Parish Magazine for

Tavistock, Gulworthy and Brentor

April 2024

£1.00

Please make a minimum donation of £1.00 for this magazine, either in one of the collection boxes or by using the card machine at the church entrance at St Eustachius' or in the collection box in St Paul's Gulworthy.

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Please send any articles for the April edition to Martin Pendle, at m.pendle@icloud.com by Tuesday 26th March.

From the Ministry Team

A Grandfather, A Garden and God

Dear Friends,

Leonard Cohen, the Canadian singer and poet commented: ‘When one looks at the world, there's only one thing to say, and it's hallelujah’ - a Hebrew interjection signifying gratitude to God. At this time of year, with magnolia trees in full bloom, small islands of primroses on lawns, and forest floors carpeted in bluebells, I not only recall Cohen’s words, but also think of my grandfather whose love of Spring was a joy to behold.

My grandfather was a collier, eking out a living in the bowels of the earth until pensioned out of the mines in his late forties as a result of pneumoconiosis, or ‘miner’s lung’ as it was known locally. A coal miner’s life must have been both back and heart-breaking, and bereft of sunlight for much of your waking hours. No wonder, then, that grandfather spent most of his post-retirement life outdoors in his garden.

A great big bear of a man with hand like shovels – my grandfather ate at least two servings of Sunday roast and, more often than not, three! With no florist in our village, it often fell to my grandfather (a Chapel Elder) to provide flowers for marriages and funerals; his creations were beautiful, precise and delicate at the same time. We would spend hours in his kitchen arranging bridal bouquets, wiring button holes and putting wreaths together. He inspired in me a lifelong love of all things floral and fauna, as well as a love of God.

Gertrude Jekyll, the British horticulturist, writer and artist who created over four hundred gardens in the United Kingdom, Europe and the United States, wrote: “the good gardener knows with absolute certainty that if he does his part, if he gives the labour, the love, and every aid that his knowledge of his craft, experience of the conditions of his place, and exercise of his personal wit can work together to suggest, that so surely will God give the increase. Then with the honestly-earned success comes the consciousness of encouragement to renewed effort, and, as it were, an echo of the gracious words, 'Well done my good and faithful servant’.

Following Jesus’ resurrection, we read in Matthew 28 that Jesus said to the eleven disciples: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” As a gardener tends his plants with the utmost care and love so that they bear fruit, so must Jesus’ disciples care for and nurture God’s people in faith; they are commissioned to bear fruit – to make disciples. And we, too, as Christians, are commissioned to share the Good News that is Jesus Christ with all people that on earth do dwell – for it is a much-needed message of hope in a broken world.

God says to His people: “I know the plans I have for you …” and, in so doing, reminds us that He comprehends the bigger picture for all of us. God knows how to cultivate good things and new growth out of centuries of denial, defiance and destruction; He is the ultimate gardener: gracious and in covenant with His people, forever. So, this Spring, as we witness the earth reawakening, may we reawaken to our commissioning and joyfully exclaim ‘Christ is risen indeed. Hallelujah!’

Happy Easter, one and all.

Wendy x

A Prayer for April

My Father,
I come to you
at the beginning of this day
to ask you to guide and help me.
Give me courage
to face the problems that lie ahead
and give me a heart
wide open to the joys
that you have prepared for me.
Forgive my many sins,
that I may start this day anew.
And as you forgive me,
may I learn to be forgiving
and compassionate
to others in return.
My Father,
I long to serve you aright.
May all that I do and all that I say
be pleasing in your sight.
Amen.

This prayer is from a collection entitled Celtic Praise: Prayers of Praise from Cornwall.

If anyone would like to contribute a ‘prayer for the month’, please contact Sarah Pendle: sarah.pendle0@gmail.com

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April Services in the Benefice

April 2024		
Wed 3	10.30 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
Fri 5	9.00 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
Sat 6	3.00 pm	Forest Church - Christ Church, Brent Tor
Sun 7	SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist (said BCP) - Tavistock
	10.00 am	Benefice Eucharist - Gulworthy
	6.00 pm	Evensong – St Michael's Brent Tor
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer - Tavistock
Wed 10	10.30 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
Fri 12	9.00 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
Sun 14	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
	9.45 am	Family Eucharist with Baptism: a service with a group for children - Tavistock
	10.00 am	Service of the Word – Christ Church, Brent Tor
	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist - Gulworthy
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer - Tavistock
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer – St Michael's Brent Tor
Wed 17	10.30 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
Fri 19	9.00 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
Sun 21	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
	9.45 am	Family Eucharist: a service with a group for children - Tavistock
	10.00 am	Holy Eucharist – Christ Church, Brent Tor
	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist – Gulworthy
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer - Tavistock
	6.00 pm	Evensong – St Michael's Brent Tor
Wed 24	10.30 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
Fri 26	9.00 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
Sun 28	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
	9.45 am	Family Eucharist: a service with a group for children - Tavistock
	10.00 am	Service of the Word – Christ Church, Brent Tor
	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist – Gulworthy
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer - Tavistock
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer – St Michael's Brent Tor
Wed 1 May	10.30 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
	3.30 pm	Messy Church - Tavistock

Notice of Annual Meeting of Parishioners and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) 28th April 2024

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners (to elect Churchwardens) will take place after the Sunday morning Eucharist at 11.15 in St Eustachius' Church Tavistock on Sunday 28th April 2024. The form for the nomination of candidates for Churchwarden is available from the Parish Office or through the church website at this link:

http://www.tavistockparishchurch.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Nomination-of-churchwarden.pdf

Completed Nominations should be emailed or handed to the Vicar prior to the start of the meeting **vicar@tavistockparishchurch.org.uk**

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) for St Eustachius' Church will take place immediately after the Meeting of Parishioners, also in St Eustachius' Church Tavistock.

