

Prayer for May:

LEST WE FORGET

75 years since the end of hostilities in Europe, was to be the last celebration and acknowledgement for soldiers who fought in WW2
A Bank holiday was assigned to be a thank you to all. Covid 19 had other ideas.

May 8 will just be another Friday, like all those who have happened since the Lock Down. Let us, who have benefited from their heroism and sacrifice, give thanks to Almighty God for the men and women of the Armed Forces, and all the civilians, air raid wardens, doctors and nurses, miners and factory workers, farmers, all who kept the home fires burning. Let us beseech God that such a conflict may never happen again, Amen

Loving Father, in your great mercy, grant that the efforts of all in modern medicine may come to fruition, and that this pandemic may end. Give comfort to all the bereaved, calm the fears of all, and especially, the young. We thank you for all members of the NHS, working for all of us, in so many capacities and with so much courage. May we stand firm, trusting in your boundless love, Amen

If anyone would like to contribute a prayer for the PewNews, please send it to Brenda before the deadline for that month. Thank you, Margaret and Brenda

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PewNews



The Camel-Allen Benefice : Lanteglos-by-Camelford, Advent, St Teath and Delabole

May 2020

What strange days we are living through! By the time you read this we will be nearly at the end of 6 weeks of lock-down and we may be facing more. In recent weeks we have seen terrible things: a huge death toll; tens of thousands in hospital and sadly some shockingly selfish behaviour; but we've also witnessed, and in many cases personally experienced, amazing support, sacrificial care and overwhelming kindness too. I have been particularly struck by the tremendous efforts of our small local shops who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in order to look after us. Thank you to our shop-workers, to our posties, bin-men and others maintaining essential services and of course to all those in the health and care sectors. You are all amazing!

Many people, and not just church-goers, have been shocked by the closure of our churches in common with most churches of all denominations around the country and the meeting places of other faiths too. Worship services have been suspended until further notice of course and we are forbidden to gather in groups of more than 2 outside our own household anyway, but a number have wondered why our churches couldn't stay open for private prayer at least, so we could have popped-in found comfort in the course of our daily exercise?

The Bishops and Archbishops thought long and hard over this, they have said, and, in the end, decided that it was important to re-inforce the government instructions to stay at home; that all church-goers, clergy included, should be seen to identify with the restrictions and isolation that everyone is facing (after all we can't pop into the pub or the café either)

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and to protect one-another by restricting the spread of the virus which can remain on hard surfaces for some days - we could not clean every surface in the church, after every visit, or even every day.

The church building may be closed but the Church is *not* shutdown. The Church is the people, not the building. People sometimes tell me, 'I don't have to go to church to be a Christian', well absolutely! Now we can demonstrate our faith in other ways: by worshipping and praying in our homes; by serving and caring for one another and all in our community; by giving to the most vulnerable and those in need; by sharing our faith that God is with us in all this mess and sorrow and upheaval.

Many of the props of our faith have been removed. This may turn out to be a blessing in disguise, a 'severe mercy', as we learn afresh to rely on God directly rather than via our friends, our church or our leaders. And as we seek God in our isolation, the words of that lovely hymn are as true as when we sing it together: Be still for the presence of the Lord, the holy one is here - here with us, here in our homes, God is here too.

Stay safe, stay strong, stay faith-full.
With love and prayers, **Angela** (Rector)



A free phoneline of hymns,
reflections and prayers



The Camel-Allen Benefice

Resources for prayer and worship

At 10.00am each day we are invited to pause to pray - last month in Pew News there was a short order for daily prayer or you might like to use the order for MP (see details of App below) or simply pray in your own words - if 10.00am doesn't work for you pray when you can. The Church of England has published a small booklet, **Prayers - For use during the coronavirus outbreak** - which includes a short order for morning and evening prayer. If you would like a copy, please contact Angela.

