

The magazine of
the Week St Mary Circle of Churches

Together

September 2017



United we stand

From the Rectory

This is an Open and Inclusive Church' – is the first thing people see when they come into any of the churches of the Week St Mary Circle. *Or at least it should be!*

Because that statement is the first part of our Welcome notice, whose 10 points make it clear that everyone really *is* welcome – no questions asked, no barriers erected. And that we really *do* try to take the Gospel message of unlimited love and generosity with the seriousness it deserves – however unpopular it might make us.

But because the Gospel is (contrary to popular belief) such revolutionary stuff – it's hardly surprising that some people find it hard to stomach. Which is presumably why, in one of our churches, the Welcome notice was first defaced – and subsequently removed altogether (together with the *Why Bother?* leaflets). They've been replaced, of course – and will continue to be, as often as necessary.

It's a useful reminder of the way the Gospel is radically counter-cultural – and given that it is *so* important – the full text of the Welcome notice is given below (just in case someone's taken yours recently!)

- (i) **you are welcome** whatever your beliefs, even if you find organised religion irrelevant.
- (ii) **you are welcome** whatever your lifestyle or sexuality.
- (iii) **you are welcome** wherever you may be on your faith journey: believer or agnostic, conventional Christian or questioning sceptic.
- (iv) **you are welcome** as an equal partner, and we look forward to the ideas and experiences that you can bring.
- (v) **we welcome** the variety of ways in which human beings have explored the sacred, and have no wish to promote just one approach to Christianity.
- (vi) **we think** that the way we treat one another is at least as important as the beliefs we hold.
- (vii) **we think** that it is vital to take seriously the intellectual problems which many people have with Christianity, and encourage ways of understanding religion which feed the mind as well as the soul.

(viii) **we think** that religion must be concerned with injustice and suffering, and see ourselves as a community helping to build a better world, bringing hope to those Jesus called the least of his sisters and brothers.

(ix) **we recognise** that our ignorance is always going to exceed our understanding, and find more grace in the search for meaning than in the claim to certainty.

(x) **we recognise** that our faith entails costly discipleship and conscientious resistance of evil, as has always been the tradition of the Church.

Not only are these sentiments important for *us*: they're also a crucial part of the attempt to rehabilitate Christianity in the minds of those (especially the younger generation) who currently associate it with navel-gazing and closed-mindedness.

Because if we're serious about wanting to reach out to those who don't find the Gospel anything resembling 'good news' – we've got to do something to challenge the image of the Church many of them have got.

And a key part of doing *that* – is to show we're very much in the business of looking out for those who have no-one else to look out for them. That we *don't* expect people to leave their brains in the church porch before they can join us. And that we're simply *dying* to make common cause with those of other faiths and none – when it comes to challenging injustice, oppression, exclusion and selfishness.

Many years ago, John Major (whilst Chancellor of the Exchequer) memorably said (in relation to the consequences of his economic policy) – '*if it isn't hurting, it isn't working*'.

It caught the popular imagination – and meant the more recent austerity policies were widely (and rather surprisingly) accepted without that much complaint. People bought into the sporting idea of '*no pain, no gain*' – and accepted it as unpleasant but necessary medicine.

Sometimes we do *need* shaking up – and Jesus was very clear about the way his disciples would be criticised, reviled, even attacked. And so if our Welcome notices *are* taken down – it shows they're having an impact. That they're challenging preconceptions. That they're actually working! And that we're *not* simply a bland and morally vacuous outfit.

Which is why – we need to keep putting them back!

Revd Tony

DIARY DATES

For Church services see centre pages. For more details see the page listed.