Part of the business of this meeting is to elect representatives to serve on the Deanery Synod, and to elect representatives to serve on the PCC. Forms for the nomination of candidates for these positions are available from the Parish Office or through these links:

http://www.tavistockparishchurch.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Nomination-to-deanery-synod.pdf

http://www.tavistockparishchurch.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/nom-pcc.pdf

The above nominations for Deanery or PCC should be sent by email to **christine_everitt@btinternet.com** or alternatively sent by post to her via the Parish Office Address: **5a Plymouth Road, Tavistock PL19 8AU.**

A copy of the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2023 will be available on the website as soon as it is completed. The report will contain the agendas for both these meetings. Here is a link to the website:

http://www.tavistockparishchurch.org.uk/notice-annual-parochial-church-meeting-apcm/

Friends Summer Fete

The Friends of St Eustachius

SUMMER FETE

at St Eustachius' Church

Saturday 13 July 2024

10:00 - 15:00

Opened by the
Mayor of Tavistock
at 10:30

Bric-a-Brac
Pre-loved Clothes
Books and Puzzles
...and many more!
Refreshments and BBQ
Children's Corner

Know your Bible 6 - Sayings from the Cross

We have just celebrated Easter, the peak of the Christian calendar and its most precious and significant festival. What could bring greater blessing to the human race than the resurrection of God's Son and the demonstration of new life and hope that it brings, but at such a cost. So I thought that we could look this month at the sayings of our Lord Jesus while he was enduring the agonising pain on that cruel Roman cross.

Holy week having started on the Saturday at a supper with Mary, Martha and Lazarus where Mary anointed our Lord in preparation for his death, then the following day with the 'Palm Sunday' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the acclamation 'Hosanna to the Son of David', and then followed the 'cleansing of the Temple' to remind the people that the Temple was meant to be 'a House of prayer for all nations' and not 'a place of trade'. Jesus then spent two days teaching in the Temple with a final celebration supper with his friends on Tuesday evening in accordance with the original biblical calendar. Jesus was betrayed, arrested, imprisoned, tried and abused and finally shamefully sentenced to death.

Carrying the crosspiece (the Patibulum) to his cross Jesus was made to walk to the place of execution at Golgotha, that painful walk we remember through the fourteen 'stations of the cross' on Good Friday. So exhausted was our Saviour that one 'Simon of Cyrene' was made to carry it for him. Now here is a question for you. Why are Simon's two sons Alexander and Rufus mentioned (1) when they have no part to play in our story? A clue is in Romans (2).

We then enter the six most harrowing hours known to human history as Jesus arrives at Golgotha. The disciples seemingly having abandoned their Master, only John, Jesus' Mother Mary and 'some other women' were at the cross to observe Jesus final agonising hours (3).

Stripped of his clothes the four soldiers divided his garments, apart from his tunic for which they cast lots (4) so fulfilling an Old Testament Messianic prophecy from the psalms (5). As was the custom at a Roman crucifixion Jesus was offered a drink of wine and myrrh to dampen the pain (6), but Jesus refused showing his determination to endure the full agony of the cross to win our salvation.

Can we even begin to imagine how the women felt when they heard the cries of Jesus as the soldiers nailed him through the wrists to the cross, and then through his ankles? (An ankle bone was found in 1968 dating from 6AD showing such a practice). As his cross was erected between those of two criminals, Jesus may then have made his first cry from the cross "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do" (7). Such humility from one who, "Although he was in the form of God, did not cling to equality with God, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant" (8).
Can you remember anyone who showed similar humility and forgiveness at his death? It was St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr, who prayed almost the same words as Jesus as he was being stoned and again outside the city (9). I wonder what impact Stephen's words had on Saul, later St. Paul, as he witnessed Stephen's death?

As Golgotha outside the city walls at that time fulfilled another prophecy (10) was near a path leading into Jerusalem, many passers by derided Jesus saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Messiah of God, his Chosen One” (11). How these words must have cut into the agony of Jesus as he knew that he could call down legions of Angels for help (12).

Jesus, then observing his grieving mother and the disciple John had great concern as to what was going to happen to Mary. So he commends Mary to John’s keeping with the words of his second and third sayings “Woman, behold your son” and then “Behold your mother” (13,14). Some see these words as Jesus calling for unity between his earthly and spiritual families. At times during his ministry there had been tensions (15).
The Church father Eusebius says that after the dispersion of the church mentioned in Acts, St. John took Mary with him to Ephesus where some say she died there in 41AD (16).

An inscription was attached to the cross by Pilate called the Titulus, which said in Hebrew, Latin and Greek “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews”. Perhaps this was a snub from Pilate out of his remorse towards the Chief Priests? We often see this as INRI as a sign above crosses taken from the Latin ‘Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudacorum’.