At 10.00am each Sunday we may share in a short service which is prepared by one of our Ministry Team and sent out along with prayer requests, by email or post each week. If you are not receiving this please contact Angela with your contact details.

If you would like prayer for yourself or someone you are concerned about, or if you or someone you know needs practical help, please do get in touch.

We have a new Facebook group *Camel-Allen Churches* which we'd love you to join and a website, which is a bit of a work in progress, but is coming on www.camelallenchurches.org

There are many options on line:

On the Truro diocese website www.trurodiocese.org you can access services recorded at home by Bishop Philip and his wife, Ruth. From 8.00am each Sunday a service of Morning Prayer and from later an informal, interactive, all-age service which is streamed live at 9.30am on the Truro Diocese facebook page. The video recording can be watched subsequently at any time.

Also on the diocesan website are links to other live or recorded services around the Diocese. Why not try something?

On the Church of England website www.churchofengland.org there are many other resources including a Sunday Service at 11.00am each week. The daily prayer App is also worth a look, free to download a number of us already use it for daily prayer each morning.

On BBC Radio 4 there is a service at 9.00am each Sunday and on **BBC One** the service is at 11.00am.

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PRAYER

Loving God,

We pray for all those who are suffering because of the coronavirus, may they know your healing power.

When we are afraid for ourselves and our loved ones, give us your strength and courage.

When we feel alone and isolated, reassure us with a sense of your presence.

Give wisdom to those in authority and may our community work together for the good of all.

We give thanks for those who care for others and ask you to bless them in all they do.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, healer and physician.

Amen



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*Be still for the presence of the Lord
The holy one is here
Come bow before him now
With reverence and fear
In him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground
Be still for the presence of the Lord
The holy one is here*

*Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around
He burns with holy fire
With splendour he is crowned
How awesome is the sight
Our radiant king of light
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around*

*Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place
He comes to cleanse and heal
To minister his grace
No work too hard for him
In faith receive from him
Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place*

**The deadline for June's PewNews is Friday 22 May
Brenda 01840 212023**

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Camel-Allen Benefice Sunday Readings in May

Sunday 3 May Easter 4

All public services have been suspended on the instruction of the Archbishops until further notice.

Acts 2 : 42-47
Genesis 7 : 1-24
Psalm 23
1 Peter 2 : 19-25
John 10 : 1-10

Sunday 10 May

Easter 5

Acts 7: 55-60
Genesis 8 : 1-19 Psalm 31.1-5
1 Peter 2 : 2-10
John 14 : 1-14

Sunday 17 May

Easter 6

Acts 17 : 22-31
Genesis 8 : 20-9 : 17 Psalm 66.7-end
1 Peter 3 : 13-18
John 14 : 15-21

Thursday 21 May
Ascension Day

Acts 1 : 1-11
Daniel 7 : 9-14 Psalm 47
Ephesians 1 : 15-23
Luke 24 : 44-53

Sunday 24 May
Easter 7

Acts 1: 6-14
Ezekiel 36: 24-28 Psalm 68.1-10
1Peter 4: 12-14,5: 6-11
John 17: 1-11

Sunday 31 May
PENTECOST

Acts 2 : 1-21
Numbers 11 : 24-30
1 Corinthians 12 : 3-13
John 20 : 19-23 OR John 7 : 37-39

The Fascination of a Bird Feeder

We have thankfully, bid adieu to the Starling Mafia and we have thwarted the squirrel, who could empty a full hanging feeder in 15 minutes.

Our hearts have been raised by the female blackbird and thrush, who have mastered the art of jumping off a balustrade up to the fat ball squares, to get a beak-ful, and then jumping down to eat up the bits which have fallen. The males just wait on the ground for the crumbs!

The robin, who thinks he's a humming bird, the robin who has actually mastered the art of clinging to the frame to get beak-fuls of food, whilst the chaffinches join the male blackbirds on the ground.

Nuthatches are bossy! All the birds bring joy. The green finches, the long tailed tits, who bring the whole family, the coal tits, the great tits, the blue tits, the very fleeting gold finches and the wrens.

