Parish Magazine for

Tavistock, Gulworthy and Brentor

June 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.

Contents:

- From the Ministry Team - *Revd. Tony Vigars*
- A Prayer for June - *Penny Rowan*
- June Services in the Benefice
- Friends Summer Fete - *Anne Johnson*
- Know your Bible 8 - Pentecost and the Early Church - *Revd. Mike Loader Assistant Priest*
- Tales from the Tower – *Donna Baker*
- Ask John – What is the difference between a Sect and a Cult? - *Revd. John Littlewood*
- West Devon Chorale Concert Saturday 8th June
- June Prayer Diary – *Diocese of Exeter*
- Common Fund 2024
- Gulworthy News for June - *Gill Reed*
- Senior Clergy Reflection, June 2024 - *Revd. Canon Cate Edmonds, Canon Steward, Exeter Cathedral*
- Tavistock Parish Public Events for June
- Hymn for the Month: 'Take my life, and let it be' - *Dr Bob Owens*
- Exon Festival 2024
- Concerts in 2024
- Sat 15th Jun at 12.30 pm: Lunchtime Charity Concert, Mozart and Rossini
- A Closing Prayer for June - *Jean Morris*
- Useful Contacts

Please send any articles for the July edition to Martin Pendle, at m.pendle@icloud.com by Monday 24th June.

From the Ministry Team

Dear Friends,

In addition to a Lent Book this year, I have been using an "Easter Book" which similarly gives a short scripture reading and comment for each day between Easter Day and Pentecost (*This Risen Existence* by Paula Gooder).

On Ascension Day the reading was this well-known passage: ***Christ Jesus ... though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*** *(Philippians 2:5-11)*

These words are often printed in verse form, for it is believed that they may be taken from an early Christian hymn. It rehearses what we celebrate as Christians every year from the closing days of Advent until Ascension Day – the story of Jesus – the story of God among us sharing our human existence to its very lowest depths.

St Paul wrote to the Christians in Rome: ***We have been buried with*** *(Christ)* ***by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.*** *(Romans 6:4)* Jesus not only shared the depths of our existence, but through his death and resurrection brings us to a new life.

But what is our response to be here and now to this story of God's love for us? All this is done ***so we too might walk in newness of life.*** Or in Paul's words In Philippians: ***Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself ...*** The challenge for us is to follow in Jesus' footsteps – with his humility in our dealings with one another.

That was the same challenge that faced the original disciples after Jesus left them on the first Ascension Day. They like us desperately needed what happened just a few days later – the coming of the Spirit of Jesus to live within them and us to help us to follow in those footsteps.

Another reading my "Easter Book" following Ascension Day was this: ***since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us ... lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.*** *(Hebrews 12:1f)* Whether we are walking, running or hobbling along, Jesus waits for us at the finishing line and, through his Spirit and through one another travels within and beside us.

I vividly remember attempting some circuit training, running mixed with various exercises, for a rugby team I played with as a student. I only managed to complete it because a team mate ran alongside me encouraging me not to give in. This for me has become an illustration of how the Spirit of Jesus can use us to help one another on our Christian pilgrimage. This is part of what we mean in the creed by the *communion of the saints*. Meanwhile, the rest of that communion, those who have already finished the race, the ***great ... cloud of witnesses*** in the stands, cheer us on!

Tony Vigars

A Prayer for June

I have been delighted to find a collection of prayers called 'The Valley of Vision' extracted from Puritan literature by Arthur Bennett (once Canon of St Albans Cathedral). First published in 1975 the book has been repeatedly republished to the present day by Banner of Truth. Many familiar names penned the original words such as John Bunyan but their names are only mentioned in the preface I suppose not to distract from the prayer itself. The words are full of Scripture references and deep doctrine so alongside connecting us to our Father when our own words fail us they also will build a confidence in truths we may have forgotten or never known. Every topic seems to be covered and there is a useful daily prayer morning and evening. This one I share with you is labelled Third day morning: God Creator and Controller (that means it is for Tuesday, Sunday as the world seems to forget is the first day of the week!).

Pen

MOST HIGH GOD,
The universe with all its myriad creatures
is thine,
made by thy word, upheld by thy power, governed by thy will.
But thou art also the Father of mercies, the God of all grace, the bestower of all comfort, the protector of the saved.
Thou hast been mindful of us, hast visited us, preserved us, given us a goodly heritage - the Holy Scriptures, the joyful gospel, the Saviour of souls, We come to thee in Jesus' name, make mention of his righteousness only, plead his obedience and sufferings who magnified the law both in its precepts and penalty, and made it honourable.
May we be justified by his blood, saved by his life, joined to his Spirit.
Let us take up his cross and follow him.
May the agency of thy grace prepare us for thy dispensations.
Make us willing that thou shouldest choose our inheritance and
determine what we shall retain or lose, suffer or enjoy;
If blessed with prosperity may we be free
from its snares,
and use, not abuse, its advantages;
May we patiently and cheerfully submit to those afflictions which are necessary.
When we are tempted to wander, hedge up our way,
excite in us abhorrence of sin, wean us from the present evil world, Assure us that we shall at last enter
Immanuel's land
where none is ever sick, and the sun will always shine.

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

---

June Services in the Benefice

June 2024		
Sat 1	3.00 pm	Forest Church - Christ Church, Brentor
Sun 2	1st SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist (Book of Common Prayer, said) - Tavistock
	9.45 am	Family Eucharist: a service with a group for children - Tavistock
	10.00 am	Holy Eucharist – Christ Church, Brentor
	11.15 am	Family Service of the Word – Gulworthy
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer - Tavistock
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer – St Michael's Brentor
Wed 5	10.30 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
	3.30 pm	Messy Church - Tavistock
Fri 7	9.00 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
Sun 9	2nd SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
	9.45 am	Family Eucharist: a service with a group for children - Tavistock
	10.00 am	Family Service of the Word – Christ Church, Brentor
	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist – Gulworthy
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer - Tavistock
	6.00 pm	Evensong – St Michael's, Brentor
Wed 12	10.30 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
Fri 14	9.00 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
Sun 16	3rd SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	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, Brentor
	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist – Gulworthy
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer - Tavistock
	6.00 pm	Evensong – St Michael's, Brentor
Wed 19	10.30 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
Fri 21	9.00 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
Sun 23	4th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
	9.45 am	Family Eucharist: a service with a group for children - Tavistock
	10.00 am	Family Service of the Word – Christ Church, Brentor
	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist – Gulworthy
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer - Tavistock
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer – St Michael's, Brentor
Wed 26	10.30 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
Fri 28	9.00 am	Holy Eucharist (said) - Tavistock
Sun 30	5th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	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, Brentor
	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist, Patronal Festival – Gulworthy
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer - Tavistock
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer – St Michael's, Brentor