SEPTEMBER

- Sun 3rd** Dog Show, Higher Tresmorn, 2pm
- Mon 4th** Meet 'n' Eat, Week St Mary Parish Hall, 12.30 (p 5)
- Mon 4th** Deanery Assembly, Otterham Hall, 7pm (p 10)
- Mon 4th** Deanery Book Club, 7.30pm (p 5)
- Tues 5th** Adventure Church - Orienteering at Penhallym (p 4)
- Wed 6th** Summerhouse Study Group, Widemouth Bay, 2.15pm (p 11)
- Tue 12th** Mother & Toddler Coffee Pot Club, WSM Parish Hall, 10-12 (p 5)
- Wed 13th** Summerhouse Study Group, Widemouth Bay, 2.15pm (p 11)
- Wed 13th** 'Custard Powder in the Garden' - by Nick Bacon. Poundstock Gildhouse talk, 7.30pm (p 12)
- Thu 14th** Deanery Holy Cross Day Pilgrimage, Whitstone (p 13)
- Sat 16th** Week St Mary Revel 3pm till late
- Mon 18th Week St Mary Harvest Festival and Supper (p 4)
- Sat 16th** Themed Supper, St Gennys House, 6.30pm (p 10)
- Mon 18th** Week St Mary Harvest Festival Supper & Auction, 6.30pm
- Wed 20th** Summerhouse Study Group, Widemouth Bay, 2.15pm (p 11)
- Wed 27th** Summerhouse Study Group, Widemouth Bay 2.15pm, (p 11)
- Fri 29th** Quiz, Poundstock Gildhouse, 7.30pm (p 12)

OCTOBER

Wed 11th Friends Evening, Poundstock Gildhouse, 7.30pm

Fri 20th CAMEO, Ranelagh, Week St Mary. 2.30pm (p 5)

Sat 21st & Sun 22nd Craft & Food Fair and Pumpkin Festival,
Poundstock Church and Gildhouse

Week St Mary Harvest Festival

Monday 18th September 6.30 pm in the Church. This is an Ecumenical Service led by the joint Worship Team and will be followed by a Hot Supper and the traditional Auction of Produce, the proceeds from which will be sent to charity. Please look out for local posters for more details or phone 01288 341221



WEEK ST MARY ADVENTURE CHURCH

We meet again at the start of the new term in September and will be Orienteering as soon as we get a dry enough day! Children are welcome to join in our activities on Tuesday afternoons in term time; for more information please search for Week St Mary Adventure Church in Facebook Groups and ask to join so that you can see what we are up to in advance and how much fun we have. Phone 01288 341 221 to give us your mobile number if you would like to receive text alerts each week. We may not be able to meet in the church for the first few September sessions as there will be work going on to install the new heating so please ring if you are not on our text list. Thank you

Meet'n'Eat

**Usually held in WSM Parish Hall at 12.30pm
on the first Monday of each month (4th Sept & 2nd Oct)**

Everyone is most Welcome



CAMEO

Come And Meet Each Other

**No Meeting in September (Week St Mary Revel month)
next meeting Friday 20th October at Ranelagh**

2.30 Everyone most welcome.

Contact: Linda Cobbledick (01288 341468).



MOTHER* & TODDLER COFFEE POT CLUB

**Meets every Tuesday from 10.00 to 12.00 in Week St Mary
Parish Hall. First Meeting in September Tuesday 12th**

**Contact Emma Woolfe or Kathy Jeffrey
(Search for Coffeepots in Facebook Groups)**

*** Grannies, Grandads, Aunties, Carers etc all welcome!**



STRATTON DEANERY BOOK CLUB

Will be discussing:

The 2nd Letter to the Thessalonians

Please phone for date of September meeting
at 14 Monterey Close, Bude, EX23 8DX at 7.30pm

Gail Brace: 01288 352412

Persecuted Christians in Iran

Christianity has a long history in Iran, dating back to the early years of the faith, and pre-dating Islam, but was always a minority faith, even in early times.

Following the Islamic conquest, firstly under Sunni Islam and today under Shia Islam, it is still only a fraction of the population with some 300,000 believers and about 600 churches.

Iran is an Islamic Republic and all Iranians are assumed to be Muslim by the state. Any one found leaving Islam is seen as committing treason, a betrayer of the state. Any Christians found meeting for worship using the national language Farsi, are harshly persecuted. The only exceptions belong to the minority ethnic groups of Armenians and Assyrians who are largely Christian, and have always had their own distinctive culture and language

Converts from Islam face draconian persecution if discovered, including the death penalty, though this has not been enforced recently. However arrest, imprisonment, torture and flogging are frequently used. Security forces confiscate Bibles and Christian literature, including hymn books, and the Iranian Bible Society was forcibly closed by the government in 1990.

While difficult to assess accurately, it is estimated that there are nearly 200 people languishing in prison because of their Christian faith and activities. In spite of this persecution the Church continues to grow rapidly especially among Muslims.