We are not as welcoming to pigeons, nor the single crow, who flew off with a great beak-ful.

These wonderful creatures of God's creation are little pin-pricks of light in the tunnel we are in, and we can see a pinprick of light which is the end of this long tunnel. I think of those who see no light because their tunnel is a winding one, and so few birds or the signs that Spring is here.

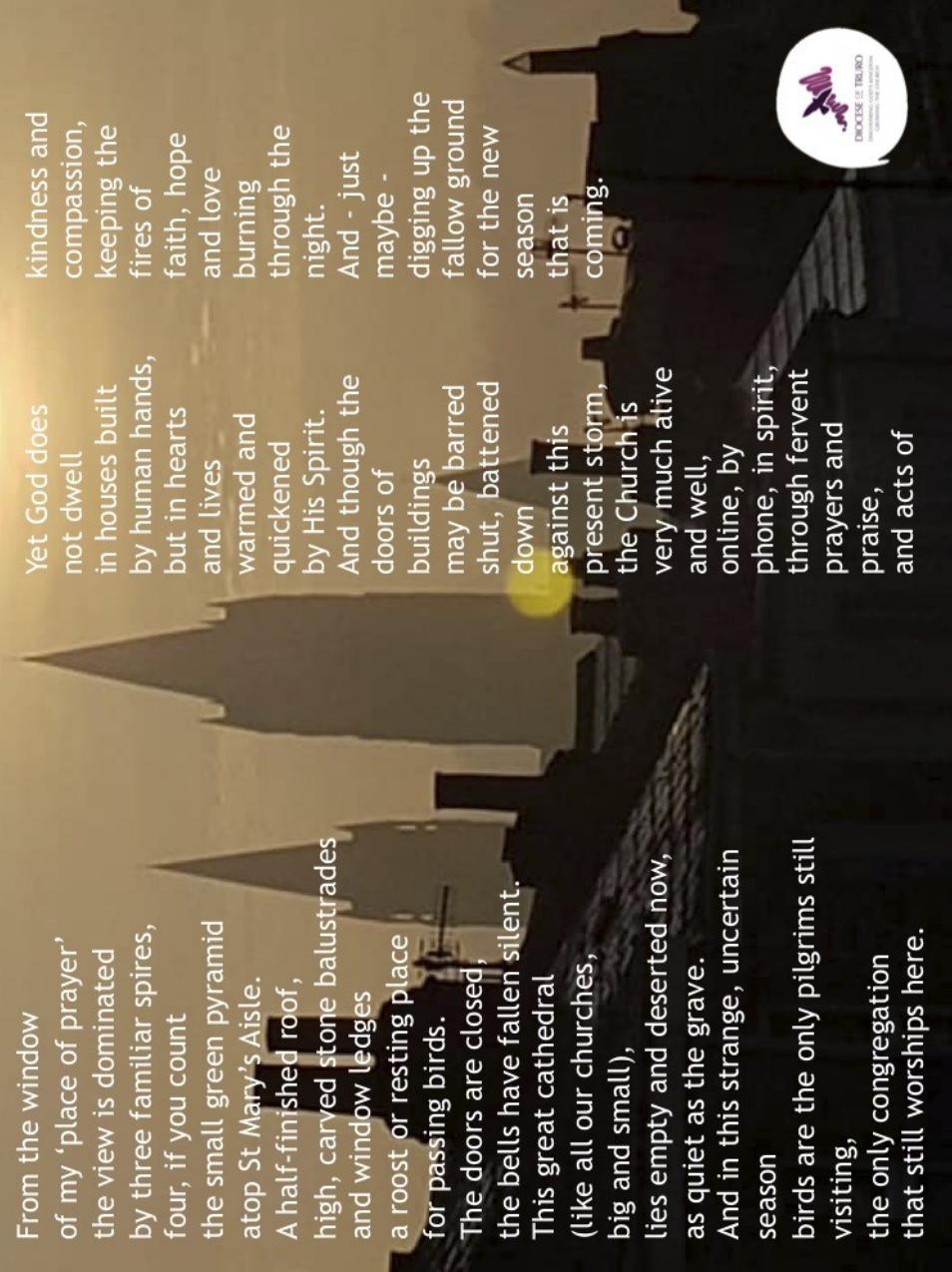
We thank God for the wonders of His Creation.