Friends Summer Fete

The 2024 Friends of St Eustachius' Summer Fete will take place on Saturday 13th July from 10am to 3pm. The mayor of Tavistock will open the Fete at 10:30am. This is the second biggest annual fund raiser after the Christmas Tree Festival for the Friends.

We welcome contributions of pre loved quality clothes, raffle prizes, Bric -a-Brac, children's toys, jigsaw puzzles, books,plants and cakes. Items may be left in church on Friday 12th July. Help will be required both on the Friday to sort and set up the Fete, Saturday to help on stalls and then take down and pack away.

If you are able to help or contribute in anyway we would love to hear from you. Please contact Anne Johnson, on 01822 613807 07982132567 or email annejohnson@msn.com for more information or offers of help.

This is a fun event for all the family, which will take place in church if the weather is bad so please put the date in your diary, we look forward to seeing you.

Anne Johnson
Chairman The Friends of St Eustachius'

Know your Bible 8 - Pentecost and the Early Church - Revd. Mike Loader Assistant Priest

As we continue our journey through the Church's liturgical year we come to the great feast of Pentecost which we celebrated just a few weeks ago. That unique festival marks the time when God sent His Holy Spirit to be with the early believers (1). Jesus at his ascension had charged the disciples to stay in Jerusalem and wait for the "promise of the Father" as before many days they were to be baptised with the Holy Spirit (2). The disciples waited together with the women, the Virgin Mary and Jesus brothers and devoted themselves to prayer (3). Always a useful practice when we today have to wait and decide on the Lord's plan for us.

As they waited Peter encouraged the group of believers, numbering about 120, to select another apostle and so one who therefore had not personally been chosen by Jesus. He was to be numbered with the eleven and so replace Judas who after betraying Jesus had gone and hung himself (4). Peter reminded the group that the psalmist (5) had indicated that another should take Judas place and so they drew lots and Matthias was chosen (6). Matthias may have been one of the 'seventy two' sent out by Jesus during his ministry (7), but he is not mentioned further in the New Testament. In Greek tradition Matthias is said to have planted the faith in Cappadocia and the coast around the Caspian Sea, and another tradition says he preached the Gospel to barbarians in Ethiopia. Yet another says he was stoned in Jerusalem and then beheaded! Perhaps if the disciples had waited till after Pentecost the Holy Spirit would have given direction, or maybe they should have waited for Paul the Apostle who was called by Jesus on the Damascus Road (8).

When the Holy Spirit descended as 'tongues of fire' upon the gathered believers, probably in that same upper room as the last supper, they began to speak in tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance (9). They must all have been so amazed at this demonstration of God's power that they could not keep it to themselves. I believe they then moved up to the courts of the Temple where many were gathered for the second Jewish pilgrim festival of Shavout, or the Feast of Weeks, as Moses had left instructions in the Jewish Law, the Torah (10). This was a joyous time for celebrating the ingathering of the wheat harvest. For the new forming Church this was to be a time for the ingathering of 3000 (11) new believers who responded to Peter's

bold call for repentance following his powerful Pentecost sermon. They were then all immediately baptised. This was made possible by the many 'Mikveh' or ritual baths in which the observant Jews had to immerse themselves before ascending up to the Temple.

After the destruction of the Temple in AD 70 by the Romans, the Jews could no longer celebrate Shavout by going up to Jerusalem for this festival in it. Instead, as a Judaism developed more cantered on the Synagogue, Shavout was celebrated as the 'birthday' of when God gave the Torah to Moses on Mount Sania (12). The ingathering of believers at Pentecost marks for us the 'birthday' of the Christian Church, and the invitation is open to all nations as demonstrated by the many present in Jerusalem at that time (13). Luke then records how all these "devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers" (14). This is something we still seek to do two millennia later as we believers gather together around the Lord's table to remember our Lord Jesus at our Holy Communion service until He comes again and this time in glory.

Luke in his account of the birth of the early Church said that "the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved" (15). Let us make this our prayer that we may see this taking place in our church as God sends His Holy Spirit of revival once again, and in our time.

Every blessing, Rev mike

1	Acts chapter 2	8	Acts 9v1-22
2	Acts 1v4-5	9	Acts 2v3-4
3	Acts 1v14	10	Exodus 34 v14-17
4	Matthew 27v3-10	11	Acts 2v41
5	Psalm 109v8	12	Exodus chapter 20
6	Acts 1v26	13	Acts 2v5
7	Luke 10v1-23	14	Acts 2v42
		15	Acts 2v47

Tales from the Tower

June's going to be a big month for Tavistock tower and its ringers.

On Saturday 22nd we will be hosting the Annual General Meeting and Festival of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers - and because Devon is a big county, this is quite a big guild with a wide membership. So there will (hopefully!) be lots of ringers in the town and around the church. And quite a lot of ringing, too!

Ringing guilds were formed mostly in the mid 19th century, often by clergy and landowners who were alarmed by the bad behaviour in belfries at the time (what could they have been doing!) and wanted to engage the minds of the ringers more beneficially by introducing them to the more difficult 'method' or 'scientific' ringing we enjoy in Tavistock today. (And our behaviour is impeccable of course, so it obviously worked!)

This year is a special one for the Devonshire Guild as it was formed in 1874 - do the sum - so yes, you got it, it's our 150th anniversary! What an honour to host it here.

There will be a number of ringing activities of which the general populace won't be aware at all, because the bells will be kept silent and the simulator used during such sessions as 'Raising and Lowering', 'Honing your Listening Skills', 'No Strings Attached - Handbell Ringing for Beginners' and the all-important 'Bell Maintenance' which is invariably carried out by the ringers themselves.

