

Newsletter

October 2025

**The churches of Werrington, St Giles, Boyton, North Tamerton
and Virginstowe**



Through September and into October we have celebrated Creationtide, the season of care for Creation, alongside our more traditional Harvest Festivals.

Harvest Festivals are joyful occasions, when our congregations join together with the wider communities we serve, to be thankful for the abundance of God's provision, and more specifically to give thanks for the harvest that has just been gathered in. While the Church has traditionally marked the agricultural year, Harvest Festival as we know it dated back only to Victorian times. It is attributed to the Cornish priest Revd R S Hawker, who adapted Lammas Day (Loaf Mass) in 1843, choosing the first Sunday in October as a Christian response to the traditional but largely secular "harvest home" which was widely observed. An annual church harvest celebration quickly became very popular, and was first recognised by the Church of England in 1862.

You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. (Isaiah 55.12)

Rev Helen, Associate Minister

October Services

	October 5th	October 12th	October 19th	October 26th
	16 th after Trinity Green	17 th after Trinity Green	18 th after Trinity Green	Bible Sunday Green
	Habakkuk 1.1-4 and 2.1-4 2 Timothy 1.1-14 Luke 17.5-10	2 Kings 5.1-3, 7-15c 2 Timothy 2.8-15 Luke 17.11-19	Genesis 32.22-31 2 Timothy 3.14-4.5 Luke 18.1-8	Isaiah 45.22-end Romans 15.1-6 Luke 4.16-24
Boyton		0930 HC HD		0930 MP TS 1100 HC HD
Werrington	0915 MP RL		0915 HC MD	
St Giles		1100 HC HD		
Virginstowe	1100 MP MH	1500 Messy Church Harvest Festival **	1100 HC MD	0930 HC HD (early start)
North Tamerton	1000 Songs of Praise JO		1000 MP JO	

Friday 3 October 7pm Boyton Harvest Festival and refreshments after

Friday 10 October 7pm North Tamerton Harvest Festival and Patronal Festival with Bishop David

**** and Messy Church bring and share harvest tea**

Advent Calendars

Do you buy Advent calendars for your family/ friends/ children/ grandchildren? Do look at the Real Advent Calendar, which includes fairtrade chocolate treats and a 24 page booklet with the Christmas story- chocolate and a Christian message! You can buy

online at www.realadvent.co.uk or get a group together in church, and buy a case at a discounted price. Or ring 01925 877004.



Harvest Festivals



Werrington Sunday 21 September 0915

St Giles Sunday 28 September 1100

Boyton Friday 3 October 1900 followed by supper

North Tamerton Friday 10 October 1900 with Bishop

David, followed by supper

**Virginstowe Sunday 12 October 1500 Messy Church and
bring and share harvest tea**

What has been going on in the rural churches of the Benefice?

Boyton followed up their successful summer barbeque with a wine and wisdom quiz evening. It sounds to have been quite competitive... but everyone had a good time. The barbeque raised £785, and the wine and wisdom £285 for church funds, which is a fantastic outcome.

North Tamerton held a sausage and apple Saturday brunch and the hall was busy throughout with a good number of people enjoying the impressive creativity and variety of sausage and apple based dishes. Over £400 was raised for church funds.

Visiting ringers have been to Boyton and Werrington, with a further visit to Werrington by the Tamar Guild, planned for 21 October in the evening. St Denys, North Tamerton are really getting back in the swing of things (ha) with a day when local teams were invited to ring, and a half day when anyone interested in learning to ring was invited to come along. Boyton too have a couple of young learners. Ringing is one of the ways we reach out into our communities, and reach younger people, who may not attend regular Sunday services. See the article elsewhere in this newsletter for a brief history of bells.

Through September we celebrated Creationtide in our worship, and we have also celebrated Harvest. The churches have all been beautifully decorated- thank you to everyone who was involved- and at Virginstowe and North Tamerton there were large attendances with children involved in the services. Bishop David preached at North Tamerton.

The Harvest collection at St Giles went to St Petrocs, at North Tamerton there was a food collection for Holsworthy Foodbank, and Virginstowe's food donations went to Launceston Foodbank.



This was included in last month's newsletter but is worth repeating.

Bridget Pentreath at Lezant and Rose Stammer at St Thomas, both members of the deanery implementation team, are looking to capture all the children and young people activity across the deanery, to see how best we can support and encourage that work, and how we can replicate the things that work (such as Virginstowe's Messy Church). If you want to feed into that work or be involved Rev Helen can pass on the contact details. Diocesan Synod on 16 October (details in the events list) will focus on work with children and young people, and how each church can do "just one thing" to engage children and young people.