Dear friends, we miss you, and pray that all is well. The Benefice Celebration, when the tunnel is behind us, and only a memory, that service will be so wonderful. May God, in the meantime, continue to give us all strength and patience.

Brenda



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Update on Restoration Progress at St Julitta's

Although the major structural work has been carried out, there are still other issues to complete in order to comply with the requirements of the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF). Most recently, the car parking area has been converted from a muddy parking risk to a smart tarmac area and a cabin has been built for storage of churchyard equipment on one side and a composting toilet on the other. The latter is yet to be fitted. The cabin is now painted black and is much less noticeable as you can see.

A major conference was planned for this month to cover aspects of the restoration and also to put the church in the context of its long history and its surrounding landscape. Top experts had agreed to speak but then the conference had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. Instead a book will be published with what the speakers would have said. It should be published next month.

During a winter gale the main noticeboard at Lanteglos blew into the road and a car finished it off - although it was rather rotten anyway. The NLHF had already agreed to fund an updated board and this has now arrived, but some modifications are needed before it can be put up. If it were up now it would say that the churchyard is open for exercise and is looking especially beautiful at this time of year as the flowers and blossom are at their best.

Although we are reaching the end of the current restoration effort, we will need to start fund raising again soon because the 300 year old bells and the 500 year old window mullions need major help in places. But this is for another day.



The Camel-Allen Benefice



St Julitta's Bell Tower

An important part of the restoration project was to raise the bell ringers floor in the tower and create a kitchenette underneath. This was the idea of Ned Dennis many years ago and he left a generous bequest for this to be constructed. There are now stairs up to the new bell ringers floor and the frosted orange coloured glass has been removed so that the bell ringers skill will be on full view from the nave. Also the attractive stained glass window above the west door can now be clearly seen.

John



The Camel-Allen Benefice

St Teath During Lock Down. What have we been doing?

On Easter Sunday Kerry at the café, together with her staff, made 100 parcels consisting of jam, cream, scones, cake and other goodies to distribute to people in the village. Her team worked from early in the morning to make up the parcels and delivered them to people in the village. There was no charge, just a donation of what they could afford, and £1150 was collected and given to the Cornwall NHS.

Others in the village have also been helping in a variety of ways; making scrubs, scrub bags, face masks, cooking and taking food to people and shopping. Lynne in the shop has been delivering goods to those unable to go out shopping and we are very grateful for all that she is doing.

Angela has always been willing to give help wherever it was needed and was allowed to do so. She has kept I touch with people by phone and e-mail. She has set up a Facebook page, Camel-Allen Churches, so that those who wish can keep in touch. Jeffery, our curate, although very new puts regular updates on Facebook for us all. Angela and Claire put together a Sunday Service each Sunday and this is available by e-mail and she posts it to those unable to connect.

There has been one funeral in the village, not Covid 19; Veronica Cole of Bryony Close and she is to be buried in the cemetery. Liz Miskin was unable to attend the funeral of her brother in Kent who had been suffering with Parkinson's disease and leukaemia.

Although there have been no cases of the virus in the village some people have had relatives and friends who have been ill and recovered or are recovering. We wish all of them well.

We wish to thank all those working so hard in whatever way they can to overcome this virus. Those who have contact with the very ill and those who working to make PPE equipment to keep them safe. We appreciate all that is being done to keep us safe. **THANK YOU.**

Yvonne

The Camel-Allen Benefice