There will be strolls down Memory Lane, with senior Guild members giving their reminiscences of earlier times (I could tell them a story or two there!) and, of course there will be general open ringing, which everyone will be able to hear, followed by lunch (we're all involved in that, as it will be a Bring and Share) , a Service of Thanksgiving and then the AGM itself.

Oh, and an anniversary photograph. How could we not have an. Anniversary photograph!

It's going to be a busy day, with old friends meeting again and new friendships being forged. Look out for us in the church grounds, in the church itself and heading towards the Parish Centre for lunch and the meeting. We're a (fairly) happy crew, and our ages will range from around ten to ninety plus. Ringing is an activity that can start very very early in life and end very very late. And it's one of the great levellers, with its participants ranging from schoolchildren to teachers, doctors, farm workers, plumbers, engineers, famous gardeners and even the occasional author!

And we all know how to behave well in a belfry!

Donna Baker

Ask John – What is the difference between a Sect and a Cult?

Enquirer: Hi John. I have been seeing the JW stand a lot near the church recently.

John: Hello again. So I sense a question coming up.

Enquirer: Yes. Oh reverent brainbox. What is the difference between a Sect and a Cult?

John: Show some respect please.

Enquirer: And I don't want some convoluted reply. Nice and simple please.

John: Well it is simple – until you look a bit deeper. A Sect is a small group of people or subset of people, who have broken away from a larger group. They are usually very supportive of one another but are usually considered to hold heretical ideas by the larger group. A Cult is a group of any number of people who believe in a non-orthodox or extreme belief system. They

are usually held together by a very charismatic person and are rather suspicious of any outsider or disbeliever of their ideas.

Enquirer: Well I can understand that. So what is so difficult or non-simple?

John: The difficulty is where you draw the line of heresy. In the early days Christianity was considered a sect formed out of Judaism. Some even considered it a cult, especially by the Jewish zealots like Paul and by various Roman priests with their multitudinous gods and goddesses.

Enquirer: I hadn't thought about it that way, but I can see their point of view.

John: And then there are groups like the Mormons. That was most definitely considered a cult formed by Joseph Smith and built upon by Bringham Young, with some strange sounding ideas and practices. But as their numbers grew it became a mainstream religion in Utah.

Enquirer: That messes up my simple thinking.

John: It can be even more confusing when you realise that some congregations within an orthodox mainstream denomination, even the Church of England, can in fact be indistinguishable from a cult in operation when the vicar has a great 'presence'.

Enquire: I shouldn't have asked!

John: I tend to regard a cult as being very manipulative and controlling. If the overall effect of the group is to help its members stand on their own two feet and be self-determining, then even if they are small in numbers and regarded as a sect, then that is ok by me. But if the group holds members back by peer pressure or any kind of dictating by its leader, then that is a cult in my eyes, even if it is mainstream or orthodox in outward form and denies any cultlike label.

Enquirer: Then you better not be too forceful when in that pulpit!!

John: **Show more respect please**!!

John

WDC
WEST DEVON CHORALE

Director: Michael Graham

Saturday 8th June 2024
5.00pm
All Saints Parish Church
Okehampton EX20 1LE

"My spirit sang all day"

A Summer concert and "Meet the choir social"

including

Rutter - Birthday Madrigals

Chilcott - Little Jazz Mass

Partsongs and Madrigals

Tickets:

£16 (£15 in advance)

Students and under 18's £8

available at the church and by contacting 07731462412

Or online at www.wegottickets.com/westdevonchorale

admin@westdevonchorale.co.uk

We are recruiting

and would be delighted if you could join us after the concert for refreshments to meet the choir and our director and find out more about how to sing with us.

JUNE PRAYER DIARY

Saturday 1st – Saturday 8th

During Volunteers Week, we thank God for all volunteers in churches across Devon. We pray that we would all be inspired to serve others: "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." *(1 Peter 4:10)*

1. On the Global Day of Parents, we pray for parents and parental figures in our families and communities, and particularly for new parents, that you would sustain them in the highs and lows, may they reflect your love: 'See what great love the Father has lavished upon us, that we should be called children of God!' (1 John 3:1)

2. For the churches of the Torridge Mission Community, their clergy Martin Warren, Catherine Duff, LLMs Jon Berry, Sheila Deane, and for all who live and worship in Sheepwash, Shebbear, Petrockstowe, Petersmarland, Newton St Petrock, Merton, Langtree, Huish, and Buckland Filleigh.

3. In our link with Melanesia, of the most vulnerable regions in the world to natural disasters, we ask for God's blessing on this land, comfort those affected by earthquakes, volcanoes and climate change. May they find resilience and put their hope in you, Lord.

4. For the churches of the Torridge (Coastal) Mission Community, their clergy Jules Harris, Hilary Kemp, Ildiko Varadi-Luongo, LLMs Nigel Price, Jonathan Ellis, and for all who live and worship in Westward Ho!, Northam, Appledore, and Abbotsham.

5. On St Boniface Day, we remember the patron saint of Devon, who brought the good news to Germany and later gave his life for the gospel. We pray: 'As God gives us strength, in season and out of season, let us preach to the powerful and powerless alike, to rich and poor alike, to all people of every rank and of whatever age, the saving purposes of God' – Boniface of Crediton

6. On the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings, we remember those who lost their lives in Normandy. We pray for peace in our time, and for those suffering in conflicts around the world. Lord, have mercy.

7. For the churches of the Torridge and Taw Mission Community, their priest Chris Painter, LLMs Graham Prosser, Gerald Lush and for all who live and worship in Westleigh, Instow, and Fremington.

8. For the churches of the Torrington Mission Community, their priest Fr Steve Turner, and for all who live and worship in Little Torrington, Great Torrington, and Frithelstock.

Sunday 9th – Saturday 15th

During Carers' Week, we give thanks for all those who care for others in either paid or voluntary roles. We pray they would know the impact of their love and kindness towards those they care for, and that they would receive a renewal of energy from you, Lord.