One of the criminals on the cross beside Jesus sarcastically says “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us” (17). He of course could only think of his own agony, not appreciating the burden that Jesus was enduring as he carried the sins of all the people of the world at that time (18). The other criminal was more reflective and reprimands his comrade, then saying to Jesus “Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingly power” (19). This showed both his remorse and his belief in who Jesus was and the future resurrection.
In Jesus’ reply with his fourth saying from the cross, hope was given not just to that criminal but also to all of us who have put our trust in Jesus as we enter death’s portal, “Truly I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise” (20).

We now enter into the final three and perhaps darkest hours, as darkness covers the land from noon (20). As Jesus’ agony intensifies he cries for the fifth time (21) “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me”, words from the opening of psalm 22. Perhaps it was at this moment that Paul could imagine Jesus redeeming us from the curse of the law, as Jesus become a curse for us (22).

Saint John (23) then describes how Jesus fulfils another Messianic psalm when he cries out in his intense thirst with his sixth saying from the cross “I thirst” (24).
Some in the watching crowd thought Jesus was calling for Elijah and wished to see if the prophet would come and deliver him, while others wanted to give him vinegar or sour wine to drink and so prolong the agony (25). I do not believe he took it.

Then come the final moments of Jesus’ earthly life. Jesus knowing that ‘loves redeeming work was done’ gave the cry that all creation was groaning to hear as Jesus cried out for the seventh time from the cross “It is finished” (26). The task that Jesus had accepted from God the Father to redeem and reconcile human kind was completed.

I wonder if words from psalm 41 went through Jesus mind, “By this I know that you are pleased with me, and that my enemy has not triumphed over me” (27). Indeed Jesus had overcome ‘the enemy’, satan, and won the eternal victory.

Jesus then breathes his last with his eighth saying “Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit” (28). Jesus completed his eternal calling from before the foundation of the world and made sure the prophecy of God to Eve in the garden “He shall bruise satan’s head” was fulfilled (29).

Jesus’ death was but the beginning of a new age, the age of grace. It started as “the curtain in the Temple was torn from top to bottom, the earth shook, the rocks were split and the tombs were opened” (30). God through Jesus’ agony and death upon the cross had now made “a new and living way” into his presence for you and I to enjoy fellowship with our creator (31). No wonder Easter is such a significant festival for us Christians.

Every blessing, Rev. Mike

1	Mark 15v21	17	Luke 23v39
2	Romans 16v13	18	1 Peter 2v24
3	Matthew 27v55-56	19	Luke 23v40-42
4	John 19v23-24	20	Luke 23v44
5	Psalm 22v18	21	Matthew 27v46
6	Matthew 27v34	22	Galatians 3v13
7	Luke 23v34	23	Psalm 69v21
8	Philippians 2v6-11	24	John 19v28-29
9	Acts 7v60	25	Matthew 27v48-50)
10	Hebrews 13v12, Leviticus 16v29-22	26	John 19v30
11	Luke 23v32-34	27	Psalm 41v11
12	Matthew 26v53	28	Luke 23v46
13	John 19v26	29	Genesis 3v15
14	John 19v27	30	Matthew 27v51-54
15	Matthew 12v48-50	31	Hebrews 10v20
16	Acts 11v19-24		

Tales from the Tower

I am writing this report during Holy Week, when there is no ringing, so the tower is strangely silent. Thinking back, the only time I do remember ringing during Holy Week was on the evening of Maundy Thursday, 2019, when George asked me to toll one of the bells as a token of support for the cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris, which had just been gutted by the disastrous fire. It was a strange experience to be alone in the ringing chamber, striking one bell for such an occasion, but as ringers in churches all over the country were doing the same I was

not really alone. It was just another example of how bells can be used to bring people together, simply by sound.

Owing to a slight injury I have not been able to ring for several weeks now but the rest of the team have been as busy as usual with Tuesday evening practices, Thursday evening teaching sessions and of course Sunday service ringing. They've been out and about on other occasions too, taking part in the church Quiz and attending a very special dinner in Exeter, to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Devon Guild of Bellringers. This seems to have been quite an event, with an auction (I haven't yet found out what was being auctioned but I am told the prices rose beyond at least one Tavistock bidder's range) and the launch of a new book commemorating the 150 years. Hopefully, a copy will be added to our own small library of books about ringing and we shall all have the opportunity of browsing it.

The team has also been busy learning and practising a method new to most of us, but especially appropriate this year - Devonshire Surprise. With luck, a fair wind and a lot of application, a quarter peal will be rung later this year - watch this space!

We will soon be looking forward and preparing for a major event in our own and the Guild's calendar - the Guild AGM, which will take place in Tavistock on June 22. Listen then for some interesting ringing, as it will be attended by ringers from all over our very large county, who will all want a chance to ring on Tavistock's fine bells.

Meanwhile, Easter is upon us and the team will be there in the tower on Easter Day, ready to greet another happy morn. I wonder if I can get back to full fitness again by Whitsun!

Donna Baker

Ask John – Do Vampires really exist?

Enquirer: Hi John.

John: Oh. Hello again. What have you got for me this time?

Enquirer: There are lots of programmes and films now about Vampires, and me and the missus got to thinking – well to let the cat out of the bag – and don't let on, will you – we got quite scared. So I thought to ask someone who should know; so do they really exist, and should we be afraid of them?

John: Yes and no.

Enquirer: Oh!

Enquirer: Here - you were supposed to reassure me! Have you changed your profession? That was a politician's answer if ever I heard one! So is it yes, or no?

John: Both.

Enquirer: Oh dear. Why do I think I am going to be bamboozled in the next few moments?

