

BUDE COAST & COUNTRY BENEFICE

Voices Together



St Michael & All Angels, Bude



St Winwaloe, Poundstock



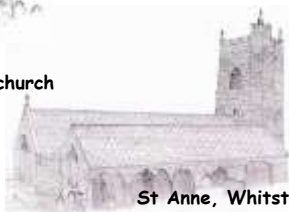
Our Lady & St Anne, Widemouth Bay



St Marwenne, Marhamchurch



St Mary the Virgin, Week St Mary



St Anne, Whitstone

Free

December
2025

MAIN CONTACTS FOR OUR BENEFICE:

Please contact any of the following for information or enquiries about Anglican Church life in the Benefice:

Our Rural Dean:

Our Rector: Rev David Saunders, The Rectory, The Glebe, Week St Mary, EX22 6UY Tel: 07834 459672
email: rector@bude-coast-benefice.org

Our Churchwardens:

St Anne's, Whitstone:

Mervyn Collins: 01288 341598

St Marwenne's, Marhamchurch:

Angela Grills: 01288 361247 Sue Shadrack: 01288 361666

St Mary the Virgin, Week St Mary:

Lesley Booker: 01288 341221 Linda Cobbledick: 01288 341468

St Michael's, Bude Haven:

Contact PPC secretary Sandra Huffer 01288 355941

Our Lady & St Anne's, Widemouth Bay:

Contact Judy MacDonald: 01288 362254

St Winwaloe's, Poundstock:

Contact church member Barry Smith: 01288 361716

Stratton Deanery website: www.strattondeanery.co.uk/

Editor of *Voices Together*:

Clare Hicks, Trelowen, Lynstone, Bude EX23 0LR.

01288 352726; claremhicks@gmail.com

Copy deadline for **Jan & Feb 2026** issue—

By NB **Friday 12th December** please

ELECTRONIC COPIES OF *VOICES TOGETHER*

If you would like to receive a copy of this magazine please email Lesley Booker: lesleybooker@gmail.com

FROM THE RECTOR:

Dear friends

The Housewife

Tony Campolo writes that his friend and prominent radio preacher Steve Brown eloquently described a housewife who was washing dishes in the kitchen sink one day after the children had left for school. She looked at one particular plate. She stared at it for a long time and asked over and over again, "How many times have I washed this plate? How many times have I dried it? How many times will I wash it and dry it again?" She then set down the plate, took off her apron, packed a few of her belongings, and left.

That night she called home to tell her husband that she was all right, but that she just could not come home again. From time to time, over the next several weeks, she would call just to see how her husband and children were doing. But she would never tell them where she was, nor accede to the pleas from her family to return.

The husband hired a detective to search for her, and after picking up a few leads, the detective tracked her down. She was in another state, living in a small apartment over a luncheonette where she had a job as a waitress. Her husband set out immediately to bring her home. When he found the place she was staying, he knocked on the door of her upstairs apartment. She opened the door, saw him, and did not say a word. She went into her bedroom, packed her belongings, and silently followed him out to the car. Then, in silence, he drove her back home.

Several hours later when the two of them were alone in their bedroom he finally spoke, and he asked her, "Why didn't you come home before? Over the phone I begged you to return. Why didn't you come?"

The wife answered, "I heard your words, but it wasn't until you came for me that I realized how much you cared and how important I was to you."

It can be said that though the prophets in the Old Testament section of the Bible may have tried to tell us about God's love,

we never really got the message until God showed up among us. The Bible puts it like this: The Word, (Jesus) became human and lived among us. "We saw his glory - the glory that belongs to the only Son of the Father - and he was full of grace and truth." John's gospel, chapter 1 verse 14. He broke into history and became one of us, and as one of us, showed us His love.

*Blessings,
Rev David*



**We would like to wish everyone a
very happy Christmas
and a
healthy and peaceful New Year**

**This edition of *Voices Together*
has been kindly sponsored
anonymously**

A note from the Editor:

Copy deadlines for 2026 issues of *Voices Together* are:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Jan/Feb 2026: December 12th | March: February 20th |
| April: March 20th | May: April 17th |
| June: May 22nd | |
| July: June 19th | August: July 17th |
| September: August 21st | |
| October: September 18th | November: October 16th |
| December: November 20th | Jan/Feb 2027: December 11th |

INCLUSIONS FOR THE WEEKLY PEW SHEET

To have your Notices included in the Pew Sheet please contact Sue Shadrack on 01288 361666 or email her at s.shadrack79@gmail.com before Tuesday evening if possible.