9. For the St Boniface Awards Service taking place today, we give thanks for all those receiving the award which honours lay people who have made an outstanding contribution to the life of the Church in Devon. We pray you would continue to bless them in their ministry and service.

10. For the churches of the Totnes Mission Community, their clergy Jim Barlow, Deborah Parsons, Chris Martin, Christian Harris, Jane Frost, LLMs Tony Gregg, Jonathan Drummond-Smith, Richard Frost, Elizabeth Waterson, Alan Hill, Alison Fisher, and for all who live and worship in Totnes with Bridgetown, Stoke Gabriel, Marldon, Dartington, Cornworthy, Berry Pomeroy, and Ashprington.

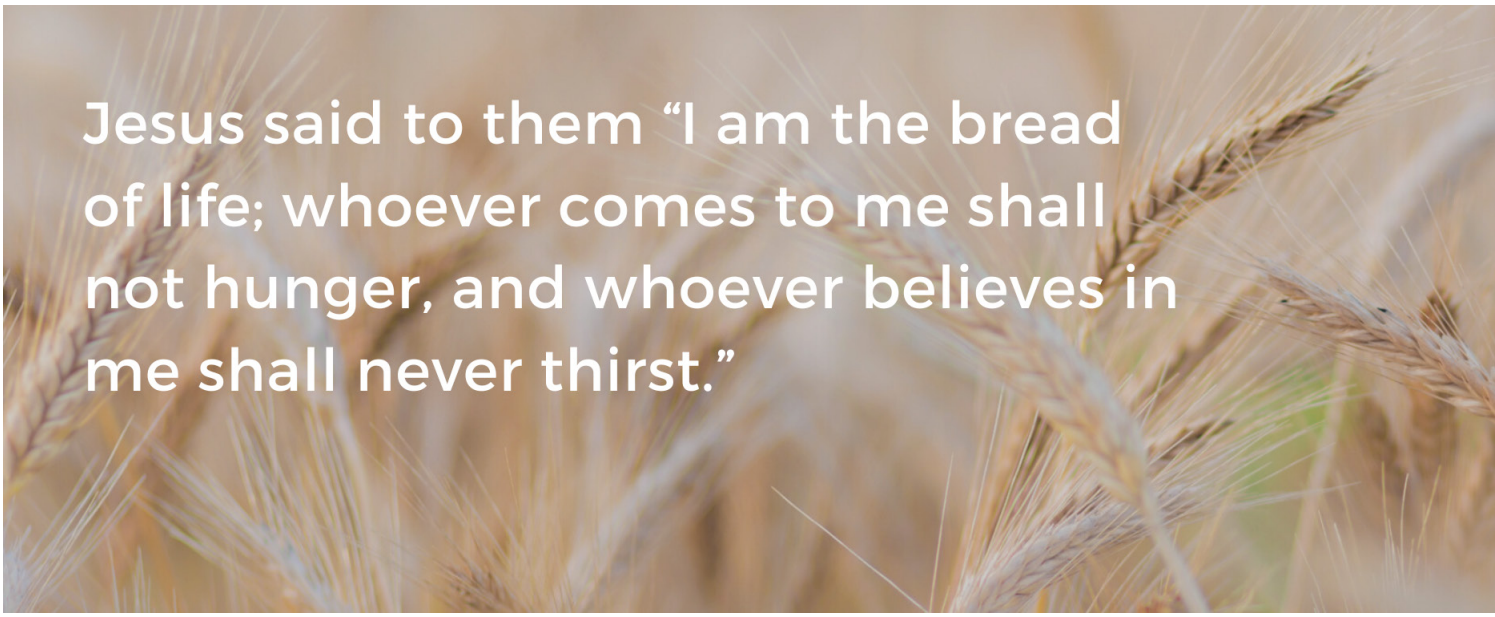
11. On the Feast Day of Barnabas the Apostle, 'the son of encouragement', we reflect on his journeys with Paul as they shared the Gospel with the Gentiles, facing many trials. We pray for the same boldness in our own witness, help us to trust in you, Holy Spirit.

12. For the Trinity Mission Community, it's clergy Jonny Elvin, Ollie Osborn, and for all who live and worship in Holy Trinity Exeter.

13. In our link with Cyprus and the Gulf, we pray for the Cathedral of St Paul, Nicosia and the Dean of the Cathedral, Jeremy Crocker. We give thanks for this relationship between our Dioceses, and pray we would never cease to give thanks for our church family in Cyprus and the Gulf, and around the world.

14. For the churches of the Two Rivers Mission Community, their clergy Cathy Gardiner, Gary Owen, Tracey Doyle, Julia Halpin, Ally Hope, LLMs Jacque Ward, Carol Wyatt, Tim Overton, David Halpin, and for all who live and worship in Yarnscombe, Tawstock, St Giles in the Wood, Roborough, Newton Tracey with Alverdiscott, Huntshaw, Horwood, High Bickington, Beaford, and Atherington.

15. For the churches of the Upper Culm Mission Community, their clergy Becky Totterdell, LLMs David Major, and for all who live and worship in Hemyock with Culm Davy, Culmstock, and Clayhidon.



Sunday 16th – Saturday 22nd

During Children's Hospice Week, we pray for children in hospice and palliative care across the UK. We give thanks for these services, providing vital support for seriously ill children and young people. We pray for your healing hand Lord, and that these children and their families would know the hope found in you.

16. On Father's Day, we give thanks for our fathers and pray for those who find this day difficult due to loss, estrangement or past pain. We give thanks, that we can draw close to our Father in Heaven whose love is steadfast and endures forever.

17. For the churches of the West Dartmoor Mission Community, their clergy Andrew Thomas, Miranda Donne, Philippa Bellows, LLM Martin Jury, and for all who live and worship in Yelverton, Walkhampton, Sheepstor, Sampford Spiney, Meavy, and Horrabridge.

18. In our link with the Diocese of Bayeux-Lisieux, we pray for all staff and students at The Normandy Institute of Religious Education as they continue to learn more about you. May they be filled with knowledge and wisdom of who you are.

19. For St Thomas Exeter, its clergy David Nixon, Mike Clark, Sarah Cumming, Alison Whiting, LLM Philip Baker, and for all who live and worship in Saint Thomas Exeter.