John: What do politicians say, "Let me be clear about this".

John: So 'No'. There aren't actual creatures called vampires in existence. The idea is an invention by authors and film writers who have an eye on ratings, and by some adults who want to frighten children into obedience by saying the vampires will get you unless……..

John: As a Christian we fight against the dark, even if that just means shedding light onto peoples' motives, as in this case, or stating the truth when the more exciting fantasy beckons.

Enquirer: Well I'm rather glad about that, for I was almost ready to make some stakes for piercing a vampires' heart and to ask you for some holy water for defensive purposes.

Enquirer: But what is the 'yes' part of your answer then? Or am I chancing my arm?

John: I call some people 'vampires' because they suck the life out of you.

Enquirer: How? What does that mean?

John: I am sure that you must have met people who tire you out. Their pace of thinking and talking, the way they inveigle you into their thinking so you cannot keep up. You feel exhausted when you can eventually get away.

Enquirer: And they are vampires?

John: Your life energies are drained by the experience. Your psyche takes a battering. Isn't that a definition of 'vampirism'. Perhaps the JWs have got something there when they speak of blood being the life essence.

John: There was one occasion when Jesus' energies were drained from him as a woman was healed from constant haemorrhaging. She touched the hem of his cloak and Jesus felt the energy go out from him. Jesus didn't call her a vampire but instead had compassion on her and commended her for her faith. *

Enquirer suddenly realises the fog of bamboozlement is closing in on his mind. "Got to fly. Got an appointment at the blood donors!"

- Luke 8. 46f

John

APRIL PRAYER DIARY

Reflecting on the words of Psalm 40:5, we pray:

Dear God, we take a moment to remember and give thanks for everything you have done for us, for all the wonders you have performed in our lives and throughout history. Most of all we thank you for saving us through your son Jesus, may we recount all your wondrous deeds, and share them with others, for your glory. Amen.

Monday 1st – Saturday 6th

During the Easter school holiday, we pray for teachers, staff, and pupils, that they would find rest. We also pray for churches planning holiday clubs, would you give them energy as they serve children and families in our communities, and share the love of Christ with them.

1. For the churches of the St Bartholomew and St Mark Ford Mission Community, their priest Richard Silk, and for all who live and worship in Devonport St Bartholomew and St Mark Ford.

2. On World Autism Awareness Day, we give thanks for organisations working to increase awareness and acceptance of autism. Teach us to have empathy, and treat one another with dignity, may your church be a place where all feel welcome.

3. For the churches of the St Boniface, St Budeaux and St Philip Mission Community, their priest Michael Doyle, LLMs Martin Clements, Joanna Bound, Elizabeth Dickens, and for all who live and worship in St Philip, Weston Mill, St Budeaux, and St Boniface, Devonport.

4. For the churches of the St David Mission Community, their priest Ash Leighton Plom, LLMs David Blundell, Charlotte Townsend, Ian Cartwright, Bill Pattinson, and for all who live and worship in Exeter St David.

5. On the International Day of Conscience, we pray for a culture of peace, knowing that all people are made in the image of God and should be treated with dignity.

6. For the St James Mission Community, their priest Henry Pryse, LLM Joan Ridgway, and for all who live and worship in St James, Exeter.

Sunday 7th – Saturday 13th

During Stress Awareness Month, we pray for everyone feeling overwhelmed by stress. We pray for your supernatural peace and remember Jesus' invitation to "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." *(Matthew 11:28)*

7. In our link with Bayeux Lisieux, we pray for the Basilica at Lisieux, for all its staff and visitors, may they encounter you afresh. We also pray for the parishes, their clergy all who worship in the area of Lisieux.

8. For the St Jude Mission Community, their priest Tim Smith, LLMs Jackie Yates, Peter Hadden, Jane Sanham, and for all who live and worship in St Jude Plymouth.