Local Worship Leader training

One of our Deanery objectives is to enable and support the flourishing ministry of all our lay leadership.

Some of our services are led by LWLs or local worship leaders, who do formal training and then are licensed by the Diocese, and other services are led by church wardens.

It is a big commitment to lead worship, so please support all our lay leaders with your prayers. If you think you may be called to this ministry, talk to a LWL about what they do, or a member of the clergy team, or come along to a LWL training evening. They take place a couple of times a year and are open to everyone interested.

The Diocese holds an annual celebration of lay ministry at Truro Cathedral, and following this year's service in July, Isaac McNish, Head of Ministry at The Diocese of Truro, said: *"We are deeply thankful for all those who have been newly commissioned. Their prayerful dedication and willingness to serve – whether by leading worship, offering pastoral care, or*

nurturing worshipping communities – already has a profound impact. Through their ministry, the love of Christ is being made visible and tangible in the lives of many across our diocese.”

Diary Dates

Coffee mornings in Boyton at 10am every Thursday, alternating between the Church Hall and the Chapel Hall. Everyone welcome. This month's coffee in the Church Hall is on Thursdays, 9th and 23rd October.

Monday Oct 13th to Sunday Nov 2nd Mars; War and Peace, Luke Jerram's art installation at Truro cathedral, together with the Threads of Gold embroidery exhibition. There are lots of events around the Mars installation, details here [Truro Cathedral - Mars: War and Peace](#)

Wednesday Oct 15th 1430 Mother's Union, meeting at St Mary's, Launceston.

1900 Bereavement Group, St Thomas Hall. Support for anyone who is finding loss and grief difficult, however long ago.

Wednesday Oct 15th 1900 the Wave of Light, part of Baby Loss Awareness Week, when we are invited to place a lighted candle in our window at 7pm.

Thursday Oct 16th 1900 for 1930 Deanery Synod at Christ the Cornerstone, Tregadillett. All are welcome and the meeting will focus on children and young people work in the deanery.

Friday Oct 17th 1900 Bel Canto and the Popchoir concert at Ashwater Village Hall. There is no entry fee, but a raffle in aid of both Cancer Research UK and the Lullaby Trust.

Friday Oct 17th 1930 Holsworthy Market (Stockyard) Harvest Celebration

Saturday Oct 18th from 1000 Werrington Churchyard day, come along with your gardening kit and a flask of tea, and help tidy the churchyard ready for the winter.

Sunday Oct 19th 1800 Taize, a quiet, reflective service based on the music of the Taizé Community, with live music. St Thomas, Launceston.

Sunday Oct 19th 1830 Launceston Community Harvest Thanksgiving Service at Launceston Town Hall.

Tuesday Oct 21st 1900-2100 Visiting ringers at Werrington

Sunday Nov 2nd 1700 All Souls Service at Werrington. An opportunity to remember those we have lost.

Friday 14th Nov 1930 Our Atlantic Roots, an “evening of uplifting indie-folk and roots music” at St Paternus Church, South Petherwin. Tickets www.ouratlanticroots.com/tour or Rev Olive on 07480 576525

Messy Church meets at St Bridget’s Church, Virginstowe on the second Sunday of each month (except August) at 3pm. All are welcome for bible stories, crafts and games.



Contact details

Priest in charge Father Michael Dobson

07414 862876

Mike.w.dobson@gmail.com

Associate minister Revd Helen Davies

(part time) 07802 732494

reverendhelendavies@gmail.com

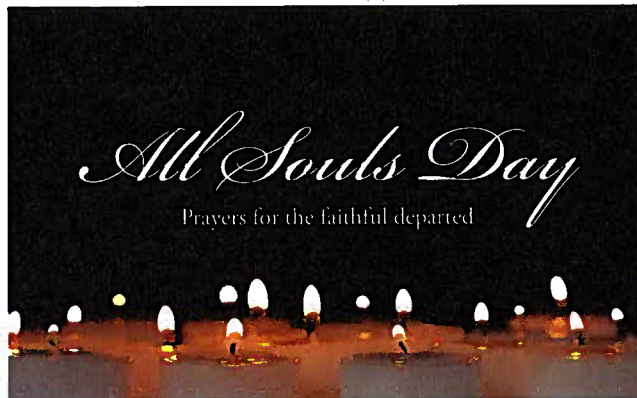
Deanery Administrator Helen Uglow (for enquiries about baptisms, weddings and funerals, and deanery communications)

07835 923786 and getintouch.triggmajordeanery@gmail.com

All Souls

We are holding an All Souls Service this year, at Werrington.