20. On World Refugee Day, we pray for all those fleeing from conflict, oppression, and injustice. We lament the lives of refugees that have been lost, and we give thanks for organisations and individuals supporting those without a place to rest their head.

21. For the churches of the Whiddon Mission Community, their clergy Nick McKinnel, David Spence, Sue Sheppard, Harriet Every, LLW Wes Cutler, LLMs Kay Pyne, Jill Hobbs, Jeanette Wilmot, and for all who live and worship in Spreyton, South Tawton, Sampford Courtenay, North Tawton, North Bovey, Moretonhampstead, Manaton, Lustleigh, Honeychurch, Hittisleigh, Gidleigh with Throwleigh, Drewsteignton, Chagford, and Bondleigh.

22. For the churches of the White Cross Mission Community, LLM Christine Grist, and for all who live and worship in Woodbury with Exton, Woodbury Salterton, Farringdon, Clyst St Mary, Clyst St George, and Aylesbeare.

Sunday 23rd – Sunday 30th

This week, on the Feast Day of Peter and Paul, we remember your apostles, whom you appointed as leaders of your church, who preached that you are Lord and Saviour, and who gave their lives for your gospel. May we be inspired by their devotion and listen carefully to your word spoken through them.

23. For all those being ordained as priests across the Diocese this weekend. We give thanks for their ministry and pray that you continue to grow them in wisdom and love, may they be examples to the flock and find joy in serving as priests in your church.

24. As we remember the birth of John the Baptist, who was foretold to "make ready a people prepared for the Lord" (Luke 1:17) we give thanks for John the Baptist's ministry, which ultimately cost him his life. May we be inspired by his faith.

25. For the churches of the Winkleigh Mission Community, their clergy Helen Blaine, and for all who live and worship in Winkleigh, Brushford, Broadwood Kelly, and Ashreigney.

26. For the churches of the Withycombe Raleigh with Exmouth Mission Community, their priest Robert Sellers, and for all who live and worship in Withycombe Raleigh and Exmouth.

27. In our link with Thika, we pray for the Hesabika Trust calling on Christians to stand up and be counted in all sectors of society, we pray you would fill all your people with boldness to be your witnesses.

28. For the churches of the Yealm and Erme Mission Community, their priest Kim Lovell, LLM Tricia Stringer, and for all who live and worship in Yealmpton, Wembury, Revelstoke, Newton Ferrers, Holbeton, and Brixton.

29. For all those being ordained as Deacons today at Exeter Cathedral, we give thanks for their commitment to your church. As you send them out Lord, we pray they would be led by the Holy Spirit and fixed on you as they serve the people of Devon with joy.

30. For the churches of the Alphington Mission Community, their priest Mike Partridge, Adrian Butland, LLMs Ruth Ramsbottom, Anthony Cummings, Lesley Phillips-Cannon, and for all who live and worship in Shillingford St George, Ide, and Alphington.

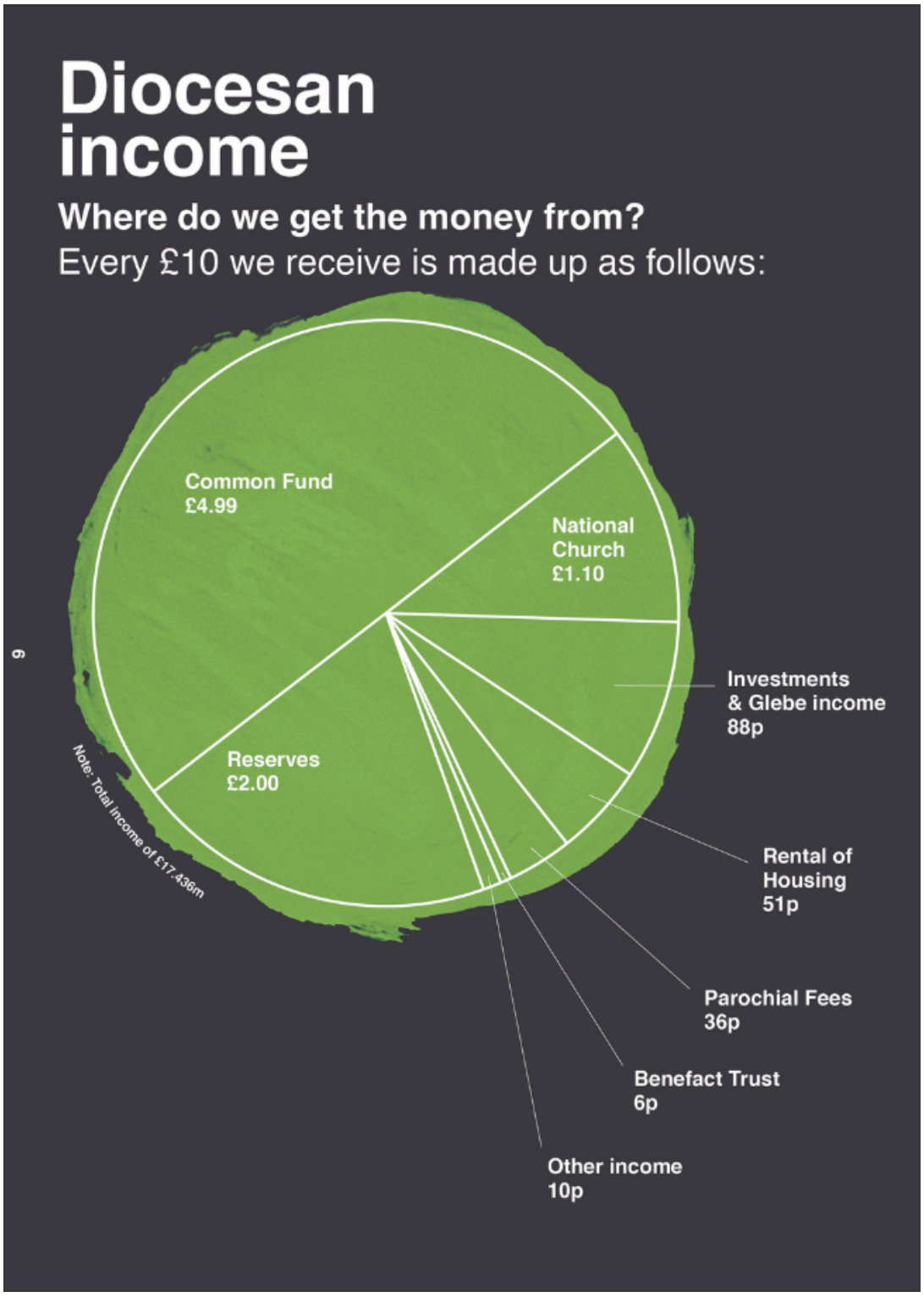
Amen.