Dates for your December Diary:

- Mon 1st: Carols of the Stratton Hundred, St Martin's church **NB 7 pm**
see p 19
- Tues 2nd: Advent Book Group, Highway 39 Café, 1.30—3 pm also
online 7—8 pm see p 22
- Thur 4th: Benefice Prayer Group, St Michael's, Bude 10 am
4th: Neurodivergence, Inclusivity and Welcome—a series of
sessions at the Old School, Poughill 2—4 pm see p 9
- Thur 4th-Sun 7th: Christmas Tree Festival Marhamchurch 11-3 p 10
- Fri 5th: Mulled Wine Evening, Tudor House WSM 7—9 pm
- Sat 6th: Minor Third, The Bray, Marhamchurch 7 pm see p 10
- Mon 8th: MU Advent service, St Andrew's, Stratton 2 pm
8th: Happy Memories Memory Café, WSM church, 2.30—4pm
- Tues 9th: Advent Book Group, as 2nd above
9th: WSM Adventure Church Christingle, St Anne's 4.30 pm p 20
- Thur 11th: Neurodivergence, Inclusivity & Welcome as above see p 9
- Sat 13th: Pop up Pub and carols, Poundstock Gildhouse, 7.30 p 18
13th: WSM Lego Café & Breakfast 9.30—12 see p 10
- Sun 14th: Carols by Candlelight, Poundstock church, 3 pm see p 20
14th: Christingle, Marhamchurch 5 pm
14th: Music for Christmas, St Anne's Hall Whitstone 7 pm p 25
- Tues 16th: Advent Book Group, as 2nd above
- Wed 17th: WSM lunch club, in church 12 noon
- Thur 18th: Benefice Prayer Group, St Michael's, Bude 10 am
18th: Neurodivergence, Inclusivity & Welcome as above see p 9
- Fri 19th: CAMEO, 11 Ashbury Grove, WSM 2—4 pm
19th: Bude Choral Society Christmas Carols, Bude Methodist
church 6 pm see p 10
- Mon 22nd: Happy Memories Memory Café, WSM church 2.30—4 pm

Dates for your January & February Diary:

- Thur 8th: Benefice Prayer Group, St Michael's, Bude 10 am

Regular Group Meetings:

Tuesday afternoons: Week St Mary Adventure Church 4.30 pm

Tuesday afternoons: Bible Study St Marwenne's house group 2 pm —
contact Janet Ward 01409 255 759

Wednesday mornings: Coffee & Chat, The Bray, Marhamchurch 10.30-
noon

Wednesday mornings: Bible Study at St Michael's, 11 am

BABY & TODDLER COFFEE POT CLUB

**Meets every Tuesday
10am—12pm in
Week St Mary Parish
Hall**

Join Coffeepots Baby &
Toddler Group on
Facebook or email
[coffee-
potswsm@gmail.com](mailto:coffee-potswsm@gmail.com)

**Meet and Eat
Soup and Sweet
& a friendly chat
Week St Mary Parish
Hall from 12 noon**

**Next meeting
Monday 1st December
All most welcome**

**Sue Edwards
01288 341083**



**Week St Mary
Happy Memories Memory
Café**

**2.30—4 pm in church
Refreshments**

**Monday 8th December
&
Monday 22nd December**

**All welcome
Contact: Lesley Booker
01288 341221**

C A M E O

Come And Meet Each Other

**Friday 19th December at
the home of
Rob & Sue Isherwood
11 Ashbury Grove, WSM
from 2—4 pm**

Join us for tea, cake & chat

***contact:*
Linda Cobbledick
*01288 341468***



DENISE WELLINGTON

FUNERAL SERVICES

COMPASSIONATE, CARING,
TRUSTED & PROFESSIONAL

Memorials | Pre-Paid Funeral Plans

24 Hour Contact 01288 359277



Dementia
Friends
an Alzheimer's Society initiative

Golden Charter 
Smart Planning for Later Life

denisewellingtonfunerals.co.uk
enquiries@denisewellingtonfunerals.co.uk

NOFIX-NOFEE

Low Cost Computer Repair Services

- * Free Estimates and Advice
- * No Call Out Charge
- * Virus Infection Resolve
- * System Restore
- * New System Installation
- * Refurbished Laptops & PC's
- * Free Adware/PC Doctor Software
- * Hourly Rate and Fixed Fee
- * Onsite fix and Repairs

