm North Tamerton, Sausage and apple brunch

Saturday 5th September 1pm Concert at St Mary Magdalene, with refreshments, Robin Stubbs

Saturday 5th September 5pm **NOTE THIS SERVICE HAS BEEN DEFERRED AND NEW DATE TBC** Welcome service for Rev Dr Kapembwa Kondolo, at Central. Rev Kapembwa is successor to Circuit Superintendent Rev David Miller, and is his first UK appointment. His "patch" includes Boyton. All are welcome at the service.

Sunday 13th September 2.30pm Teddy Service at Werrington, celebrating International Teddy Day. All welcome for worship and fun (family friendly, obviously!)

Wednesday 16th September 7pm St Mary Magdalene PCC

Wednesday 16th September 7pm bereavement group at St Thomas, an opportunity for anyone looking for support with loss.

Thursday 18th September 2.30pm North Tamerton PCC

Sunday 20th September 6pm Taize service at St Thomas Church, a quiet reflective service based on the chants of the Taize community

Friday 25th September 7.30pm Boyton Wine and Wisdom in the Church Hall, raising funds for church. Teams of 6 (or the best you can muster!). Book with Rachael Ellacott 01566 773096

Saturday 26th September Boyton Ringers Coach Outing visiting 6 churches in the Bideford area. Ring Norman 01566 775381 (evenings) for more details. All welcome.

Saturday 3rd October 7.30pm Boyton Church Dance, Coronation Hall, St Giles

Sunday 4th October 4pm Archdeacon Designate of Bodmin, Revd Dr Helen Williams will be licensed, installed and welcomed as Archdeacon during Evensong at Truro Cathedral.

Harvest in the Benefice

Werrington Sunday 13 September 9.15am

St Giles Sunday 20 September 11am

St Mary Magdalene Sunday 4 October 5.30pm with visiting preacher Rev Canon Dr Lynda Barley

North Tamerton Friday 9 October, followed by supper

Virginstowe Sunday 11 October 3pm family harvest service and bring and share tea

Boyton Friday 16 October 7pm with refreshments

St Mary Magdalene Sunday 18 October 4pm harvest bi-lingual service in Cornish and English led by Rev Canon Jane Kneebone



St Paternus, South Petherwin are fundraising

St Paternus are fundraising for dry rot treatment and urgent replacement guttering. There are a number of events. Further information from Rev Olive 07480 576525.

September 18th Concert Our Atlantic Roots 7.30pm

October 24th Concert, Tamar Valley Voices (a folksy/ shanty group) 7.30pm

October 31st Concert, Callington Community Gospel Choir 7.30pm

St Mary Magdalene is recruiting!

St Mary's are looking for a treasurer.

This role is subject to safer recruitment. If you are interested, or to chat through what is involved, contact church warden Dr Sean Sweeney
sean.sweeney01@btinternet.com or 07732 586978

The Diocese offers training and support.

Contact details

Priest in charge Father Michael Dobson

Associate minister Revd Helen Davies
(part time) 07802 732494

reverendhelendavies@gmail.com

Deanery Administrator Helen Uglow (for enquiries about baptisms,
weddings and funerals, and deanery communications)

07835 923786 and getintouch.triggmajordeanery@gmail.com

Music at St Mary Magdalene in September

6th September (Choral Evensong) Anthem; Drop, drop, slow tears,
Gibbons BAB116; Postlude Toccata Giocosa, Mathias

13th September (baptism) Anthem View me Lord, Lloyd; Postlude
Plymouth Soundings, Cooman

20th September Anthem Thou wilt keep him, Wesley; Postlude
Marche Heroique, Brewer

27th September Anthem God so loved the world, Stainer; Postlude
Litanies, Alain



Music at St Mary Magdalene

Concert Programme 2026

1pm

Saturday 5th September 2026

Robin Stubbs

Saturday 10th October 2026

Dr Sean Sweeney

Admission Free with retiring collection

Refreshments and All Welcome

A history of bells...



Bells across the benefice

St Mary Magdalene, continued.

The tower originally had one bell but in 1720 it was recast and 5 new ones added from Rudhalls Bell Foundry of Gloucester. Originally the bells were rung from a floor (now removed) above the Weighing Engine, and then later from the ground level as they are today. The 6 bells were rehung in a new frame in 1889 and in 1901 2 extra bells were added making a peal of 8. In 1938 a new iron frame was installed by Taylors Bell Foundry and apart from routine checks it is still in good order.

