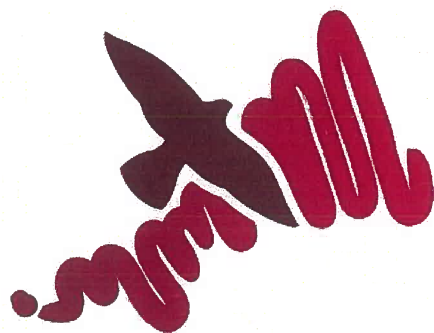


Newsletter

October 2026

**The churches of St Mary Magdalene,
Launceston, 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 October 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 October newsletter. We hope you enjoy the content and find the events diary and articles helpful. Contributions for the newsletter are always very welcome.

As I write this introduction, we are coming to the end of the Season of Creationtide, ending with the Feast of St Francis of Assisi on the 4th. In my sermon last week, I challenged you to action; what change will you make in the face of climate change? The 2026 Creationtide theme was Living Water, and I have twinned our office loos (www.toilettwinning.org), shortly to be followed by the ones at home.

We are still in the thick of our harvest festivals. I am looking forward to praying with Boyton School at their harvest, and I love the joy of harvest, even in the midst of all the deeply challenging things the farming community are currently facing. The Arthur Rank Centre provide resources for rural ministry, and they say "Harvest is a time when churches traditionally give thanks for the food we eat, the land that produces it and the people whose work makes it possible. But this year, for many farming families, that thanksgiving comes alongside uncertainty, exhaustion and loss. Across our farming communities, changing weather, livestock disease, rising costs and financial pressures are making an already demanding way of life harder. For some, the future of the farm itself feels uncertain."

Without the farming community our churches, and our communities, would look very different. As we celebrate, so too let us reflect on what we can do to help those who are struggling, and to notice those who often work in isolation.

Rev Helen



Associate Priest

Midweek Communion, St Mary Magdalene 9.30am on



Wednesdays



Services in October

October 2026	Oct 4 th *	Oct 11th	Oct 18th	Oct 25th
*Creationtide	Green	Green	Red	Green
	Trinity 18	Trinity 19	Luke the Evangelist	Bible Sunday
	Leviticus 25.8-19	Isaiah 25.1-9		Nehemiah 8.1-6,8-12
	1 Tim 2.1-7	Philippians 4.1-9	Isaiah 35.3-6	Colossians 3.12-17
	Luke 17.11-19	Matthew 22.1-14	2 Tim 4.5-17	Matthew 24.30-35
			Luke 10.1-9	

Boyton	MP 0930	HC 0930	
	TS	HD	
Werrington		HC 0915	MP -015
		HD	RL
St Giles	MP 1100	HC 1100	
	RTru	HD	
Virginstowe		1500	HC 1100
		Harvest HD	HD
North Tamerton	SoP 1000	MS 1000	HC 0930
	JO	JO	HD

St Mary Magdalene	Family Service DS 1030 Harvest Evensong 1730 JW & Rev Canon Lynda	HC 1030 HD Boyton harvest Fri 16 Oct & r'ments 7pm	MP 1030 RTre 4pm Harvest Cornish bi- lingual service Rev Canon Jane	MW 1030 HD
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**Bilingual Cornish / English Harvest service at St Mary
Magdalene 18th October 4 pm**

Why hold a service partly in Cornish (Kernewek) you might ask? Isn't Cornish a dead language, with the last speakers dying in the 18th Century? Well, it's true that the language has had to be revived from old manuscripts as there was no continuum like the Welsh have. However there is a revival in interest in Cornish culture and identity as part of its place amongst the Celtic nations, and the language forms part of that. When St Mary's was consecrated, the services would have probably have been in Latin but at least some of the congregation would have spoken Kernewek in everyday life.

The intention of this service, which will be led by Canon Jane Kneebone, Chaplain to the Cornish Gorsedh, is to enable people to hear Cornish as a spoken language in the worship of God, and to celebrate the harvest.