Computer
Repairs
from only

£25



Tel: 01288 381061
Mobile: 07534 804101
Email: mail@nofix-nofee.net

Locally reared, pasture fed beef and lamb

Restaurant quality, rare breed beef and traditional lamb. Low food miles, supporting local jobs, local delivery available. 10 or 15Kg Beef boxes, mixed joints, steaks & mince etc. 1/2 Lamb packs approx 10 Kg

Email Langfordmeats@gmail.com or
phone 01288 361 666 to order



Red Letter Days - December 2025

We are in the period of Advent (Thanks to Mary Tilzey who explained this in her November Messy Church article). On the 1st is St Andrew the Apostle who lived in Capernaum and was a fisherman. I imagine that he was part of a fishing crew. An ordinary person like you and me.

St Thomas the Apostle is on 22nd. He doubted Christ's Resurrection until Christ showed him the wounds in His hands and side.

The 25th is Christmas Day, the birth of Jesus. You all know the story. It is the beginning of our path to union with God. The Church gives us His life and teaching which we should follow, not just for 5 minutes morning and evening but continually through out the day. We learn to be like Mary sitting at his feet and still getting the work done like Martha. To be like St Bernard who worked in the kitchen and devoted his mind to constant conversation with Jesus. There

are so many different ways of praying, I hope that the Coast and Country Benefice Prayer Group (November and this magazine) will encourage you to explore new ways.

The 26th is St Stephen's day, he was the first to be killed for believing in Jesus.

The following Day 28th is Holy Innocents. The 3 Magi who had followed a star came to King Herod and asked where this new baby who would be a king had been born. They did not go back to Herod when they found Jesus. This caused Herod to have all the male children under 2 years killed so he would not have a rival. (Mathew 2v1-16)

The Garden Notes in the November issue mentioned the need to feed the birds. My garden is completely overgrown but at least I can 'Feed the birds'. Reading the notes has made me feel guilty as I am not consistent. Thank you Poll. That will be one more thing to add to 'What must be done'.

Those of us who are very old, wonder if this will be our last Christmas. In a way I silently hope it will be. When each day is another struggle to pick something off the floor, open a jar of jam, work on the computer, look for my binoculars to read what is written on the TV, you do get a bit fed up. Then I think of Sue; the people who are killed daily by stupid wars and children who are

hungry and the mothers who hold them as they die. I count my blessings and ask God to forgive me.

May you all have a peaceful Holy Christmas and make a new start to your journey to God.

Prayer:

Thank you God for all our blessings

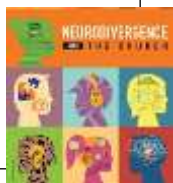
For the unity of our Benefice.

Thank you for our Health Service, our doctors and nurses

Thank you for all our counsellors who work with those who have problems. Use us.

Amen

A special thank you to Clare and Heather and the people who print, staple and distribute *Voices Together*, which unites us as a Benefice.
Hilda Walter



**Neurodivergence, inclusivity and welcome -
Exploring how we can be ready to welcome
EVERYONE into our churches!**

***Would you like to know more about how to
welcome everyone into our churches?***

- What?** A series of 4 informal sessions to explore and equip, encourage and embrace becoming an inviting and welcoming church to all, and for all.
- Where?** The Old School, Poughill Road, Poughill, Bude EX23 9ER
- When?** Thurs 2-4pm: 27 November, 4,11 &18 December (last session in church)
- Who?** Everyone welcome - tea and coffee and biscuits on tap!

***Come to all or as many sessions as you are able!
Open to everyone in Stratton Deanery. No need to book.***

Any questions, please contact
Rev Amanda Evans: 07544527649 or Hannah Wicks email:
hcfwicks@gmail.com

Come along enjoy the festive atmosphere!



Marhamchurch Christmas Tree Festival

Thursday 4th December – Sunday 7th December

11am – 3pm

St Marwenne's Church – Marhamchurch

Vote for your favourite tree.