DIOCESE OF EXETER
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN DEVON

Information included in this prayer diary is taken from the diocesan database where clergy and Licenced Lay Ministers (LLMs) have given permission to use details which are accurate at the time of publication. If there are any changes please email: operations@exeter.anglican.org

Common Fund 2024

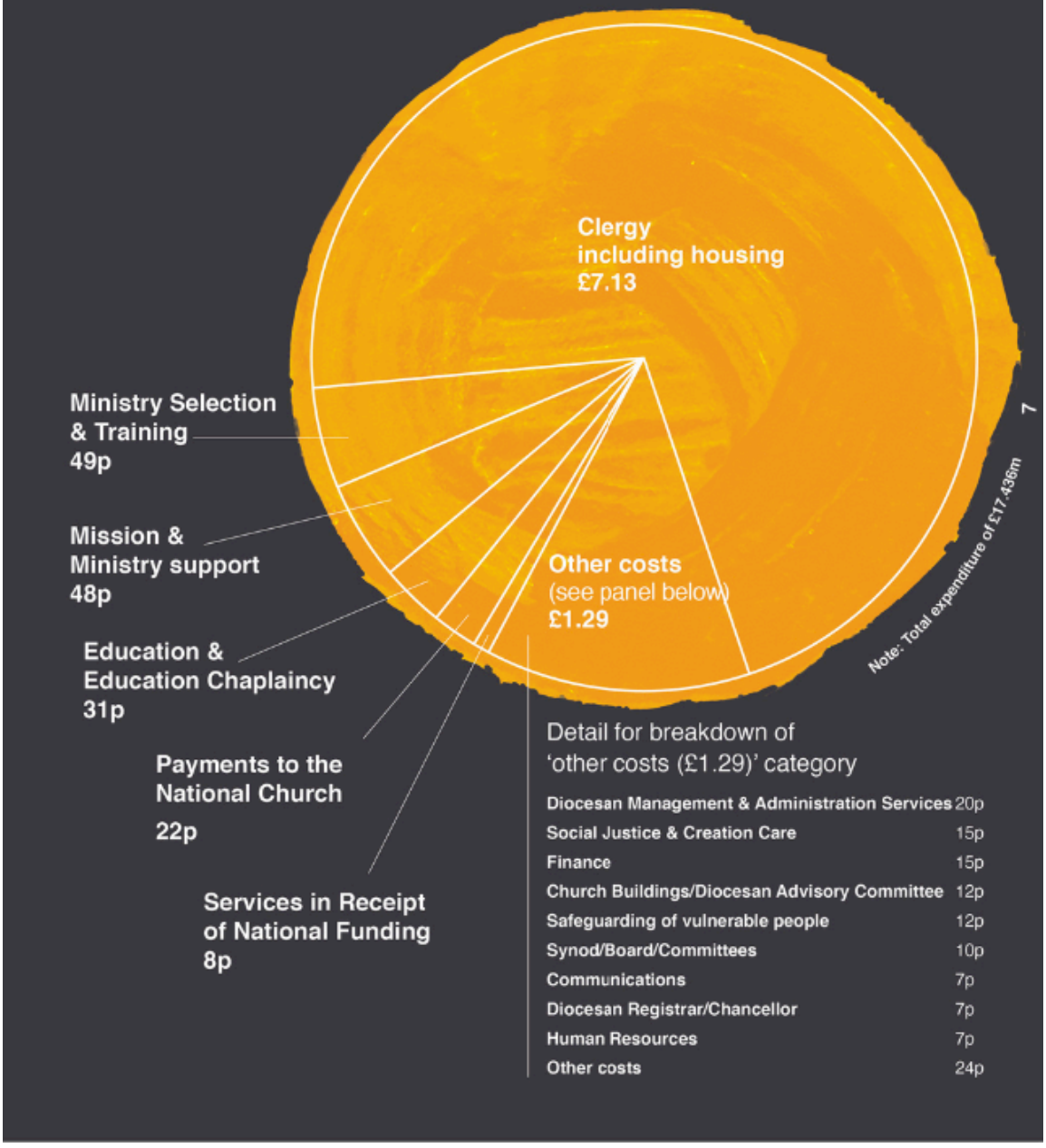
The Common Fund in the Church of England is the funding that goes from Parishes to their Diocese in order to fund expenditure at the Diocesan level, much of which is in support of the Parishes - such as clergy salary, housing and training. The Diocese of Exeter have produced a leaflet 'Common Fund 2024' which explains in detail how the amount of Common Fund due from a Parish is calculated, how that sits within the total income for the Diocese and what the Diocese expenditure is. Below are two extracts from this leaflet detailing that income and expenditure. The full leaflet is available though our church website **www.tavistockparishchurch.org.uk.**



Diocesan Expenditure

Where do we spend the money we receive?

Every £10 we receive is spent as follows:



Detail for breakdown of 'other costs (£1.29)' category

Diocesan Management & Administration Services	20p
Social Justice & Creation Care	15p
Finance	15p
Church Buildings/Diocesan Advisory Committee	12p
Safeguarding of vulnerable people	12p
Synod/Board/Committees	10p
Communications	7p
Diocesan Registrar/Chancellor	7p
Human Resources	7p
Other costs	24p

Gulworthy News for June

Firstly - many thanks indeed to Sian for the May newsletter from Gulworthy. There certainly were a lot of exciting things going on at St Paul's in April with our family service, the hosting of the united benefice service and the new term for Open the Book at Gulworthy School.