Prayers please.

- Thank God for the continuing growth of the church in Iran.
- Pray for protection and comfort for all who are imprisoned for their faith, especially pastors.
- Lift up to God our Iranian brothers and sisters especially those who convert from Islam.
- Pray for the safety of those who meet together in secret to worship the Lord.
- Pray for an easing of persecution of Christians in Iran.
- Pray that the laws of Iran will change to allow freedom of religion.

Week St Mary Circle Services September 2017

(**AMW:** Revd Tony Windross, **RD:** Revd Canon Rob Dickenson, **RY:** Revd Rob Yeomans, **PJ:** Revd Peter Judson, **MM:** Methodist Minister, **GS:** Gloria Street, **CG:** Carol Goundry, **DP:** Drue Pratt, **AA:** Audrey Atkin, **WT:** Worship Team **HC:** Holy Communion, **MP:** Morning Prayer, **ES:** Evening Service; **FS:** Family Service, **AM:** Anglo-Methodist Service, **COMP:** Compline, **UBS:** United Benefice Service)

3rd September

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity	0800	Widemouth B	HC	AMW
<i>green</i>	0930	Week St Mary	FS	WT
	0930	Poundstock	HC	AMW
Jeremiah 15: 15-21;	1100	St Gennys	HC	AMW
Romans 12: 9-end;	1830	Jacobstow	ES	DP
Matthew 16: 21-end;	1830	Whitstone	CP	RD
Psalm 26: 1-8				

Wednesday 6th September 0830 *Widemouth B* HC RD

Thursday 7th September 1100 *St Anne's* HC RD

Sunday 10th September

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity	0800	Widemouth B	HC	PJ
<i>Green</i>	0930	Jacobstow	MP	CG
	0930	Warbstow	HC	RD
Ezekiel 33: 7-11;	1100	Whitstone	HC	RD
Romans 13: 8-end;	1100	Poundstock	MP	WT
Matthew 18: 15-20;	1100	St Gennys	MP	CG
Psalm 119: 33-40	1830	Week St Mary	ES	WT

Wednesday 13th September 0830 *Widemouth B* HC AMW

Week St Mary Circle Services September 2017

17th September

Fourteenth Sunday after

Trinity	1030	Whitstone	UBS	AMW
<i>green</i>	1830	WSM	Revel ES	AMW
Genesis 50: 15-21;				
Romans 14: 1-12;				
Matthew 18: 21-35;				
Psalm 103: 1-13				

Wednesday 20th September *0830* *Widemouth B* *HC* *AMW*

24th September

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

<i>green</i>	0800	Widemouth B	HC	AMW
	0930	Jacobstow	HC	AMW
	0930	Warbstow	MP	AA
Jonah 3: 10- 4: end;	0930	Poundstock	MP	CG
Philippians 1: 21-end;	1100	Whitstone	MP	WT
Matthew 20: 1-16;	1100	Week St Mary	HC	AMW
Psalm 145: 1-8	1830	St Gennys	ES	GS

Wednesday 27th September *0830* *Widemouth B* *HC* *PJ*

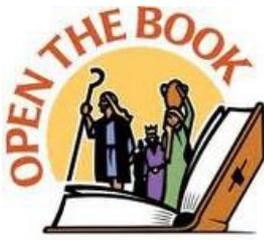
1st October

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

<i>green</i>	0800	Widemouth B	HC	AMW
	0930	Week St Mary	FS	WT
Ezekiel 18: 1-4, 25-end;	0930	Poundstock	HC	AMW
Philippians 2: 1-13;	1100	St Gennys	HC	AMW
Matthew 21: 23-32;	1830	Jacobstow	ES	DP
Psalm 25: 1-8	1830	Whitstone	C	RD

Wednesday 4th October *0830* *Widemouth B* *HC* *RD*

Thursday 5th October *1100* *St Anne's* *HC* *RD*



Open the Book Help needed

Have you ever thought that children in schools might be missing out on what the Bible has to show them? They could go through their entire school life without ever

learning about Adam and Eve, Noah, David, Jonah ... or even the life of Jesus and the stories of the New Testament.