It's open to Cornish speakers and non Cornish speakers alike - the service booklet will be in Cornish and English, to allow you to follow the readings and prayers of intercession. The psalm and the

first verses of the hymns will however be in Cornish so you can have a go! The hymns are all well known, and the choir will be singing the Gloria from the Oferen an Dasserghyans (Mass of the Resurrection), which was celebrated at Truro Cathedral for the first time in June.

The service will be followed by a Cornish cream tea (jam first of course!) and cake.

Sharron Wormald

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 3rd October 11.30 Celebration of lay ministry at Truro Cathedral, including St Mary's choir, and Caroline Stone of this deanery being licensed as a reader.

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.

Tuesday 6th October 6.30pm Welcome service for Rev Dr Kapembwa Kondolo, at Central. Rev Kapembwa is successor to Circuit Superintendent Rev David Miller, and this is his first UK appointment. His "patch" includes Boyton. All are welcome at the service.

Friday 9th October 7pm North Tamerton Harvest Festival, followed by supper. The participants this year will be "sons of farmers".

Sunday 11th October 3pm Virginstowe Harvest Festival, followed by a bring and share tea

Wednesday 14th October 7pm St Mary Magdalene PCC

Wednesday 14th October 7pm bereavement group at St Thomas, an opportunity for anyone looking for support with loss.

Thursday 15th October Deanery Synod St Mary Magdalene 7pm refreshments and fellowship, 7.30 the formal meeting. Synod is open to everyone.

Friday 16th October 7pm Boyton Harvest Festival, followed by refreshments

Saturday 17th October 10am Werrington Churchyard Day. Please come along with your gardening tools, from secateurs to chainsaws. Tea and cake will be provided for encouragement.

Saturday 17th October 12-2pm Soup and Pud at Crows Nest House. Call Mike or Sonia to book 01409 211296

Sunday 18th October 4pm St Mary Magdalene Harvest Cornish bi-lingual service, with visiting preacher (preaching in English on this occasion) Rev Canon Jane Kneebone

Sunday 18th October 6pm Taize service at St Thomas Church, a quiet reflective service based on the chants of the Taize community

Sunday 25th October 7pm The Side by Side Singers at North Tamerton Church, followed by supper. Further details on the poster in this newsletter.

Sunday 1st November 6.30pm All Souls Service at Werrington. If you would like to remember anyone by name, please gives the names to Rev Helen or churchwardens Sally Hayden or Raye Luckhurst by Thursday 30th October.



Harvest in the Benefice

St Mary Magdalene Sunday 4 October 5.30pm Harvest Choral Evensong 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.

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!

Do you have a bit of time to polish brass in St Mary's?
Or perhaps you could help with fundraising, selling items on eBay and Vinted for church funds?

If this might be you, do contact Rev Helen or one of the churchwardens.

Churches Conservation Trust Visit

Members of the Trust enjoyed a visit to St Mary Magdalene, and wrote afterwards "A huge thank you for your hospitality at St Mary's yesterday. Please pass on my thanks to the ladies serving us tea and biscuits and also to Rob for meeting us off the coach and sharing his knowledge about the town and the church with us. We felt very welcome. It was just a shame we didn't have longer! "

Rob Tremain adds that the group were particularly impressed with the wood carvings and the windows. He hopes that Helen Wilson, author of a book about the Pinwell Sisters and their ecclesiastical woodcarvings, will come back to give a talk.

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 October

Sunday 4th October

The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

Choral Evensong (5.30pm)

Hymns:	NEH 259, 261, 262	Psalm: 23
Responses:	Ferial	
Canticles:	Brewer in D	
Anthem:	The heavens are telling - Haydn	
Postlude:	Toccata - Dubois	

Sunday 11th October

The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

Holy Communion (10.30am)

Hymns: NEH 5, 457, 443, 349
Setting: Mass of St Thomas - Thorne
Anthem: Ave verum corpus - Elgar
Postlude: Processional - Wolff

Sunday 18th October

Luke the Evangelist

Morning Prayer (10.30am)

Cornish Service for Harvest (4.00pm)

Hymns: NEH 186, 486, 413, 215
Anthem: God be in my head - Rutter
Postlude: Tuba Tune – C S Lang

Anthem: A Gaelic blessing - Rutter
Postlude: Final (Symphonie I) - Vienne

Sunday 25th October

Bible Sunday

Holy Communion (10.30am)

Hymns: NEH 272, 394, 336, 475
Setting: Mass of St Thomas - Thorne
Anthem: Teach me O Lord - Attwood

Postlude: Grand Choeur - Dubois



Music at St Mary Magdalene

Concert Programme 2026

Saturday 10th October 2026 at 1pm

Dr Sean Sweeney

Admission Free with retiring collection

Refreshments and All Welcome



A history of bells...