Refreshments

Raffle

Monies raised in aid of the church @ Marhamchurch Village Hall

WEEK ST MARY CHURCH

**SATURDAY 13TH
DECEMBER**

LEGO CAFE

**Cooked Breakfast
from 9.30-11.30 am**

**FREE Lego until
12pm**

ALL WELCOME

 **Bude Choral
Society**

*Retiring
collection
in aid of
Berries
Community
Cafe*

**ADMISSION
FREE**

Bude
Methodist Church

**Christmas
Carols**

19th December 6pm

Bude Choral Society with
Marhamchurch C of E Academy



ST MARWENNE'S



PRESENTS

MINOR THIRD

AN EVENING OF MUSIC AND SONG FOR
CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

7^{PM} SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER

IN THE BRAY - £5 ENTRY

COFFEE AND CAKE IN INTERVAL

BY DONATION

EVERYONE WELCOME

SUPPORTING AIR AMBULANCE AND

ST MARWENNE'S



Paul & Robin

**GENERAL BUILDERS
ALL BUILDING WORK ~
FREE ESTIMATES**

covering Bude & the
surrounding areas

Kitchens ~ bathrooms ~
decorating ~ brickwork ~
fascias ~ decking ~ landscaping
~ plastering ~ skimming

PAUL LIBRETTO
07710 505527
libretttopaul@gmail.com

ROBIN BEAGLE
07979 354144
robinbeagle1@gmail.com



CLAIRE EVEREST
HAIR STYLIST

Beautiful, Friendly New Salon
Easy Access and Free Parking



Claire Everest Hair Salon

Look forward to meeting new clients
Ladies, gents and children welcome

For appointments call 07852 357975
Stratton View Business Park
Stratton, Bude EX23 9NR



DEVON & CORNWALL EXTERIOR CLEANING

**Window Cleaning / Gutter Clearance
Fascias / Soffits UPVC / Algae
Thatch Roof Moss Treatment**

e: info@dace.cleaning t: 07359 303535



T.M. O'SULLIVAN & ASSOCIATES

VETERINARY SURGEONS

Buller Cottage, Marhamchurch, Bude, Cornwall EX23 0EW

Providing Veterinary care for Farm Animals, Horses and Companion
Animals in North Cornwall, North & West Devon

Tel: 01288 361984

Email: tmosullivan.vets@zen.co.uk

24 hr Emergency Service

ARTHUR W. BRYANT FUNERAL SERVICE

CAMELFORD
01840 214891

BUDE
01288 352282

HOLSWORTHY
01409 253000

LAUNCESTON
01566 232426

**INDEPENDENT FAMILY
FUNERAL SERVICE**

**MEMORIAL
MASONRY**

DIRECT CREMATION

PRE PAYMENT FUNERAL PLANS

**OUR FAMILY CARING FOR YOUR
FAMILY FOR OVER 50 YEARS**



AWBRYANT.CO.UK
CARING@AWBRYANT.CO.UK





BUDE EYE CENTRE

QUALITY . VALUE . COURTESY . SERVICE

YOUR MODERN INDEPENDENT OPTOMETRIC PRACTICE

Bude Eye Centre, established in 2005, are equipped with up to date equipment, a wide selection of eyewear and latest contact lenses to suit individual needs. We offer same day service and also hearing aid services.

WE OFFER:

- ✓ NHS & Private Eye examinations
- ✓ Contact lens specialist
- ✓ 3D OCT Screening available
- ✓ Regular hearing service, including free assessments
- ✓ Honest and expert advice on frame selection
- ✓ Wheelchair friendly practice

Bude Eye Centre, 7 Queen Street, Bude, Cornwall EX23 8AY 01288 350041 - budeeyecentre.co.uk



R Mears & Sons Chimney Sweeps

Established over 30 years

Vac Brush. Full CCTV investigations.
Pots, Cowlings & Bird Protection fitted.
Solid Fuel Appliances, Rayburns, Stoves,
Stove Installation & Chimney Lining
Woodburners serviced Fully Insured

Tel: 01822 664554

01566 700850

www.sweepcornwall.com



Zoom services: for details of any other zoom services scheduled for the month in the Benefice, please see page 27.

PLEASE NOTE: SERVICES MAY CHANGE—check pew sheets/ local information/ACNY website.