Well now you can do something about it by joining a small team drawn from the churches & chapels in the area who go into the three primary schools in the Benefice (Jacobstow, Warbstow and Whitstone) once a fortnight to tell the children a story from the Bible. We go as a team and follow an excellent structure as given by the national *Open the Book* charity and spend about 15 minutes, starting with an introduction and then act out the Bible story (often with the help of some children) and finish with a brief summary and prayer.

We need a few more volunteers to join the team, either to take part at the schools or act as 'backroom staff' making costumes or props.

For more information please ring Graham Jones (01288 361147) or Lesley Booker (01288 341221)



Themed Supper

**Saturday 16th
September**



**from 6.30 pm at St Gennys House
Supper + Auction, raffle & Quiz
Tickets in advance £20 to include
1st drink & 3 course meal
In aid of Cornwall Hospice Care
and St Gennys Fabric Fund**

Deanery Assembly

At Otterham Hall

Monday 4th September 7pm

Worship led by

Rev Canon Alan Rowell

Speaker for the Evening:

**Debbie Croucher from
Transformation Cornwall
whose theme will be**

'Poverty in Cornwall'

**This is an OPEN MEETING
of interest and relevance to
all church members and
Officers**

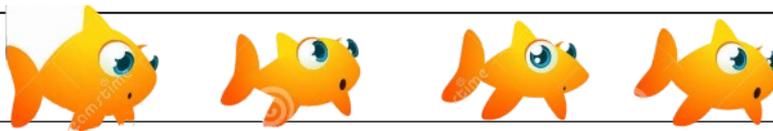
Refreshments from 6.30

ADVANCE WARNING

St Gennys Church Harvest Festival - Sunday 5th October 11 am followed
by Carvery Lunch at British Legion Hall 12.30 for 1 o'clock

Proceeds to Royal Agricultural Benevolent Fund. Further details next
month

Phone Moses 01840 230006 or moses.mary.andrew@btinternet.com



***Together* - Future Plans**

A new editorial team has been formed for future issues of *Together*. Material for the **October** magazine by

Weds 18th September please, to:
weekstmarycircle@gmail.com

This will be the address for all magazine correspondence. We are looking for volunteers to join the new editorial team and would welcome nominated Parish Correspondents who would undertake to ensure that information from individual parishes is sent in on a regular basis. Please make contact by email as above.



Widemouth Bay Summerhouse Study Group

meet on **Wednesdays at 2.15pm**
and will be meeting on 25th August to decide
September reading

on

Ring Hilda on 01288 361323 for more details

The monthly **Diocesan Newsletter**
can be found at: www.trurodiocese.org.uk/press-office/news/archive/our-news-monthly/

Poundstock Gildhouse

The Gildhouse is open to visitors every Wednesday from Easter to October 10.00-4.00 pm More details 01288 361525
www.poundstockgildhouse.co.uk



This month's
events at
Poundstock
Gildhouse

The Gildhouse is still open for visitors every Wednesday, see below for details. There is also the usual variety of entertaining and interesting events that are available to all.

Wednesday 13 September 7.30 pm

Custard Powder in the Garden

It's gardening, Jim, but not as we know it! With local plantsman Nick Bacon. Nick is great entertainment and a mine of information. £2.50 entrance includes tea and coffee.

Friday 29 September 7.30 pm *Alan's Famous Quiz.*

The answer's on the tip of your tongue, but! Bring a team or just join in on the night. Entry includes snacks but byo drink and glasses. Entrance £5. Book a table at 01566 781559

Every Wednesday 10.00 am – 4.00 pm Gildhouse Open.

Lots of information about the history of this fascinating building plus tea and coffee. Free entrance. Bring (or send) your visitors – they will enjoy it.

St Michael's Church, Bude

Grand Auction



Old and New Items

Saturday 9th Sept. 2017

2 pm with viewing from **11 am**

Light refreshments available from 11am

Donations welcome

Large or Small - New or Old
Vouchers - Experiences - Meals

**Donated items to be at the church
by 4 pm Friday 8th September**

(No clothes or electrical goods, please)

Contacts

Kathy Smeeth Tel. 01288 352815

Susan Cotton Tel. 01288 352896

Stratton Deanery Pilgrimage

Holy Cross Day at Whitstone

Thursday 14th September

**A time of Prayer, Fellowship and
Exploration of the Holy Cross**

Gather at Trelawne, Whitstone
at noon

(Please bring food to share for lunch)

concluding with
Evensong in St Anne's Church at 4pm
followed by tea

Please advise robyeomans30@gmail.com or
phone 01566 781 570 if you wish to join us

Do you need support with . . .