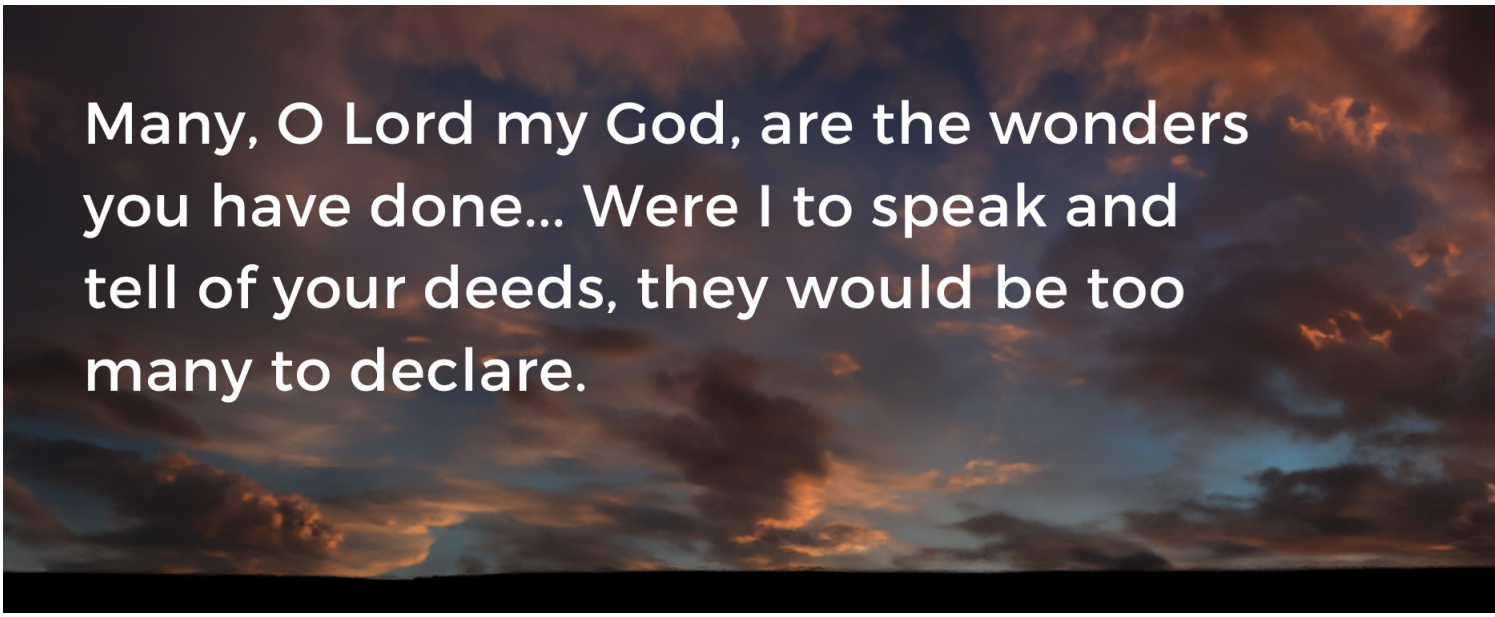
9. On the anniversary of the martyrdom of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, we reflect on his prayer written from prison: 'You know all man's troubles; You abide with me When all men fail me; It is Your will that I should know You And turn to You. Lord, I hear Your call and follow; Help me.'

10. On National Siblings Day we pray for our families, and give thanks for our brothers and sisters in the church. We have all been adopted into the family of God, may we be devoted to one another in love, honouring one another above ourselves. *(Romans 12:10)*

11. On World Parkinson's Day, we pray for all those living with Parkinson's, each with different symptoms and different experiences. We give thanks for organisations offering support and researching to find a cure.

12. For the churches of the St Leonard Mission Community, their clergy Simon Austen, Chris Keane, Paul Sutton, and for all who live and worship in St Leonard with Holy Trinity.

13. For the churches of the St Matthias Mission Community, their clergy John Beckett, Paul Barton, Claire Reynolds, LLM Norma Gerry, and for all who live and worship in St Matthias, St Mark and Holy Trinity.



Sunday 14th – Saturday 20th

During the Easter Season, we remember the Great Commission the resurrected Jesus gave his followers: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them… and teaching them…" *(Matt. 28:16-20)* Lord, thank you that you are with us always, give us boldness to share the good news we have received with the whole world.

14. For the churches of the St Pancras Mission Community, their clergy Lawrence Braschi, Duncan Hollands, Phillip Baul, LLMs Mariska Minter, Paul Lumb, and for all who live and worship in St Pancras, Pennycross.

15. In our link with Cyprus and the Gulf, we pray for the Archdeacon of Cyprus, Ven. Christopher Futcher, may God bless him in his ministry. We also pray for the clergy, parishes, and all who live and worship in Cyprus.

16. For the churches of the St Peter and the Holy Apostles Mission Community, their priest David Way, LLM Ben Otley, and for all who live and worship in Plymouth St Peter and the Holy Apostles.

17. For the churches of the Sampford Peverell Mission Community, their priest Glyn Lewry, LLM Mandy Lewry, and for all who live and worship in Uplowman, Sampford Peverell, Holcombe Rogus, Hockworthy, Halberton, and Burlescombe.

18. For the churches of the Seaton and Beer Coastal Mission Community, their priest Justin Montague, and for all who live and worship in Seaton and Beer.

19. On Early Years Teachers Day, we give thanks for those working in early childhood development, particularly those nurturing Christian values in young children. Help them explore new ways of engaging with children, and sustain them in their vocation.

20. For the churches of the Shaldon Mission Community, LLMs Hugh McCormick, Ruth Bettesworth, and for all who live and worship in Stokeinteignhead, Shaldon, Haccombe, and Combeinteignhead.

Sunday 21st – Tuesday 30th

During World Immunisation Week, we pray for communities around the world that do not have the same access to medicine and vaccines as we do. Lord, would you burden our hearts for the less fortunate, and stir us to act for the good of our international neighbours.

21. On World Creativity and Innovation Day, we celebrate the tapestry of the family of God and all the creativity within it, reflecting our creator God. Help us to continue to discover new ways to serve the church and to share your Good News with the world.

22. For the Sherford Church of England Community Church, its priest Tom Brassil, LLM Andrew Williams, and for all who live and worship in Sherford.

23. On St George's Day, we remember the life and death of St George, who was killed for refusing to deny his faith in Christ. May we be convicted by his resolve, and may his faith remind us of the cost of following you, Lord.

24. In our link with Melanesia, we mark the anniversary of the seven martyred Melanesian Brothers who gave their lives peacebuilding in the Solomon Islands: Nathaniel Sado, Robin Lindsay, Francis Tofi, Alfred Hilly, Patteson Gatu, Ini Partabatu and Tony Sirihi. 'Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called sons of God.' *(Matthew 5:9)*

25. On the Feast Day of Mark the Evangelist, we give thanks for his Gospel, which proclaims that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, whose death paid the price for our sins. We pray that as we dwell on your word, we would know these truths more deeply.