The service is an opportunity to remember, and grieve, those we have lost (however recent or long ago that loss is). We will invite the families of those for whom we have taken funerals over the last year, but you may know people who would find the service helpful. Do please share details with them and invite them.



A history of bells- Part 1



Church bells have been in existence for many years. The oldest known bell hangs in the church of Goring, in Oxfordshire, and dates from about 1290.

Early bells were small and usually fixed to a bracket on a wall, with a spindle to one side with a rope which, when pulled, caused the bell to swing and a piece of metal inside to strike the inside of the bell. As time went on single bells appeared, hung in a small cage or tower on church roofs, like the one at St Bridget's, Virginstowe, and pulled by a rope inside the church. During the 14th and 15th centuries, bells started to be fixed on a wooden block with a metal

spindle at each end, then placed in a wooden frame. This allowed the bell to swing from side to side, but not in a full circle.

By the time of the Reformation most parishes of any note had up to three bells, or more depending on their size and financial standing. In 1552 Bishop Latimer is said to have remarked that there were bells all over the land, used for communicating to parishioners a death, the calling to church services and, for those near the sea, warning of foreign invasion.

The costs of maintaining the bells and equipment, and paying the ringers, added to parish expenses. Westminster records show that ringers at the beheading of Mary Queen of Scots were each paid a shilling, and with what was seen as easy money, 18th century ringers were accused of being drunks and layabouts, probably at odds with the rector over their language and failure to stay to services, and more likely found at the village inn!

Until 1866 Boyton's tower had a door on the west side leading directly to the road. The church accounts for the time show that it was stoned up, but you can still see where the door was. Was this perhaps to stop the ringers going to the Duchy Arms Inn (now Temperance Farm) or just a consequence of the churchyard being extended and the boundary wall erected? Inn keepers looked for any excuse to have the bells rung- parish feasts, fairs or even the squire's birthday. In towns things were perhaps more orderly, with bells rung for services, deaths and the arrival of a Royal mail coach.

More bells history next month.

Norman Cowling, Boyton Tower Captain

Heart Edge Movement for Renewal in Rural Churches

Heart Edge is described as a movement for renewal, fuelled by people and churches sharing their assets, experience, resources and needs. It includes an inclusive network of churches, groups and individuals uniting together around a shared vision.

That vision might be :
celebrating and affirming every person

Heart Edge is initiated by St Martin in the Fields
Heart Edge supports churches in blending mission around 4 core areas:

Congregation: inclusive approaches to liturgy, worship and daily life

Compassion: outreach serving the local area

Culture: art, music, reimagine the Christian narrative

Commerce: making the most of assets - buildings, skills and partnerships with others

Rev Andrew Yates is working with Heart Edge, lives in Cornwall and would be willing to be with us for a day to explore possibilities. and to help lead the course.

Is there interest in pursuing this opportunity, if only to build relationships with churches across the Deanery? Please let Rev Helen know if you would be interested.

[HeartEdge - St Martin's Digital](#)



A Church Near You- Prayer resources

We now have a prayer resources page for each of our 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.

This month we pray for...

The victims and survivors of abuse, and all who work locally, in the Diocese and nationally to make our churches safe spaces.

Sarah Mullally, appointed the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Peace, and the peace process in Gaza.

Our brothers and sisters in Christ members of other denominations and members of Churches Together in Launceston.

Those who have lost their lives through violence, and the emergency services and responders

All who serve in the Benefice, particularly our lay leaders, church wardens and all who lead worship.

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

We give thanks for the lives of those we have lost. and all the faithful departed and we pray for all who mourn the passing of a loved one.

And a prayer for those who have lost a baby;

Abba Father,

Our eyes are filled with tears, our bodies are weary, our hearts are angry, and we're just so sad. We can't seem to put together the incomplete pieces of a life that is so broken without our children.

Lord, help us to remember that You hear our cries, You see our tears, You draw close, and You comfort us in our suffering.

Lord, sit with us, stay with us, and open our eyes to see Your light
as You walk with us in the darkness.

Lord, we thank You that each day is one day closer to us dancing
in eternity with our babies.

Please give us strength for today, and may the gift of Your
resurrection fill us with bright hope for tomorrow.

Lord, bless our wilderness and help us to remember that nothing is
wasted. Help us to trust You to bring redemption even in this for
our good and Your glory.

And dear Lord, bring us healing, peace and supernatural joy as we
remember that the same arms that hold our children are tenderly
holding the pieces of our broken hearts.

Amen.

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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