Getting around? Looking after yourself?

Seeing and hearing? Caring for someone else?

For more information, contact

Adult Care and Support Tel: 0300 1234 131

www.cornwall.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=4014

email: adultcare@cornwall.gov.uk

Sunday, 06:00 on BBC Radio Cornwall

95.2 FM / 103.9 FM

Sunday Breakfast, BBC Cornwall's Faith Programme

Donna Birrell looks at various faiths and ethics across the county
and beyond.

BENEFICE WEBSITE www.weekstmarycircleofchurches.org.uk

BENEFICE EMAIL for Magazine etc. weekstmarycircle@gmail.com

THE CHURCH YEAR: Thoughts for September

with thanks to Hilda Walter

There are two red letter days this month, one for St Matthew on the 21st and St Michael on the 29th. There is also Holy Cross Day on the 14th. There is a 'Pilgrimage, Prayer, Fellowship and exploring' day at Whitstone (see Together page 13)

Matthew was a tax collector which he gave up in order to follow Jesus. What have we given up?

Throughout life we change, from being active to having to depend on others to get about. Do we see the need for change in our way of thinking.? I believe we do.

At school I was told that you could not split the atom; that has been proved wrong. Also in history we often only hear nice things. For instance it is only recently that I have been aware of the atrocities that have been committed by Christians. There I was thinking that Columbus discovered America. No one told me of the things they did in the name of Christ

'They took infants by the arms throwing them into the river, laughing and saying 'Boil there you offspring of the infidel'. The Spanish Christians ravaged Latin America, as did their Portuguese counterparts. In forty years there were 12 million men women and children slain, ' Bertolome' (The Great Spiritual Migration. Brian McLaren page 86). You can read how the men were provided with sex slaves 'those from nine to ten are now in demand' (page 85)

My husband would tell how during the Americans stay in Bude, if a coloured soldier was walking on the pavement he would have to get off if a white soldier came along.

In this day and age we still hear of atrocities, we also find Christians who think they are right and every one else wrong. There has to be good in any religion or none, we all need to find ways to live together in love. Love is what Jesus taught us, Love is what He has for us and for Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists. agnostics and atheists. Also for this wonderful planet to which we are doing so much harm.

Prayer:

Teach us how to love. How to be kind. How to be tolerant,
How to be willing to accept that we are not always right.
May we be instruments of thy love.
Teach us to be inclusive in our loving and living.

The main contacts:

MINISTRY TEAM

Rector **Revd Tony Windross** **01288 341 600**
amwindross@btinternet.com

Reader Carol Goundry 01840 230 606

Pastoral Coordinator Joy Farran 01288 341 437
joyfarran@btinternet.com

UNITED BENEFICE COUNCIL

Lay Chair Graham Jones 01288 361 147
jones@maves.co.uk

Hon. Secretary Lesley Booker 01288 341 221
bookerfarmservices@gmail.com

Hon. Treasurer Anthony Farquhar 01840 230 384
ac.farquhar@btopenworld.com

BENEFICE WEBSITE www.weekstmarycircleofchurches.org.uk

BENEFICE EMAIL for Magazine & general weekstmarycircle@gmail.com

CHURCHWARDENS

Jacobstow 01840 230 526 Mr Brian Marshall
01840 230 153 Mr Ray Fox

Poundstock 01288 361 147 Mr Graham Jones
01288 361 504 Ms Hilary Kenny

St Gennys 01840 230 151 Mrs Hannah Clifford
01840 230 006 Mr Robert Andrew

Treneglos 01566 781 421 Mr Peter Mitchell
01566 781 372 Mrs Heather French

Warbstow 01566 781 835 Mrs Audrey Atkin
01566 781 081 Mrs Helen Jeffs

Week St Mary 01288 341 221 Mrs Lesley Booker
01288 341 348 Mr Dick Sowerby

Widemouth Bay 01288 362 254 Miss Judy MacDonald

Whitstone 01288 341 598 Mr Mervyn Collins
01288 341 699 Miss Phyllis Walter

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