Readings may be adapted for particular services

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

| DATE | READINGS | TIME | SERVICE | CHURCH | LEADER |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Wednesday 3rd | | 08.30 10.00 | Morning Prayer Holy Communion | Zoom BH | DS DS |
| Sunday 7th 2nd Sunday of Advent | Isaiah 11: 1-10 Psalm 72:1-7. 18-19 Romans 15: 4-13 Matthew 3: 1-12 | 09.30 10.00 18.00 | Holy Communion All Age Worship Evening Prayer | BH WSM M | DS WL WL |
| Tuesday 9th | | 16.30 | Adventure Church Christingle service | St Anne's Care Home | DS |
| Wednesday 10th | | 08.30 10.00 | Morning Prayer Holy Communion | Zoom WB | DS DS |
| Friday 12th | | 15.00 | Carol Service | WB | DS |
| Sunday 14th 3rd Sunday of Advent | Isaiah 35: 1-10 Magnificat James 5: 7—10 Matthew 11: 2—11 | 09.30 09.30 11.15 15.00 17.00 18.00 | Holy Communion Morning Prayer Holy Communion Nine Lessons & Carols Christingle Evening Prayer | M P W P M WSM | DS WL DS DS DS WL |
| Tues 16th | | 16.30 | Adventure Church Crib Service TBC | WSM | WL TBC |
| Wednesday 17th | | 08.30 10.00 | Morning Prayer Holy Communion | Zoom BH | DS DS |

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

| DATE | READINGS | TIME | SERVICE | CHURCH | LEADER |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Sunday 21st 4th Sunday of Advent | Isaiah 7: 10-16 | 09.30 | Holy Communion | BH | DS |
| | Psalms 80: 1—8 | 09.30 | Morning Prayer | M | WL |
| | Romans 1: 1-7 | 11.15 | Holy Communion | WSM | DS |
| | Matthew 1: 18-end | 16.00 | Nine Lessons & Carols with band | BH | DS |
| Wednesday 24th Christmas Eve | 2 Samuel 7: 1-5. 8-11. 16 | 15.30 | Crib Service | BH | DS |
| | | 17.00 | Crib Service | WSM | WL |
| | Psalms 89: 2. 19-27 | 21.30 | Holy Communion | M | DS |
| | Acts 13: 16-26 | 21.30 | Holy Communion | W | TBC |
| | Luke 1: 67-79 | 23.15 | Holy Communion | BH | DS |
| Thursday 25th Christmas Day | Isaiah 9: 2-7 | 09.00 | Holy Communion | P | DS |
| | Titus 2: 11-14 | 10.15 | Holy Communion | WSM | DS |
| | Luke 2: 1-14 | | | | |
| Sunday 28th Holy Innocents | Jeremiah 31: 15-17 | 09.30 | Holy Communion | M | JT |
| | | 09.30 | Holy Communion | P | DS |
| | Psalms 124 | 09.30 | Morning Prayer | W | WL |
| | 1 Corinthians 1: 26-29 | 10.00 | Morning Prayer | WSM | WL |
| | Matthew 2: 13-18 | 11.15 | Holy Communion | BH | DS |
| Wednesday 31st | | 08.30 | Morning Prayer | Zoom | WL |
| | | 10.00 | Holy Communion | WB | DS |

KEY: CHURCHES: BH = Bude Haven LEADERS: DS = Rev David Saunders
M = Marhamchurch RD = Rev Rob Dickenson
P = Poundstock DA = Rev D Adams
WSM = Week St Mary JT = Rev J Terry
W = Whitstone WL = Worship Leader
WB = Widemouth Bay MM = Methodist Minister



A spiritual haven on the Cornish Coast



**Bibles - Books
Cards - Gifts**



*Join us for a cuppa and a chat
10-4 Mon to Fri – 10-12.30 Sat*

4, Lansdowne
Mews, Bude.
EX23 8BH
t. 01288 356886



Email: arkangelbude@gmail.com

Reg. Charity. 294313

Fraser's Anything Tiny Tractor Services

no job too small!!

Any jobs for small tractor, flail mower, roller, tipping trailer, grab, bucket, pallet forks.

Mowing and bramble cutting, earth and log moving, grass rolling, pallet/dumpy bag moving and spreading etc.

Please call Fraser Proudfoot 07976836206 for a chat and quote



Where reliability and craftsmanship matter

Specialists in bathroom & kitchen installations

We also offer:

Landscaping

General Building

Plumbing

Flooring

Window & Floor Replacements

Get in touch for a quote:

Richard Mitchell 07360 001078

mitchellsmaintenance.s@gmail.com

Est 2017

R. J. BROWN PAINTING AND DECORATING

Tel: 01288 354701

Rob Mobile 07970 969297

Matt Mobile 07875 748035

Established 1982

Congdon's Hospital Road, Stratton

Carpet and Furniture Centre

**Large stocks of carpets,
divans and furniture**

Tel: 01288 354575

Tel & Fax: 01288 354111

email: sales@congdons.co.uk

www.congdons.co.uk

CS & AJ Cobbledick
CARPENTERS AND JOINERS

Quality Joinery

*Made to measure hardwood or
softwood double glazed windows,
doors and staircases etc.*