26. For the churches of the Shirwell Mission Community, their priest Rosie Austin, and for all who live and worship in Shirwell, Loxhore, Kentisbury, East Down with Arlington, Challacombe, and Bratton Fleming with Stoke Rivers.

27. For the churches of the Sid Valley Mission Community, their clergy David Caporn, Kim Mathers, Matthew Selman, Laura Selman, Victoria Chester, Sarah Mounoury, LLMs Carole Hawkins, John Dunster, Peter Byrd, Carolyn Croft, Peter Scott, and for all who live and worship in Woolbrook, Sidmouth, Sidbury with Sidford, Salcombe Regis, and All Saints Sidmouth.

28. In our link with Thika, we pray for Ven. Solomon Thiga, and for the clergy, parishes, and all who live and worship in the Gatundu Archdeaconry. We give thanks for churches undergoing the 'Umoja' Church and Community Development Process and pray it would bear fruit.

29. For the churches of the Silverton Mission Community, their priest Paul Kingdom, and for all who live and worship in Silverton, Cadeleigh, Butterleigh, and Bickleigh.

30. For the churches of the South Dartmoor Mission Community, their clergy Paul Hinckley, James Harding, Liz Grier, LLM Julie Hinckley, and for all who live and worship in Sparkwell, Ivybridge, Harford, and Cornwood.

DIOCESE OF EXETER
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN DEVON

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Prayer Spaces in Schools

Prayer Spaces in Schools

Prayer Spaces in Schools Training in West Devon

25th April, 2024
9.30-2.30pm
St Peter's C of E School, Tavistock

What is it?

Prayer spaces in schools give pupils a fantastic opportunity to explore prayer in a safe, engaging, creative and interactive way. As well as supporting RE, a prayer space is a calming, peaceful place in the midst of all the busyness of school life.

With : Tim Abbott
GB Team Leader Prayer Spaces in Schools and Sharon Blyth - Children and Families Mission Enabler

To book email:
mandm@exeter.anglican.org

Who is it for? EVERYONE!

- Teachers
- Youth workers
- Schools and Families workers
- Church volunteers

Cost? FREE!

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pray | grow | serve with joy

Stewards Needed for St Eustachius'

Would you like to volunteer as a Church Steward?

Many visitors come into our beautiful church and it is important that there is someone present to welcome them. Some visitors may have questions or perhaps just value a friendly chat.
We usually restart stewarding the church after Easter.

We are hoping to set up a new rota, so please let Catherine Stoate know by emailing catherinestoate@gmail.com if you would like to know more. Could you also please give some idea of days and times and frequency which you may be able to offer?

We are going to ensure that stewards are always on duty in pairs, and we will offer some straightforward training- on fire safety, first aid and safeguarding.

Being available for all the many visitors to our church is a very important mission of our church, and a real service to the community.

Catherine Stoate. Church Warden

Gulworthy News for March

Happy Easter to everyone in Gulworthy and to all the parishes of the Benefice.

As I write this, we are not even into Holy Week, but deadlines being what they are….

Our diary below has our services over the Easter period and we welcome you all to come and join us at this time of renewal, hope and celebration in the Christian Year.

Our Good Friday service will include making buns in the Parish Hall, followed by a family service and the building of the Easter Garden in the church. The more children of all ages we have to build the garden, the better!

Our "preloved "clothes show was a massive success, raising just over £1000 in donations, sales and raffle. All proceeds are going to St Paul's, for which we are very grateful. Thank you so much to The Tavistock Parish Centre for providing the venue. Thanks to Barbara Miller and her helpers for chivvying reluctant models and for sorting through the donated items; to all those who provided delicious cakes, sandwiches and scones and to the ladies and gents in the kitchen who made industrial amounts of tea! It was a fun event, very well attended and some of us have been nobbled again to be models later in the year for St Eustachius!

If anyone has any madcap, inventive or downright strange ways in which we could fundraise for our little church, we would be very grateful for new ideas. Fundraising is a perennial problem for all churches and inventive and entertaining ways to do this are always in the pipeline!

So, to Easter. The time in the Churches year of the deepest despair at Christ's death and the greatest joy at his resurrection. The rebirth, renewal and hope that easter brings comes afresh every year and yet is over 2000 years old. Let us renew ourselves afresh and look to the glory of God's love for us in the extraordinary gift of his Son and in the glories of this world as we move into the rebirth of spring.

May God guide us all to bring love and peace to the World.

Diary

28th March. **Maundy Thursday.** 6pm Communion of the first Last Supper

29th March **Good Friday** 10.30am Family service with hot cross bun making.

31st March **Easter Sunday** 11.15 Parish Eucharist

7th April at St Paul's Gulworthy. United Benefice service 10.30am

16th May. **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** in church. From 7pm

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Senior Clergy Reflection – March 2024

The Rt. Rev'd Jackie Searle, Acting Bishop of Exeter

'The Lord is Here' ***John 20:11-18***

When one of our sons was working abroad, I remember the excitement of going to the airport to meet him on his return. The date had been in the calendar a long time with a big ring round it, and David and I got to the airport ridiculously early. Then there was the moment when we knew the plane had landed and passengers began to emerge through the big glass doors. We were scanning, searching, peering on tiptoe through the crowd. Suddenly we see him, for a split second before he sees us, and then great joy, smiles, and tears; the hugs and happiness of a son returned, of coming home.

