

# MINISTRY MATTERS FROM OUR DIOCESE



Welcome to Ministry Matters from the Diocese of Truro ministry team

Updating you on Ministry news within the diocese, together with information and links to learning opportunities

## PREPARING FOR LENT

Below are suggestions to help you prepare for Lent 2024.

The Church of England's Lent theme for 2024 is **Watch and Pray**: Wisdom and hope for Lent and life. Printed resources are available to pre-order from **Church House Publishing**. There is also a **webinar** on 24 January where you can hear more about the Watch and Pray theme and everything that is available to support you and your church as you prepare for Lent.

**The Clewer Initiative** has worked closely with the World Council of Churches to create an international Lent Resource, entitled **True Freedom**.

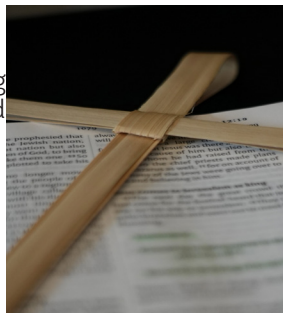
True Freedom is a six week course that draws on themes from the book of Galatians, and is designed to encourage individuals and churches to respond to modern slavery in their communities. The course is supported by **Mothers' Union**. Mothers' Union also produce a **year-long prayer diary**.

**Eden** has a number of **resources** available to help you prepare for Lent 2024.

The 2024 **Bloomsbury Lent Book** 'Lent with the Beloved Disciple' by Michael Marshall, invites you on a six-week journey in the company of the 'beloved disciple' as found in the narrative of the Gospel of St John. This book is ideal for individual use and small groups.

**Christian Aid** has teamed up with partner organisations across the UK to create '**Act on Poverty**', a six part series to help

churches gain a deeper understanding of poverty and to empower Christians to act in the run up to the next UK general election.



**Churches Together** has a number of Lent resources available to download from previous years. They are available on their website **here**.

Sign up for **The Lent Encounter 2024 - The shadow of the cross** from the Bible Society and receive a daily devotion by email with the option to listen to the words being read out by the author.

**Green Christian's** five week Lent course, **Calling a Wounded Planet Home**, is now available for churches to use. Inspired by Green Christian's Deep Waters course, it asks "What kind of people might we need to be to face the challenges of climate change?"

**Church Times** is running an online retreat on Saturday, February 10, 10am-1pm in preparation for Lent entitled '**Companions on the Way**'. The retreat offers a morning of worship and reflection. Speakers include Jay Hulme, Rachel Mann, Rob Marshall and Nick Papadopoulos. Opening and closing worship with Richard Carter and the St Martin's Voices. In association with Canterbury Press. Please note, there is a fee for this event,

### CAN A TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH WORK IN THE CHURCH CONTEXT?

**Monday, March 18, 9.30am -2.30pm  
Truro Cathedral**

A chance to hear from Victims, Survivors, and experts in their respective fields on how the church can implement a Trauma Informed Response, drawing on lessons from evolving responses in Schools, and within responses to Domestic abuse.

Aimed at Church House and Cathedral Staff and volunteers, Clergy, Ordinands, Lay Leadership, Churchwardens and PSO's and others whose work links them with the Church and its safeguarding responses including professional partners.

Free to attend.

**BOOK HERE**

The purpose of the **Vocations and Ministry Team** is to encourage, enable and "equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ".  
Ephesians 4:12

**Read more about the work we do here**

# CMD PROGRAMME 2024

## Mental Health First Aid - one day course

**Tuesday, 30 January**  
**9.30am-4.15pm, Epiphany House**  
**Led by Healthy Cornwall**

An awareness and skills course which will teach you to:

- Recognise the main signs and symptoms of common mental health issues
- Provide initial support and signposting to professional help
- Be mindful of your own wellbeing
- Develop an understanding of how you can create and maintain a healthier workforce or community

**BOOK HERE**

## Being a Priest Online in 2024

**Wednesday, 7 February**  
**10.00am-11.30am, online**  
**Led by Revd Bryony Taylor**

The last ten years has seen a revolution in the way we communicate online, not least through the impact of the pandemic which thrust us into relying on technology in a new way. This will be a session to explore how social media is today, what it means to minister using these tools and an opportunity to reflect together theologically on how we use technology for ministry and mission.

**BOOK HERE**

## The Church of England and the Working Class: historical lessons for today

**Thursday, 29 February**  
**2.00pm-3.30pm, online**  
**Led by Canon Professor Mark Chapman**

Mark Chapman will explore the ways in which the Church of England has related to working people through history, especially from the late nineteenth century. Although its efforts were principally focused on urban centres there were also efforts to engage rural labourers. Mark will discuss the models that were adopted and offer suggestions as to how the Church might engage in the very different circumstances of contemporary England.

**BOOK HERE**

## TravellerSpace: supporting Gypsies and Travellers in Cornwall & Devon

**Tuesday, 5 March**  
**10.00am-11.30am, online**  
**Led by Caroline Dann**

TravellerSpace is a registered charity supporting Gypsies, Irish Travellers and New Travellers in Cornwall and the South West. Hear about their work and what your church can do to support them.

**BOOK HERE**

## Trusting God in Troubled Times

**Thursday, 14 March**  
**9.30am-3.30am, Epiphany House**  
**Led by Revd Howard Peskett**

Isaiah is the fifth longest book in the Old Testament and the second most-quoted OT book in the New Testament. There are a few "purple passages" which many people know, often read at Christmas time. But how is the book arranged and what are its main themes? During this session you will study ten chapters of this book, which is overwhelmingly a book of faith. What does it mean to trust God in troubled times - then.... and now?