Bells across the benefice

Mentioned in the Domesday Book 1086 as Boietone, and with the earliest part of the church dated to around 1210, probably makes Boyton as having the oldest church in the Benefice.

During its time, the hamlet of Northcott was, up to 150 years ago, always linked to Boyton. Even today as a recognised Devon parish in its own right, it shares a link in its post code. Its joint population in 1801 was 319, in 1831 406, but by 1883 Boyton was 365 and Northcott 80. Boyton is sized at 4460 acres.

The church was extended again in both the 14th and 15th centuries and has always been a poor parish in ecclesiastical terms, having no glebe or rectory in the early days. The curates are recorded as having to travel from Pancrasweeke and Whitstone to take a monthly service. In 1727 the curate complained that from his stipend of £18 per year, he had to give £2-14-8p to help maintain Launceston Prison, having no lands, tithes or money to maintain the building. Even worse, the man in charge of the Bradridge Manor, despite a legacy from William Symons, refused to pay him his yearly entitlement.

Around 1785 a Rev Norton was given Boyton, already having an incumbency in Shropshire, due to the previous family link when his father was Rector of Holsworthy, but it took until 1818 for him to arrive because there was no rectory to go to. He died in 1822,

aged 64, but was living one mile from the village, at Beardon. The patron then was a Rev J Prideaux.

In 1826 Rev Edward Ruddell was installed with a cottage, probably in the oldest part, before a couple of extensions, of what was our rectory and is now known as Queens Acre.

The church was subject to Victorian renovations over a ten year period after 1870. The tower did once have a west door, but as mentioned in previous of these articles, it was stoned up during this period. By 1870 the priest was Thomas Walters, the landowners being Major Holt of North Tamerton, Edward Coode of Werrington, Rev William Rogers of Mawnan and Captain J Tucker of Saltash. The same Rev Rogers was also chief landowner of the parishes of Tremaine and Tresmeer.

In 181 John Davey ran the Duchy Arms pub, which was one of many bought up over the next few years by the Methodist Temperance Society- no alcohol!! Kellys list 29 temperance hotels in Cornwall by 1881, but with little need for a hotel in Boyton, ours became Temperance Farm; what did the locals and bell ringers make of that?! Perhaps, the cider press shed I can recall in the village up to 1980, and making their own.

To be continued... Next month more on Norman's "home" parish.

Norman Cowling, Boyton Tower Captain

(Info taken from Kellys Directory 1883, and Boyton old records)



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...

The Diocesan leadership team and Rev Dr Helen Williams, as she begins her ministry as Archdeacon of Bodmin 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. All lay ministers as the diocese celebrates them at Truro Cathedral, and Caroline Stone as she is licensed as reader.

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

Warmth and light for the people of Ukraine as they go into winter, still at war.

Rev Dr Kapembwa Kondolo as he takes up his post in the Launceston Methodist Circuit and he and his family as they begin a new life here.

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 challenge upon challenge, and the work of the Farming Community Network and RABI.