John and I had a fabulous and fascinating time in Southern India. So many sights, sounds and smells to take in. We felt very privileged to be able to go so far afield and to somewhere so very different to West Devon and it was made even more extraordinary when we discovered that our "tour group" consisted of us, a guide and a driver! There were so many highlights, but perhaps, joining with many hundreds of people as the Hindu priests prepared for a once-a-year ceremony in the extraordinary, highly coloured Meenakshi Amman Temple in Madurai was amongst one of the most extraordinary. All the decorations were made of fresh flowers and both the sacred bull and the temple Elephant were adorned with garlands. The smell of jasmine was everywhere and despite the crowds, no-one jostled but instead gave each other a chance to see the sanctuary and the statues and to worship.

Back in Gulworthy and back with our friends and family, we were a little chilly for a week but it now looks like Spring has finally arrived and once the rain stopped, the bluebells exploded into colour in all the devon banks and in the churchyard.

For those of us who grow flowers or veg and more particularly, for our local farmers it has been a trying late April early May. Very cold and very wet, nothing seemed to want to grow and certainly not germinate! Now that it's getting warmer, things are growing but the slugs are rampaging! If anyone has tried and tested 100% effective ways of dealing with slugs PLEASE share!!!

Finally – on 16th May we had our annual parish meeting (APCM) at St Paul's. Every Parish in the country will have this yearly meeting where all in the parish are invited to hear what has been going on throughout the year; what areas the church supports and where we hope to be in the future. St Paul's produces a printed report and if anyone would like a digital or printed copy of 2023/4, please do let me know. My email is below. We are in a good place with our worship, outreach and safeguarding, though, like many parishes, we struggle with finances but we have a small but enthusiastic congregation who support our churchwardens Roy and Viv and who are ready to weed, clean, polish and hoover at the drop of a hat. We also have a growing list of lay people who write the intercessions for our Sunday services and a small but growing group of parents and children who regularly attend our monthly family services. We gained a new volunteer to join our PCC which boosted our numbers by 10%!so we now have 10 members which is good for a parish of our size.

Our plans for the toilet and servery are one step nearer with there being no objections to our planned scheme from the Victorian Society or English Heritage. Once we have tweaked the design, the final decision lies with the DAC and we will then be able to look to fundraising.

Thanks to everyone who helps to keep St Paul's a place of warm welcome and beauty. We are immensely grateful for all the help we receive but if there is anyone in the parish who feels they would like to do more in the church, please do come forward – you would be most welcome.

Gill Reed (smallmammal@hotmail.co.uk)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 28th July – Annual Gulworthy Fete and Dog Show. Venue - School playing field. Time tbc

---

Senior Clergy Reflection – June 2024

Rev'd Canon Cate Edmonds, Canon Steward, Exeter Cathedral

'And he said to them: "Go into the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation."' *(Mark 16:15)*

The ascension of Jesus has taken place; forty days after the Easter celebrations, we have celebrated the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and the Easter liturgical season of Eastertide is now complete. We now pass into, what is known as, Ordinary time, where vestments and hangings are changed to green.

Green is a sign of life in nature and as such it represents growth, life, and hope. Renewed with the Holy Spirit, it is a time to develop, grow in faith, and encourage others to do so. Like the new shoots we see in nature at this time of year, we pray for new shoots of faith.

I think it is unfortunate that this period of renewal and growth is referred to as "ordinary". It should be anything but ordinary. As the risen Christ left his disciples at the Ascension, he ordered them to go into the world and proclaim the good news to the whole of creation. He didn't tell them to carry on as they were or to go back to their previous lives. He commanded them to go out, to bring new life and his message is for us as well.

How we will be doing that will be different for each of us in our specific situations, but the command is there. This is not a time for us to drop back into our usual routines now that the Eastertide celebrations are over and rest until we prepare for Advent and Christmas. It is time for us to be energised, just as creation around us is springing forth and developing into new life. It's a time for us to be inspired to bring love and hope into our troubled world, hard though that may be at times. But we have the knowledge, through Jesus Christ, that we are supported by the unconditional love of God. So, are we going to be withered dried up stalks or inspired by the Holy Spirit to be bright vigorous new green shoots of faith?

Tavistock Parish Public Events for June

June 2024 (events are in the Parish Centre unless otherwise stated)		
Tues 4	**9.30 - 11 am**	**Little Deers Baby and Toddler Group**
Wed 5	**2-4 pm**	**Handicraft Group**
Fri 7	**10 am - 12 noon**	**Friendly Fridays (St E. Church)**
Mon 10	**2.30 - 4.30 pm**	**Prayer and Stillness Group**
Wed 12	**2-4 pm**	**Handicraft Group**
Tues 11	**9.30 - 11 am**	**Little Deers Baby and Toddler Group**
Fri 14	**10 am - 12 noon**	**Friendly Fridays (St E. Church)**
	pm	**Chelsea Tea Party**
Mon 17	**10 am - 2 pm**	**Warm Welcome**
Tues 18	**9.30 - 11 am**	**Little Deers Baby and Toddler Group**
Thur 20	**2 - 4 pm**	**Bereavement Group**
Fri 21	**10 am - 12 noon**	**Friendly Fridays (St E. Church)**
Tues 25	**9.30 - 11 am**	**Little Deers Baby and Toddler Group**
Wed 26	**2-4 pm**	**Handicraft Group**
Fri 28	**10 am - 12 noon**	**Friendly Fridays (St E. Church)**

Hymn for the Month: ‘Take my life, and let it be’

My offering for this month is ‘Take My Life, and Let It Be’ by one of the finest Victorian hymn-writers, Frances Ridley Havergal (1836–1879).

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine;
It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart; it is thine own;
It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee.

This beautiful hymn expresses Havergal’s ardent longing for a life wholly dedicated to the service of God. Each couplet begins with the word ‘take’: take my life, my time, my hands, my feet, my voice, my lips, my money, my intellect, my will, my heart, my love, myself—all are ‘consecrated, Lord, to thee’. There are allusions to Isaiah 52:7 (‘how beautiful … are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings’), and to the story in Luke 7:37-8 of the woman pouring out her ‘treasure-store’—her alabaster box of ointment—at the feet of Jesus. When ‘Take my life’ was published in *Loyal Responses* (1878), a collection of Havergal’s poems, it was entitled

‘Consecration Hymn’, and was headed by a quotation from the Holy Communion service in the Book of Common Prayer: ‘Here we offer and present unto Thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice unto Thee’ (a re-wording of Romans 12:1).