In church legal terms the "Advowson" is the right of the patron to appoint the clergy. Since Norman times the patron was the Corporation of Launceston ie the town council. It would appear that by 1847 the Corporation (perhaps the majority of its members were attenders of churches of other faiths?) considered that the cost of running St Mary's was an embarrassment, so they passed the "advowson" to the Duke of Northumberland, who was resident at Werrington Park. He held it for a number of years, and in 1890 it was handed to the Bishop of Truro, with the new Diocese of Truro being formed a few years earlier.

The initial church was separated from the tower by two cottages used by the town council and when they were demolished around 1851 the Duke built what is now the vestry. He provided a new Rectory and the 1852 church restoration.

The church registers date from 1558 and by 1881 the population was 2430 which included the residents in the workhouse. Strange that at St Mary's there is no plaque or board listing the rectors and incumbents. One is in storage perhaps?

To be continued... Next month Boyton

Norman Cowling, Boyton Tower Captain

(Info taken from Kellys Directory 1883, the notes of former bellringer the late Roy Sanders and reference books in Launceston Library, with apologies to those more knowledgeable at St Mary's for anything that is wrong)



A Church Near You- Prayer resources

We have a prayer resources page for each of our rural churches, on the A Church Near You website. It includes the Diocese daily prayers diary. Do pass on prayer resources you think others might find useful.

If you would like to be part of our WhatsApp prayer group, please contact Revd Helen on 07802 732494 or reverendhelendavies@gmail.com with your mobile number.

Many charities also produce daily or regular free prayer resources, including wild goose's daily thought (Iona), The Bible Society, Tear Fund, Open Doors and Christian Aid. Truro Diocese publish prayers on their website. We also have prayer resources in our churches.

This month we pray for...

Victims of the flood in Nepal, their families and friends, and rescue workers and emergency services. We pray too for those still living with the aftermath of disasters such as the earthquakes in Venezuela and Columbia which have fallen from the headlines.

The Diocesan leadership team and Rev Dr Helen Williams, Archdeacon designate of Bodmin, as she prepares for her arrival and ministry among us.

All who lead in our churches, worship leaders, church wardens, PCC officers and members and those who toil away in faith, unseen and unsung.

Our church treasurers, doing difficult work in a challenging economic climate.

Canon John Deeny as he leaves the Catholic Parish of Launceston and moves to Yelverton.

Peace, in The Middle East, Ukraine, South Sudan, the DRC and all places of conflict.

Those exploring baptism and wanting to bring their children to baptism. Bobby, Amira, Mia, Arthur and Theo

Couples preparing for marriage in our benefice churches, including Charlotte and Myles married at Werrington in August.

All who are sick, in pain, recovering from treatment or surgery or troubled, praying particularly for those known to us. We lift before the Lord all of those whom we hold in our hearts and our own personal prayers.

The people who come into our churches to pray, bringing their worries and needs.

The farming community, facing drought and disease.

We give thanks for the lives of those we have lost and all the faithful departed including Maureen Prout, John Lovelock and Sue Fear and we pray for all who mourn the passing of a loved one.

Bishop David's prayer for the Diocese

Gracious and Holy God, You are our Father, our shelter and strength. In this land of wise waters and ancient faith, may your kingdom come afresh in this Diocese of Truro. Give us grace each day to walk the pilgrim path with humility.

Lord Jesus Christ, Shepherd of the flock and servant of all, forgive what is past, renew what is broken, and make us vessels of mercy and peace.

Holy Spirit, Breath of God and fire of love, dwell in this place and stir up your gifts within us. Guide this diocese in truth, bind us together across generations and parishes, and send us out as bearers of hope and healing.