Whirlwind, Stratton
Tel: 01288 356783

**BUDE DOG TRAINING/AGILITY
GROUP**

TEL: 01566 86500/01288 321922

HELPING LOCAL DOGS AND
OWNERS FOR 26 YEARS

PUPPIES, PET DOG TRAINING,
PROBLEM DOGS, FUN AGILITY,
CLICKER TRAINING, ONGOING
CLASSES

ALL PROFITS TO CHARITY



BUDE MUSIC STUDIOS
AIDAN B
Guitar Tuition

Mandolin, Violin,
Keyboard, Theory,
song composition
and re-orchestration
07817573505

THE CRESCENT POST OFFICE & STORES, BUDE

Newspapers, Magazines, Groceries, Tobacconists,

Stationers

Greetings Cards, Fresh Bread and Cakes Daily

Off Licence

Post Office Tel: 01288 352048



**WHEN RESPONDING TO ADVERTS
PLEASE TELL THE ADVERTISER
YOU SAW IT IN
VOICES TOGETHER**

Tips from Poll's Garden for December



What to do in your garden in December:

Protect your pots in freezing weather by bringing them indoors or wrapping in bubble polythene. Rake up leaves in borders that could be harbouring slugs and other pests. Plant bare-rooted roses and other deciduous shrubs, plus ornamental trees

Hang bird feeders near roses to attract hungry birds that will also pick off any overwintering pests.

Move plants in pots to a sheltered spot if conditions turn very cold, as their roots are more exposed to the elements

Pile straw or bracken around the base of tender shrubs and climbers to protect from freezing temperatures.

Prune roses between now and February. Hard prune overgrown shrubs and hedges while they're dormant.

Check stored bulbs and corms regularly for any rot.

But don't forget to sit and plan what you want in your garden next year, and hopefully enjoy photographs of this year's displays.

Use any evergreen foliage for making a festive wreath for your door, by adding some artificial decorations and maybe some glitter.

And most of all have a wonderful Christmas from us all in the Bude Coast & Country Benefice.

Poll



POUNDSTOCK EVENTS IN DECEMBER

Saturday 13th December: Pop up Pub and Carols with Bude Metric Band 7.30 pm
All welcome.

There will also be Vic's food van in attendance.

Any queries contact Maria 07428 101323

Bude, Stratton & District Old Cornwall Society



CAROLS OF THE STRATTON HUNDRED ADVENT SERVICE
MONDAY 1st DECEMBER 7.00 pm
ST MARTIN'S UNITED REFORM CHURCH
KILLERTON ROAD, BUDE
ALL WELCOME



POUNDSTOCK QUIET GARDEN

Quiet Gardens are natural spaces often near churches which encourage people to come and pray and encounter God.

We are delighted to say that we have been offered a plot of land at Poundstock to explore establishing a Quiet Garden and would like to get together a team of people who might like to be involved in this project – from designing the space and practical help to get the space ready, through to praying for the project and volunteering once it is established. We are hoping to hold a meeting soon at Poundstock to which everyone with an interest in being involved is warmly invited - please look out for further details in pew sheets and weekly announcements.

If you would like to know more then please contact one of us below:

Amanda Evans
07544 527649

Penny Heard
07825 266580

Sue Shadrick
01288 361666

Rev'd David Saunders
07834 459672

Week St Mary Church
Mulled Wine Evening
Mulled Wine and Nibbles
Raffle



Friday 5th December 7 - 9 pm
at The Tudor House,

With Micheline & Stephen Smith

Carols by Candlelight
COME & SING!



Sunday 14th December
3.00pm

St Winwaloe's Church, Poundstock

Mince pies & mulled wine

Donations for St Petroc's



St Michael & All Angels, Bude Haven

SERVICE
OF NINE LESSONS
&
CAROLS

Sunday 21st December
4.00 pm

with
Bude Metric Brass Band



Refreshments; mince pies, tea & coffee

Week St Mary
Adventure Church
Christingle at St Anne's
9th Dec 4.30pm





Mothers' Union - Kledh Kernow Branch

As we look forward to Christmas, MU members enjoyed a productive November meeting making Christmas cards under the skilful guidance of Susanne Bartrop. There was a lot of laughter and concentration resulting in some wonderful creations. Our thanks to Susanne for a very enjoyable afternoon.