We give thanks for the lives of those we have lost and all the faithful departed including 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





**Tickets
£10**



SIDE BY SIDE SINGERS at **St Denys' Church North Tamerton**

**Sunday 25th October
7.00pm**

**Buffet supper
afterwards**

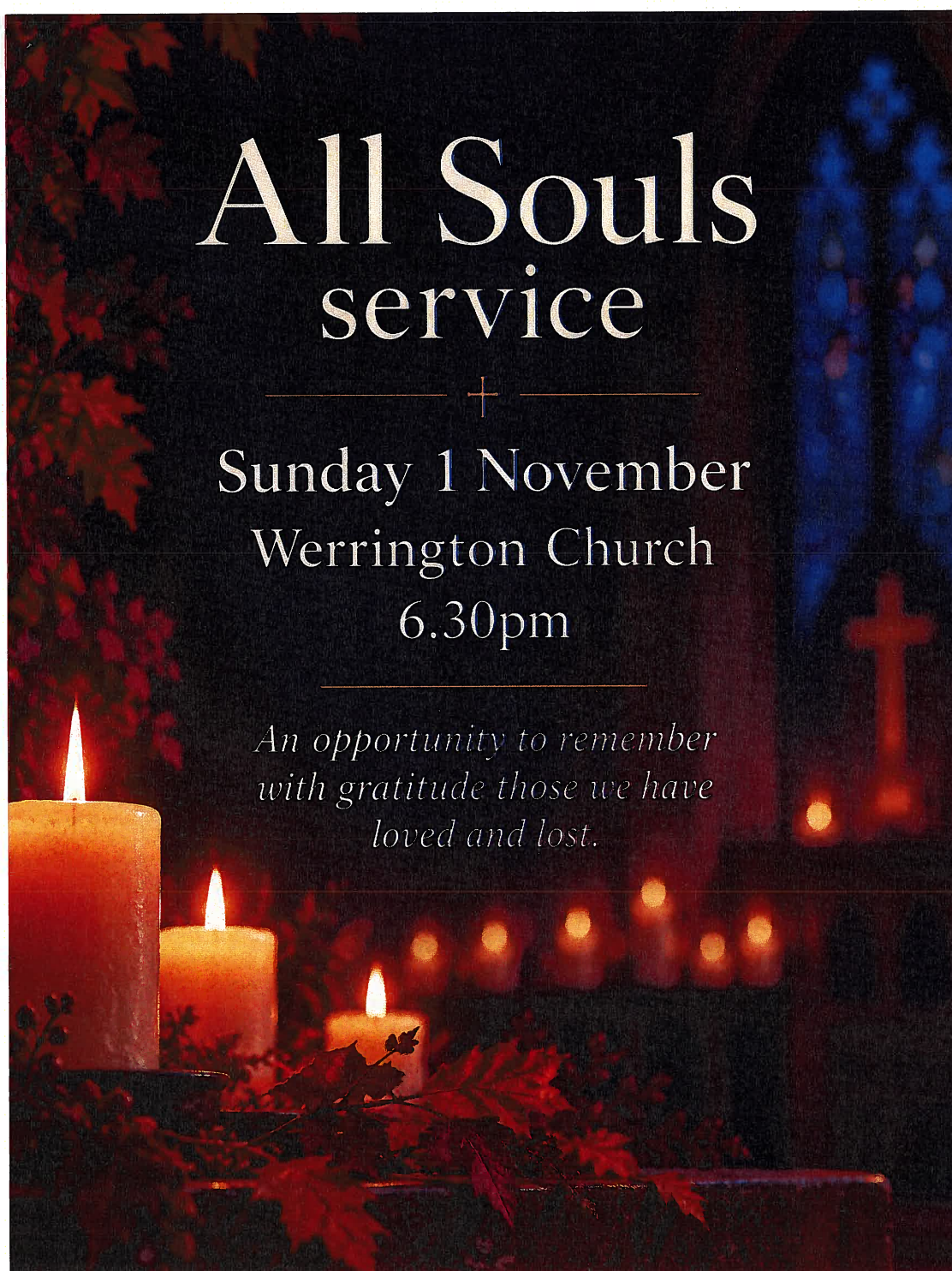
Tickets include concert, supper, plus a draw
ticket to win one of three hampers.

Tickets available from a church member
or phone Susan on 01409 271483.

All money raised to be divided
between Bude Cancer Support &
St Denys' Church Insurance.



**Bude
Cancer
Support**



All Souls service

Sunday 1 November
Werrington Church
6.30pm

*An opportunity to remember
with gratitude those we have
loved and lost.*