The youngest daughter of the Revd William Henry Havergal (1793-1870) rector of Astley, Worcestershire, Havergal was writing fluent verse from the age of seven. She was a talented musician (like her father) and was also a good swimmer and energetic mountain climber. Someone who met her when she was 19 said that when Frances entered the room, she ‘flashed in like a burst of sunshine, like a hillside breeze’. Sadly, this exceptionally gifted woman died of typhoid fever in 1879, at the age of 42.

As a devout Evangelical, Havergal’s life was wholly committed to religious and philanthropic work (she turned down several offers of marriage). She described how she came to write ‘Take my life’ in February 1874 on the last night of a joyous weekend visit to friends where she felt that God had been working through her to bless others. ‘I was too happy to sleep, and spent most of the night in praise and renewal of my own consecration. These little couplets formed themselves and chimed in my heart one after another till they finished with “ever, only, all for thee”.’ ‘Take my life’ is a hymn of high aspiration, often sung at confirmation or at other services of commitment or re-dedication. In singing it we too are praying that God will take the talents we have and use them in his service.

Havergal originally intended her hymn to be sung to ‘Patmos’, a tune earlier composed by her father, but over the years it has been sung to several different tunes. The most moving and inspirational of these is ‘Nottingham’, from the ‘Kyrie eleison’ of the *Twelfth Mass*, once thought to be by Mozart but now generally attributed to a prolific Austrian composer, Wenzel Müller (1747-1835). Of many available performances on YouTube, I particularly like the beautifully expressive one by Saint Michael’s Singers, recorded in 2008.

Bob Owens

Exon Festival 2024

THE Exon SINGERS

Choral and Classical Music in the Heart of West Devon

Artistic Director | Joseph Judge Accompanist | Neil Taylor

56th Summer Festival 24 - 28 July 2024

24 WED — **MOZART AND VIVALDI with The Haldon Quartet**
Vivaldi *Gloria* | Mozart *Coronation Mass*
7.30pm | £15 / U18 free

25 THU

THE HALDON QUARTET
Schubert, Shaw, Devon Folk Music
1.10pm | Free, with retiring collection

ALL MY PAST AND FUTURES
Expressive, unaccompanied choral music
7.30pm | £15 / U18 free

COMPLINE BY CANDLELIGHT
9.00pm | Free

26 FRI — **FROM RENAISSANCE TO RADIOHEAD**
1.10pm | Free (after admission to grounds)
The Great Barn, National Trust Buckland Abbey

ORGAN RECITAL | NEIL TAYLOR
1.10pm | Free, with retiring collection
Tavistock Parish Church

CHORAL WORKSHOP | RUTTER GLORIA
Join us for this and the joint performance on Saturday
6.30pm - 8.30pm | £25 (Fri+Sat inc. concert ticket) £10 (Fri only) / U18 free

27 SAT

HYMN TO THE SUN with Bristol Brass Consort
John Rutter *Gloria* | Jonathan Dove *The Passing of the Year*
7.30pm | £18 / U18 free

28 SUN — **FESTIVAL EUCHARIST**
9.45am | Free

Events take place at St Eustachius Parish Church, Tavistock unless otherwise listed

Tickets available on the door or in advance via tickets@exonsingers.org.uk
exonsingers.org.uk

Concerts in 2024

All concerts are in St Eustachius' unless stated:

Sat 15th Jun at 12.30 pm: Lunchtime Charity Concert, Mozart and Rossini

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

Wed 17th Jul at 7.30 pm: Tavistock Lions Carnival Evening Concert – performances by Stannary Brass Band, Blowzone and Jack of All Trades

Wed 24 Jul to Sun 28 Jul: Exon Singers:

Wed 24th Jul at 7.30 pm: Exon Singers with The Haldon Quartet: Mozart/Vivaldi

Thur 25th Jul at 1.10 pm: The Haldon Quartet Lunchtime Concert

Thur 25th Jul at 7.30 pm: Exon Singers a capella: "All my Past and Futures"

Thur 25th Jul at 9.00 pm: Compline by Candlelight

Fri 26th Jul at 1.10 pm: Exon Singers AT Nat Trust BUCKLAND ABBEY

Fri 26th Jul at 1.10 pm: Neil Taylor Organ Recital

Fri 26th Jul at 6.30 to 8.30 pm: Choral Workshop on Rutter's Gloria (for concert 27th Jul)

Sat 27th Jul: afternoon rehearsal and 7.30 pm Concert: Exon Singers with the Bristol Brass Consort

Sun 28th Jul: 9.45 am Exon Singers accompanied Choral Eucharist in St Eustachius'

Sat 28th Sep at 7.00: 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

---

Lunchtime Charity Concert

Saturday, June 15th @12:30pm

MOZART

Tavistock Parish Church
5A Plymouth Rd
Tavistock
PL19 8AU

ROSSINI

Iryna Ilnytska – Mezzo-soprano
Oly Obertas – Soprano
John Draisey – Baritone & Piano
Richard Lucas – Piano

Arias, duets, trios from Rossini & Mozart's operas "Il Barbiere di Siviglia", "Le nozze di Figaro", "La Cenerentola", "Don Giovanni", "Così fan tutte", "Tancredi", "La clemenza di Tito", as well as piano solo & duet masterpieces.

Free entry with retiring collection.
All collections will be forwarded to Ukrainian volunteers and Nalwanza Secondary School in Uganda.

A Closing Prayer for June

Creator God,
Whose being encompasses all,
Who excludes no-one and no-thing,
we pray for our community
for all those whose joys and worries, hopes and fears
inhabit these buildings and walk these streets.
Pour out your blessing we ask
and may Your Holy Spirit be both guardian and guide
in the ceaseless activities of town and community.
This we ask in the name of Christ,
Amen.

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**

Director of Music – 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**