The branch had a very successful fund-raising stall at the recent St. Swithin's Craft Fair, and it was decided that we would make donations to the MU Christmas Appeal and to the Truro Diocesan Project S.P.A.C.E. which support young people with disabilities to enjoy social events. The funding provided by MU at the beginning of the year enabled a group of young people from Liskeard to go out for an evening meal together. They enjoyed a taster menu at the 'The Vegetarian Hub Cafe', an opportunity to experience some new foods and dress up for the occasion. It was a time of companionship and everyone had a fantastic time.

As Christmas approaches, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all our members to wish you all a joyous and peaceful Christmas. Our meetings are open to all and you can be sure of a warm welcome.

Next Meeting:

Monday 8th December: Advent service with hymns and reflections
2pm St Andrew's Church, Stratton. Followed by refreshments.

Sheila Waring



Week St Mary Lunch Club

Wednesday 17th December

Week St Mary church

12 noon

Bookings: 01288 341221

Why not lend your copy of this magazine to a neighbour or friend when you have finished with it?



ADVENT BOOK GROUP

*Join us in person and online for a
Book Group for Advent open to absolutely everyone!*

Tuesdays 25th November, 2nd, 9th and 16th December

In person:

1.30 – 3.00 pm

*At Highway 39 Café on the A39 with lots of free parking
Otterham station PL32 9SW*

Online:

7.00 – 8.00 pm

Please contact Amanda to join

Rev Amanda Evans (C of E Mission Enabler)

07544 527649 / revamanda@strattondeanery.co.uk

*"Listening to the Music of the Soul" by Bishop Guli
is a beautiful exploration of how faith, beauty and courage
shape our response to life's joys and sorrows.*

*Each chapter also has a QR code linking to a special
piece of music, inviting us to consider the melodies
that sustain us as our lives unfold.*



OUR DEANERY PRAYER

O generous God,
You invite your people to discover the Kingdom
And grow the church;
Give us, then, the courage, the strength and the vision
To share in the mission and ministry
Of your Son
That with the Lord of the Church
We may be, truly, the Church of the Lord. Amen



New Benefice Prayer Group

God, who gathers and guides, thank you for inviting us into your family and for the invitation to make new friends. Thank you for not calling us to follow you on our own, but for inviting us to walk with you by walking with others. Meet us in this small group, and give us eyes to see your presence and ears to hear your voice. Guide us through prayer, Scripture, and one another. Please help us to show up physically, spiritually, and mentally. Help us balance vulnerability with wisdom, and advice-giving with truly listening to others. And help us all become the shining light in our communities. Amen.

The prayer group had its first meeting on the 6th of November at 10:00 am at St Michael's. Rev David took us through a passage from James 5:13-20, the prayer of faith, and then took us into a quiet time where we could silently pray or share our prayers within the group. It ended on a peaceful note with all feeling close to God's loving presence.

The next meeting is on the 4th December at St Michael's at 10:00 am. Future meeting dates are 18th December & 8th January 2026.

Praying we see you there!

Sue Shadrick: 07450974651

Penny Heard: 07825266580



Messy Church - How it began

The first Messy Church began in 2004 when a group at St Wilfred's in Cowplain near Portsmouth were frustrated because, as a church, they were hardly reaching any children with God's story.

There was a lot of sympathy towards church in general but the church wasn't offering anything that really gripped the imagination of local families.

They decided to do something for all ages together, to help families to grow together in faith and not see Christianity as something you grow out of when you're 11.

How it spread:

One of the original team members was Lucy Moore. As she was working for Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF) at the time, BRF became the natural home for the ministry when training and resources began to be needed for other churches to start their own Messy Church. Messy Church is now a core ministry of BRF.

Messy Church is spreading across denominations and countries. There are Messy Churches in: Australia, Canada, Denmark, Eire, Germany, Grenada, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Falklands and the USA.

Our Values:

Messy Church values are Christ -centred

Messy Church is a church, not a craft club, that helps people encounter Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

All age - It is for adults and children to enjoy together - every element should be relevant and accessible to all ages.

Creativity - It uses hands-on activities to explore Bible stories, to reflect a God of creativity and to give people a chance to play together.

There are 2190 Messy Churches around the world

20,000 People each month attend Messy Church

Messy Church in St Michael's was started by Fr. David Standen in 2011.

