

# OUR NEWS

## JULY 2025



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## DIOCESAN SYNOD LAUNCH FOR GROWING YOUNGER

Members of Diocesan Synod received the paper outlining the diocese's plans to support parishes with their work with children, young people, families and schools.

Isaac McNish, Head of Ministry, highlighted the key points of the Growing Younger work during his presentation telling members that 2 - 3 - 5 was the formula he wanted people to remember.

Isaac explained that '2' relates to the two objectives of Growing Younger:

For every child and young person in the Diocese of Truro to have access to a community that meets in Jesus' name, to do Jesus' work in which they can be at home and explore faith.

We are committed to a tenfold increase in the number of young disciples in our churches over the next decade.

He told those present: "We have intentionally sought to strike a balance between being broad and focused. I hope you'll see in those two objectives an invitation for the whole diocese to be involved, every church and every child."

Isaac then went on to explain '3' as the three levels available meaning every church would be invited to join, no matter its size:

For Many – Training, resourcing, and networking to support existing work and to grow new initiatives across the diocese.

## GROWING YOUNGER

For Some – Training and support for 50 lay leaders equipped to work with schools, families, and churches to build networks and confidence as we nurture journeys into faith.

For Few – Significant investment in six deanery-based projects, co-created with local leaders with a focus on key transition points in young people's school journeys.

The '5' relates to the five foundations of the work. In summary, the five foundations offer a vision for culture change at every level in our diocese.

Isaac encouraged members to embrace the two objectives, engage in the three levels and champion the five foundations and to encourage their parishes to do the same.

Information and resources on Growing Younger will be available on the diocesan website in the coming weeks.

[READ MORE HERE](#)



**2-PAGE PETERTIDE ORDINATIONS FEATURE ON CENTRE PAGES**

## PARISH TRAINING OFFERS

During July there are a number of **FREE** parish training offers available.

### AT A GLANCE

July 2: Safeguarding Leadership training  
July 7: Energy Footprint Tool Parish Support  
July 9: Safeguarding Leadership training  
July 10: Creation Care Network Gathering  
July 15: Communications Drop-in  
July 21: Safeguarding Leadership Training  
July 28: Safeguarding Leadership Training

If you are interested in any or all of the above, you can find out more and book by visiting the diocesan website [here](#).

# BISHOP DAVID SPENDS 11 DAYS PRAYING & WALKING

In June the Bishop of Truro walked miles across Cornwall through rain, wind and warm sunshine to mark the global prayer event Thy Kingdom Come.

For 11 days The Rt Revd David Williams trekking through towns, villages and countryside introducing himself to members of the diocese and the communities.

He first pulled on his walking boots on Thursday, May 29, to walk in Stratton and West Wivelshire deaneries.

Each day he welcomed all to walk alongside him and was delighted to find many people, both young and old, joining him at different points around the county.

Nick Johnson, from St Gregory's Church in Newquay, said: "It was a joy to join Bishop David as he walked a portion of the Cornish Celtic Way during the week of Thy Kingdom Come.

"We shared a Spirit-filled service at St Piran's Church in Perranzabuloe before walking to the ancient oratory among the dunes."

Revd Alison Shaw met the bishop at the Churches Together tent at the Royal Cornwall Show. He had come to commission the show chaplains and the volunteer team.

Revd Shaw said: "He is such a friendly man, a good listener, with a sense of humour and quiet compassion, all of which demonstrated his desire to get to know his diocese and the people within it."

Revd Nicola Farr, Rector and Pioneer Priest, The Camel-Allen Benefice, said they met the bishop as they walked to all five churches in the Camel-Allen group.

Revd Farr said she heard many comments including 'we felt honoured Bishop David Williams joined us for the whole day and people were touched he invested his precious time into our benefice in this way', 'how warm and engaging' he was, and 'how easy' he was to talk to.



Other comments included 'a lovely people person', 'natural and down to earth' and 'just the sort of Bishop we need'.

Lorna Crewes, PCC Secretary, Budock Parish Church, said: "What a lovely day it was for our walk with Bishop David. We started early, 7am at Swanpool Beach with around 35 people and then picked up a few walkers along the way, finishing up with 40 walkers. When we reached Pendennis Point we said prayers and sang together.

"Thank you to Bishop David for coming to meet us and thank you also to Revd Geoffrey Davis for all his hard work organising everything."

Revd Andy Boorne, Curate and Local Minister at Kenwyn Parish Church in Truro, said: "That The Rt Revd David Williams would take 11 days out to meet people at the beginning of his time here was appreciated by all who met him. He chatted to everyone, and it made everyone feel valued."