I picture Jesus waiting in that garden like that, waiting for Mary to come to the tomb (there is a hint of mischief here) waiting for her to turn around and see him, to recognise him, and anticipating the moment of greeting- the utter joy and happiness to come. But Mary, weeping, not expecting that Jesus is anywhere other than dead, laid in the tomb, is slow to recognise him. It only happens when Jesus calls her name. Mary hears his voice and turns towards him and is brought face to face with the most wonderful new reality – he is not dead, he is risen, Jesus is alive and standing before her.

I wonder how often Jesus is waiting for us, though we do not see him. How often he is standing, as if at that airport, longing for our arrival, but we do not notice him in the crowd. We too need him to call our name – which he does, loving and persistent, so we might turn and see him there with us, waiting for us, all along.

We pray for our world this Easter – that a world in need would hear the One who has conquered death, who calls us by name and who opens the gate to eternal life.

And may we know joy this Easter. Like children being welcomed home, may we know the welcome and delight of his love and joy, and hear his calling, always, into the life and love of God. Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Tavistock Parish Public Events for April

April 2024 (events are in the Parish Centre unless otherwise stated)		
Fri 5	**10 am - 12 noon**	**Friendly Fridays (St E. Church)**
Mon 8	**10 am - 2 pm**	**Warm Welcome**
	2.30 - 4.30 pm	**Prayer and Stillness Group**
Wed 10	**2-4 pm**	**Handicraft Group**
Fri 12	**10 am - 12 noon**	**Friendly Fridays (St E. Church)**
Tues 16	**9.30 - 11 am**	**Little Deers Baby and Toddler Group**
Thur 18	**2 - 4 pm**	**Bereavement Group**
Fri 19	**10 am - 12 noon**	**Friendly Fridays (St E. Church)**
	2 - 4 pm	**Cream Tea in Memory of Hilary Sanders**
Tues 23	**9.30 - 11 am**	**Little Deers Baby and Toddler Group**
Fri 26	**10 am - 12 noon**	**Friendly Fridays (St E. Church)**
Fri 28	**11.15 am**	**Annual Parochial Church Meeting (St E. Church)**
Tues 30	**9.30 - 11 am**	**Little Deers Baby and Toddler Group**

A Cream Tea will be held in memory of our dear friend Hilary Sanders

in the Parish Centre on

Friday 19th April 2pm to 4pm

All proceeds will be for a new cooker for the Parish Centre as Hilary frequently battled with the one currently being used.

Please come and join us .

Ridgeway Chorale Concert Saturday 13 April at 7.30 pm

On Saturday evening 13 April at 7.30 p.m. **The Ridgeway Chorale**, a choir of 16 singers from Hertfordshire, will be giving a concert in the parish church of Tavistock, St. Eustachius. They will be singing a number of short items, sacred and secular, old and new, serious and fun.

Among those items will be pieces by John Wilbye and Charles V. Stanford (both of whom have anniversaries this year), George Shearing, Bob Chilcott and others. The audience will be invited to join in singing the final piece in the concert. The choir's guest soloist will be young local pianist, Matteo Parry.

The concert will be FREE, but it is hoped that, at its end, audience members will contribute generously to a collection for **St. Eustachius Church** itself, a vibrant organisation within a beautiful old building. Refreshments will be provided by The Friends of St. Eustachius.

The Ridgeway Chorale draws its members from Tring, Hertfordshire, and the surrounding area. Besides giving concerts, the choir sings at weddings and other services, at village entertainments, and annually at dawn on 1 May from the top of a nearby village church tower.

The singers enjoy travelling and do so each year. They have given concerts during the last 22 years in such far-flung parts of the U.K. as Suffolk, Derbyshire, Powys and Jersey, and are delighted to be in Devon this year. Abroad, they have sung in Switzerland and Burgundy. At all these 'away' concerts (and at 'local' concerts in or near Tring) the choir sings 'for free', so that all the proceeds can go to good causes. Since its formation in late 2001 the choir has raised over £40,000 for various charities.

The choir has a website www.ridgewaychorale.org.uk on which you can find out more about them and listen to various clips of their singing.

The Ridgeway Chorale is directed by Richard Grylls, who has a remote but strong connection with Tavistock. His ten times great grandfather, William Grylls (c.1515 - 1577), in addition to being an attorney and a tin merchant in the town, became one of the 'Eight Men of Tavistock',

who ran the town for the Duke of Bedford. In 1552, along with William Poynter, William Grylls leased some land from the duke, and founded the first grammar school in Tavistock. Richard's ancestor and his family no doubt worshipped at St. Eustachius.

Mount Kelly Choral Society Concert Saturday 20 April 2024

Hymn for the Month: ‘Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son’

My chosen hymn for this month has impressive cross-European credentials: written in French by a Swiss Protestant, translated into English by a Lancashire-born Baptist pastor, and published with a tune by a German Lutheran. It is ‘A toi la gloire, O Ressuscité’—better known to us as ‘Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son’.

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:

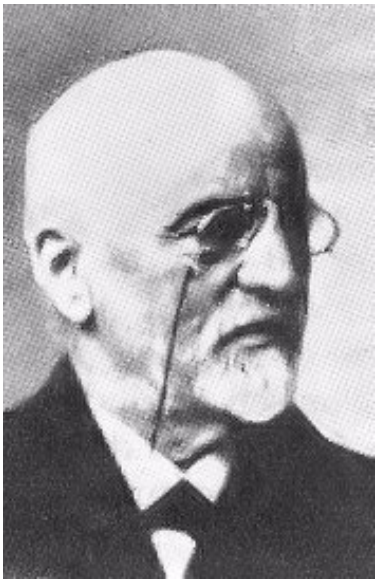
Thine be the glory . . .