From a small start, we have seen our numbers increase quite considerably. The atmosphere is happy and very encouraging.

So far our sessions have covered:

Pentecost, Bible Seasides, Creation, 'I am the Light of the World', Noah, Moses, Bible Roads, 'I am the Good Shepherd', Abraham &

Sarah, Easter- New Life in Jesus, Saints, Bible Mountains, Love your neighbour, Pets and peace, Joshua, 'I am the true vine', David, and Harvest.

Covid put an end to our sessions in the church but we continued via the Benefice magazine until we were able to start again. Meanwhile many of our regulars had grown up and some of our helpers, for various reasons, were unable to continue.

New, willing, helpers enabled us to start live sessions again in the Autumn Half Term of 2023. Since that time, we have seen our numbers steadily increase to a very encouraging number

Each session starts at 10.30am with a welcome and a social half hour over a cup of coffee/tea/juice with play time and colouring in of pictures associated with the theme. From 11am we have our craft time where the children and adults have fun making 6 or 7 different things, again with the theme in mind. Following that, we have a short act of worship involving an action song, story, prayers and Messy Grace. Finally, we have lunch together which is very enjoyable.

Our next session is in the February Half Term holiday and is about 'Friends'. All ages are welcome - adults, please bring a child. Children, please bring an adult.

We have a great team of helpers who make an invaluable contribution to the success of our venture.

Mary Tilzey



MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS

AT

ST ANNE'S HALL

WHITSTONE

December 14th 2025 at 7pm

**Featuring our local musicians with traditional carols and
followed by mince pies.**

ALL WELCOME!

Donations in aid of church funds



NEW LINK



The PCC of St Michael's Church has agreed to form a companion link with the Diocese of the Highveld in South Africa, supporting children at the Siyanakekele Safe Park attached to the Church of the Resurrection in Wattville, Benoni, Gauteng.

Our purpose is to journey together as brothers and sisters in Christ on common pilgrimage of faith and discipleship.
To develop a Companion Link relationship of equal partners between our Diocese. To strengthen Mission and Evangelism.
To learn from each other's culture and heritage.
To recognise God's mission.
The nearest Sunday to the signing of the agreement will be Link Sunday each year.
We try to exchange letters and ideas for Link Sunday.
Some of the priests exchange sermons for the day.
Some are more active than others!
The laity should run the link.
There should be two-way communication.
Personal visits and communication make the link more real.

Link Prayer

Almighty God

You have called us:

The Diocese of the Highveld and Stratton Deanery,

To a journey together in Christ

On a common pilgrimage of faith and discipleship:

Strengthen and uphold us.

That whatever challenges we may face,

That you give us your grace

To live out our companionship

According to your will:

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

We are inviting all churches within the Benefice to form companion links with other churches in the linked Diocese.

For more information, please contact: Lynda at lyndabarton53@yahoo.com

Penny at penny.heard@gmail.com

Services on zoom

We will continue Zoom Services for as long as there is a demand for them. If there are any types of service other than Sunday morning prayer, Family Service or Holy Communion and Wednesday morning prayer that you miss and would like to see especially on Zoom either regularly or as a one off, please let me know and I will see what can be done.

Lesley Booker lesleybooker@gmail.com

For times of all church services for the month please see pages 14 and 15. Each Sunday there will be a "zoomed" service and Morning Prayer on Wednesdays will be on zoom at 8.30 am.

St Marwenne's House Group

The aim of the group is about growing in discipleship. It meets every Tuesday at 2 pm. Contact Janet Ward on 01409 255759 or email her at janetmwuk@gmail.com for more details.

Advertising in *Voices Together*

If you run a business and would like to advertise in this magazine, please contact Heather Whitlock on 07771 964672.

If you are a not-for-profit local group or organisation and would like to put a one-off advert in for an event or similar, please contact Heather as above or the Editor (contact details p 2). We would ask for a small donation, depending on the size required. Adverts accepted at Editor's discretion. Thank you.

Sponsoring *Voices Together*

Please would you consider sponsoring our magazine? It is partly through the generosity of our readers that we are able to keep the magazine free of charge. Any amount, small or large, will be gratefully received. For more information please contact Heather Whitlock on 07771 964672 or Clare Hicks on 01288 352726.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE IN THIS MAGAZINE
PLEASE CONTACT HEATHER WHITLOCK ON 07771 964672