**BOOK HERE**

## How Your Church Can Bring About Positive Change in Your Community

**Tuesday, 23 April**  
**10.00am-11.00am, online**  
**Led by Charlotte Butler,**

### Transformation Cornwall

This CMD session will highlight how to build a project in your church for your community. You will explore a community-asset based approach, the effect of this on sustainability and impact for your community, funding, and the benefits of evaluation. There will be plenty of opportunities to discuss ideas, and case studies of social action project success.

**BOOK HERE**

## How Can We Keep on Singing? Helping your congregation find their voices

**Thursday, 6 June**  
**10.00am-2.30pm, venue tbc**  
**Led by The Royal School of Church Music**

This session will explore the ways in which you can enable music to flourish in your church, making the most of the resources you have available. We will look at ways to help you choose music for your congregation and how to introduce and integrate new repertoire into worship successfully, building your confidence in leading your congregation in hymns and songs.

**BOOK HERE**

## BISHOP'S STUDY DAYS SAVE THE DATES!

**Tuesday, 7 May,**  
**St Erme Community Centre**  
**Tuesday, 5 November,**  
**The Pavilion Centre, Wadebridge**

## THREE MORNINGS WITH PAUL A SERIES LED BY REVD DR ROBERT EVANS

**Part 1: Transformed by the cross of Christ: Paul and his Congregations**  
**Thursday, 22 February**

**Part 2: The Lordship of Christ, and living under it**  
**Thursday, 21 March**

**Part 3: Christian community, then and now**  
**Thursday, 18 April**

**10.00am-1.30pm, Epiphany House**

Paul's letters to different communities of believers are the earliest surviving Christian writings. He is our founding theologian, but he is a contentious figure even among faithful readers of the New Testament. Other people who know very little about the letters can also have strong opinions about what they think Paul wrote!

These three mornings are designed as a whole, so we hope you can come to all three. However, if you can come only to one or two, you will still be very welcome.

Robert Evans has degrees from Oxford, Cambridge and London, and is recently retired from an academic career in New Testament theology and biblical interpretation.

**BOOK HERE**

## DISCERNMENT PROCESS

The Truro Diocese vocations team has created a guide called 'Shared Discernment Process for Ordained Ministry'. The information is intended to help clergy work with those who may be interested in the discernment process. View the information [here](#).



## 30 YEARS OF THE MINISTRY OF ORDAINED WOMEN

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the ordination of women, there is going to be a service of celebration and thanksgiving in Truro Cathedral on Thursday 8th February at 5.30pm. (Tea from 4pm.)

As a part of the celebration we feel it is important to also remember the challenges that have and continue to be faced by women responding to God's call on their lives.

## CLERGY WELLBEING

### Confidential support services for you

Don't forget that all clergy, and your spouse/partner and family members, have access to two confidential support services. One is the Diocesan counselling service. You can find out more [here](#) or contact [Jane Vaughan-Wilson](#).

The second is the employee assistance programme (or EAP) provided by Health Assured. They not only provide counselling services but also other resources on their website [here](#) and advice on legal, financial, family and other matters. They are available 24 hours on 0800 028 0199. The username is "Truro" and password is "Diocese".

More general information on other support services and resources is on our [website](#).

### Pastoral Supervision

We offer clergy in active ministry, the opportunity to engage in [Pastoral Supervision](#), with an experienced and qualified supervisor. Information is available on our website here. Or you can contact [Jane Vaughan-Wilson](#) or [Sally Piper](#) for more details.

## CONTACT US

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We would like therefore, to invite women in ministry to offer a brief comment, reflecting challenges and joys in your ministry. This may be anonymised and used in the service.

Please forward your comments to Reverend Sophie Troczynska by email: [rev.troczynska@outlook.com](mailto:rev.troczynska@outlook.com) or by phone 07599280851.

### Clergy spouse/partner mailing list

If your partner or spouse would like to be on this list do ask them to contact [Ruth Trinick](#) at Lis Escop who maintains the group list. There are a range of social and other events planned for 2024 and the more people that join the better!

### Pause for Thought- "The Currency of Busyness"

In November 2023, The theme for the Bishop's Study Day was "The God Who Walks Slowly".

In his introduction to the day, Bishop Hugh spoke about the "currency of Busyness". He described a group exercise where members are given blank bank notes of different sizes, and are asked to work together to decide what the 'cultural currency' of the community is. What is it that is highly valued? What is it that's more like loose change? What emerges is a 'currency' for the group which visually represents their cultural values; the things that are considered valuable.

Read Bishop Hugh's introduction [here](#).

## EXTERNAL OPPORTUNITIES

### CPAS

**Living courageously in an era of complexity**

January 24, 2024, 10-11am, online

[Book here](#)

### Church of England

**Hearts Singing God's Song: Vocation for Disabled and Neurodivergent People**

February 3, 2024, 10.30am-12.30pm, online

The Church of England has an aspiration to become more diverse so as to reflect more fully the diversity in society. This event is for disabled or neurodivergent people who would like to begin to explore a vocation to lay or ordained ministry in the Church of England.

[Book here](#)

### Church Army

**Discovery Evening**

February 26, 2024, 7-9.30pm, online

[Book here](#)

### MoSAIC

**How do we flourish in a church with barriers?**

February 29, 2024, 7-9pm, online

[Book here](#)

### Journeying on a Leaf:

**Retreat day on the Cornish Saint Ila**

April 12, 11am-4pm, Chacewater

[More info here](#)

**The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion Summer Course**

**The Art and Science of Human Health and Spirituality**

July 1-5, Cambridge and online

[More info here](#)

**The Vacation Term for Biblical Study**  
**Westminster College,**

**Cambridge**

July 21-August 2, 2024

[More info here](#)

[More external courses here](#)