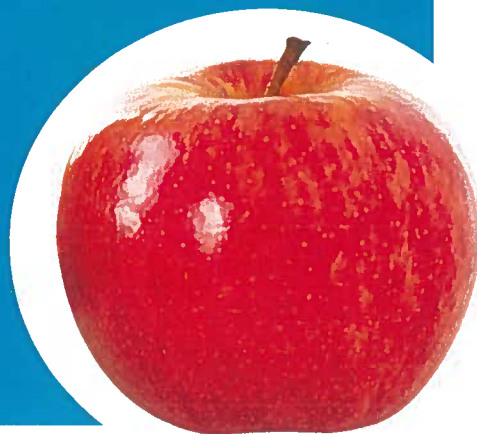
For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory

Amen



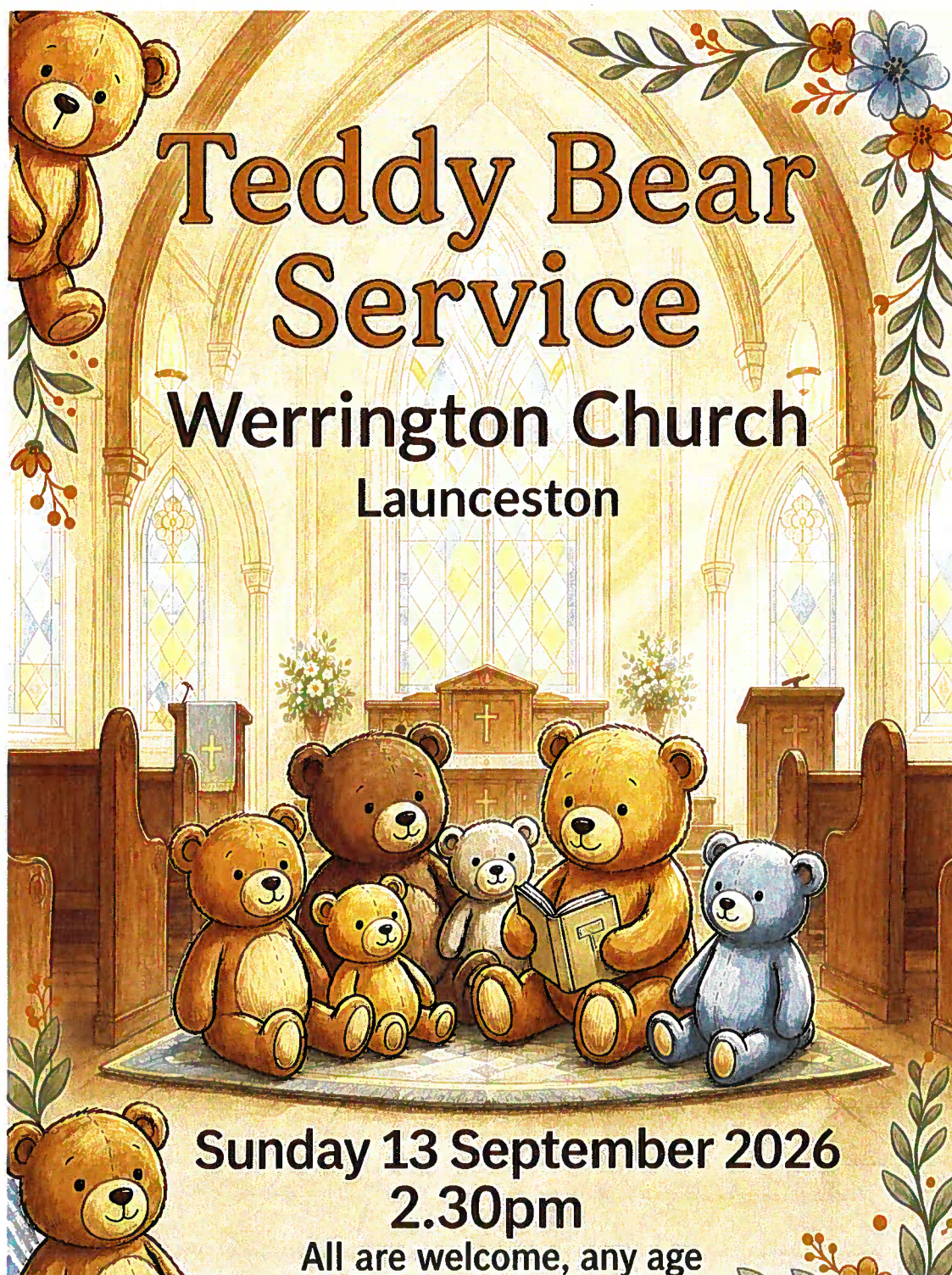


ST DENYS'
SAUSAGE
& APPLE
BRUNCH



Saturday September 5th 11am-2pm

Victory Hall, North Tamerton



Sunday 13 September 2026
2.30pm

All are welcome, any age