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
Life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:

Thine be the glory . . .

The hymn opens with a description drawn from the Gospel accounts of the events of Easter Sunday, praising Jesus for the victory over death that the raising of his body has won. Then, in the middle verse, we, the Church, are greeted lovingly by our living Lord through whose resurrection ‘death hath lost its sting’ (1 Corinthians 15:55-56; and see also Isaiah 25:8, Hosea 13:14). In the final verse we praise the ‘glorious Prince of Life’, no more doubting him (like Thomas in John 20:24-28) but praying for his blessing in this life and confident that he will bring us safe ‘through Jordan’ to his home in heaven.

The author of this popular Easter hymn was Edmond L. Budry (1854–1932), a minister in the Free Evangelical Church in French-speaking Switzerland. He wrote it in 1884, and it was published the following year in a Swiss hymn book. In 1923, Richard B. Hoyle (1875–1939), a Baptist pastor at Kingston-upon-Thames, translated the words into English. He was a skilled translator (fluent in twelve languages), known particularly as an early translator of works by the great Swiss Reformed theologian, Karl Barth. Hoyle’s translation of ‘Thine be the glory’ was



published in 1924 in the first edition of Cantate Domino, the hymn book of the World Student Christian Federation. It was included in the Methodist Hymn Book of 1933, and thereafter in many hymn books.

The hymn undoubtedly owes much of its popularity in English to its wonderful tune. It was an inspired decision by the editor of Cantate Domino to set the words to a tune originally written by Handel for the chorus ‘See the conquering hero comes’ in his oratorio Joshua (1747), which he later added to an earlier oratorio Judas Maccabaeus (1746). The tune ‘Maccabaeus’ became famous beyond the oratorios (it is still whistled by the audience at the Last Night of the Proms). Although certainly ‘Thine be the glory’ is one of the Church’s great ‘hymns of triumph’, it should not, I think, sound ‘triumphalist’. Handel’s music is measured and confident, not brash or foot stamping. A performance of the hymn on YouTube that I like is by the Huddersfield Choral Society, recorded in 2006.

Bob Owens

Concerts in 2024

All concerts are in St Eustachius'

2024

Sat 13th Apr at 7.30 pm: Ridgeway Chorale Choir

Sat 20th Apr to Sat 4th May: Tavistock Festival, full details at www.tavistockfestival.org

- ***Sat 20th Apr at 7.30: Mount Kelly Choral Society Spring Concert***
- ***Thur 25th April at 1.00 pm: Piano Concert Nina Savicevic***
- ***Sat 27th Apr at 7.30 pm: Plymouth Symphony Orchestra***
- ***Tues 30th April at 7.30 pm: Tapestry Choir Concert***
- ***Thur 2nd May at 1.00 pm: Marcus Coleridge (Baritone)***
- ***Sat 4th May at 7.30 pm: North Devon Sinfonia***

Sat 11th May at 7.30 pm: Vocal Harem Concert

Sat 29th Jun at 7.30 pm: Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir Gala Concert

Wed 24 Jul to Sun 28 Jul: Exon Singers:

- ***Wed 24th Jul: Exon Singers Evening Concert and Compline***
- ***Thur 25th Jul: Exon Evening Singers Concert and Compline***
- ***Fri 26th Jul: Exon Singers Lunchtime and Evening Concert Workshops***
- ***Sat 27th Jul: Exon Singers Evening Concert***
- ***Sun 28th Jul: 0945 Exon Singers accompanied Choral Eucharist in St Eustachius'***

Sat 28th Sep at 7.30: Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir Autumn Concert

Sat 19th Oct at 7.30 pm: Centenary Celebration of Rev. Sabine Baring-Gould

Sat 23rd Nov at 7.00 pm: The Little Opera Co. Candlelit Christmas Concert

Sat 30th Nov at 7.30 pm: Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir Christmas Concert

Sat 14th Dec at 7.30 pm: Stannary Brass Band Christmas Concert

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St Eustachius' Church Useful Contacts

Revd. Matt Godfrey, Vicar - 07341 665510 or **vicar@tavistockparishchurch.org.uk**

Churchwardens: Mrs Catherine Stoate - 07773 162553 or **catherinestoate@gmail.com and** Mrs Pam Hunter 01822 614200 or **HntPam3@aol.com**

Choir Director: Andrew Lundie - **andrewlundie@gmail.com**

Organist – Mrs Mary Mazur-Park **marymazurpark@gmail.com**

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: Mrs Diana McDowell – 01822 612751 or **dsm261@hotmail.com**

Parish Giving Officer: Mr Peter Rowan – 01822 617999

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Miss Rita Bilverstone – 01822 614825 or **safeguarding@tavistockparishchurch.org.uk**

Parish Office: Jo Barton (open M-F 10am to 12 noon) 01822 616673, **parishoffice@tavistockparishchurch.org.uk**

Bellringers: George Mudge (tower captain) 01822 615456, or email **phil.dunn.3cc@btinternet.com**

All other contacts - see church website **www.tavistockparishchurch.org.uk**