Keep an eye out for the bishop around Cornwall as he plans to continue travelling around the county meeting as many people as he can.



## LISTENING PROJECT GIVES YOUNG PEOPLE A VOICE

Young people across the county are being given the chance to voice their opinions on what makes faith interesting.

Mandy Wells, Diocesan Safeguarding Trainer, has been travelling to primary schools in Cornwall to ask children where they go to learn about faith and what would make going to church more enticing.

Mandy uses 'We Hear You' resources whilst visiting children. These include fun activities that help them to give their honest opinions.

Image shows a person smiling at the camera with their hand to their ear to signify listening. iStock image: Deagreez

Activities include drawing a life-size outline of a person on a piece of paper and writing down the qualities they think are important in a children's and youth leader. Another is to take part in a quiz where the answers are 'yes', 'no' or 'maybe', and another involves sweets.

The findings from this will be shared with the school involved, the diocese, future children's and youth ministry training and ordination training.

Mandy said: "I have visited school councils at four of the church schools – Anthony School, Bishop Bronescombe, St Tudy, and St Petrocs.

"The children were asked a set of questions using the suggested activities. They have been very keen to be involved and enthusiastic about thinking what makes a good leader and who they can ask about faith."

We Hear You has been developed by the **30k Project**, in collaboration with the Growing Faith Foundation.

'We Hear You' can be found [here](#).

Mandy is available to come and talk to a small group of church school staff and pupils would like to be involved.

**CONTACT MANDY**





# PETERTIDE ORDINATIONS TAKE PLACE

The Petertide Ordinations took place on Friday and Saturday at Truro Cathedral. The services also marked the first since Bishop David was welcomed to the diocese.

This year, three people were ordained as Deacons during the Friday evening service and two were ordained as Priests by the Rt Revd David Williams, Bishop of Truro, on the Saturday.

## DEACONS

Ian Dawes will serve as Stipendiary Assistant Curate in the North Cornwall Cluster of Churches.

Deborah (Debbie) Jane Harris will serve

as Self Supporting Assistant Curate in the Benefice of Godrevy.

Erica Payne will serve as Stipendiary Assistant Curate in the Benefice of St Kea.

## PRIESTS

Rev'd Grace Hannah Kanungha will serve as Stipendiary Assistant Curate in the Bodmin Team Benefice.

Rev'd Oliver Myles will serve as

Stipendiary Curate in the Benefice of Padstow.

Speaking after the ordinations, Bishop David said: "These five people are amazing, the heartbeat of God. It was a privilege to ordain them!"

"I am a firm believer in ordained and lay ministry. I think God gives every believer a gift of the spirit and I know those ordained at the weekend will also be a gift to their churches."











# BREATHING NEW LIFE INTO AN ANCIENT CHURCH

Visitors are praising a more than £1 million revamp project that's helping breathe new life into 'an ancient church' in the diocese.

The St Just in Roseland Interpretive Centre Project has seen a boost in visitors since it officially opened earlier this year.

Members of St Just in Roseland and St Mawes Parochial Church Council (PCC) embarked on the community-led project to encourage people's interest in the church and gardens' heritage, lower the centre's carbon footprint and boost biodiversity.

The upgrades, near to the Grade I listed St Just-in-Roseland Church, include a new Discovery/ Interpretive Centre, displays, new toilets, and use of heat pumps, solar and insulation.

The café has also been extended with more kitchen space, new electrics, resurfaced paths, and a new pumping main to take toilet waste 400m uphill to join the mains.

The project, which officially opened in March, is already having a positive impact on the church and the area's biodiversity. There's been a growing interest in the site and an increase in donations.

The St Just in Roseland Interpretive Centre Evaluation Report reads there has been a 'greater appreciation for the natural environment and an understanding of the site's spiritual significance'.

Andrew Prince, parish treasurer, wrote in the Interim report for the project: "We

have had some very positive feedback from visitors and stakeholders and early indicators show that donations from car parking and in the church are up."

He highlighted a quote from a visitor earlier this year who had communicated: "The Interpretative centre has added a whole new dimension to St Just Church/site.

"It has been carefully & thoughtfully created to provide education, interest & a further reason to visit St Just Church.

"The improved facilities (café & toilets) are greatly welcomed & it is lovely to see an ancient church being brought alive with the ambition & dedication of a new generation.

Funding for the project has included £975,878 from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund through the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Good Growth Programme, private donations of just under £85,000, and assistance from Truro Diocesan Board of Finance with the provision of a £100,000 loan, plus hours of volunteer time.

Work began onsite in March 2024 and the centre officially opened on March 13. The High Sheriff of Cornwall, Sam Galsworthy and The Rt Revd Hugh Nelson, Bishop of St Germans were guests of honour at the opening ceremony. It's now open daily from 10am-4pm in winter and 5pm in summer. Entry is FREE with donations appreciated. Everyone welcome.

## NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR DIOCESAN BOARDS

Nominations are now invited for election to two Diocesan bodies:

The Board of Patronage and the Vacancy in See Committee.

The Board of Patronage holds the right of patronage for some parishes in the Diocese. The members will be asked occasionally to consider requests relating to this patronage. It meets roughly once a year and may make decisions online.

Eligibility for membership of these two bodies is:

1. Any Clerk in Holy Orders beneficed in or licensed to any parish in the Diocese is eligible to stand for election to the Board. Archdeacons in the Diocese are not qualified to be elected.
2. Any lay person aged 16 + and a communicant member of the Church of England is eligible to stand for election to the Board.

More information about the bodies and how to be nominated, how to nominate and how the elections work is available [here](#).

## CHRISTMAS DONATIONS HELPING CHARITIES

Donations from the Cornish Christmas Giving Catalogue have been helping charities throughout the year.

The most recent catalogue raised more than £11,000 for good causes including Penzance Breakfast Project, Cornwall Refugee Trust and more.

St Ives Foodbank, which helps between 30 – 40 households a week and nearly doubling to 60 at Christmas, received £790 from the catalogue.

Hidden Help received £470. It gives furniture and household items to those in need. In 2024 it helped 571 households.

Wendy Whittaker, Hidden Help's communications manager, said: "We would like to thank all the generous people who bought gifts through the Christmas Catalogue. Your donations really do change people's lives."

[READ MORE HERE](#)

# LEARNING TO BE AN OVERSIGHT MINISTER

**Continuing our series looking at the changing models of ministry, Revd Mark Wade shares his experiences of learning to be an oversight minister.**

Mark joined the Diocese of Truro in September 2024 as vicar and oversight minister in Liskeard and St Keyne, where he oversees three traditional churches: Dobwalls, United Church, St Keyne, and St Martin's. There are also new congregations pioneering new ways of doing Church such as SOAR and the children's midweek group which is now a worship community for the whole family called Blaze Supper Club.

Mark says: "All of this celebrates my call to serve West Wivelshire as an oversight minister. All my experience of ministry over the last eight years has been in oversight ministry, how I was trained as a curate, and my first two roles as an incumbent. There has been a real sense of call to this

ministry, and seeing it grow and flourish."

Mark says the attraction to the call in the Truro diocese was the area of oversight ministry and vision for the diocese, and the heart of the benefice, not only to grow traditional congregations but to also grow new ways of doing Church and connecting with people where they are at and growing new leaders. "As I read the 36 pages of the parish profile, what spoke to me was the openness of wanting to invest in growing leaders and taking risks in doing Church differently.

"I believe these are two of the most important parts of oversight ministry: the willingness to take risks and think outside of the box, and taking time to invest in local lay leaders and exploring their vision, gifts, and hopes for the different worship communities that they serve in."

Over the last nine months Mark has spent time sitting and listening,

getting involved and beginning to see new things start, and new leaders grow, and people exploring who and what they might be called to. Mark says that oversight ministry has been the only ministry he has known. "We shall be raising new priests all over the UK, and this is all they will know, which is good news in my view, but also brings challenges.

"To do oversight ministry well we need to know the history and tradition and celebrate all that has happened and learn. I believe one of the biggest challenges is listening and learning from all that has gone before and ensuring it is not just about the new things we do but also taking everyone with us in leading in this new way. This is hard, challenging, and time-consuming, but also brings so much more wealth and depth when the Church unites together."

**READ MORE HERE**

## PUPILS HELP WORKSHOPS MARK 1 YEAR MILESTONE

Youngsters have been busy in the sunshine recently celebrating the upcoming one-year anniversary of Creation Care Workshops.

Chacewater Community Primary School pupils were in the grounds of their local church, St Paul, helping to plant and care for nature.

The session was being filmed to mark it being nearly 12 months since the workshops launched. They began in June and July, 2024, at Illogan Church, Chacewater Church, All Saints Hightown and Trinity Church, Truro.

Clare Green, the diocese's Schools' Creation Care Officer, created the programme around Creation Care for

church members to help engage and build links between themselves and schools.

The programme also provides schools with a resource which covers and builds on the Cornwall RE Syllabus – which all county schools are expected to follow.

More than 12 workshops have taken place over the past 12 months – with more than seven schools (all non-church schools). More than 500 children have taken part, many who may have never visited their local church before.

**READ THE LATEST CREATION CARE NEWSLETTER HERE**

## CREATION CARE NETWORK USEFUL LINKS

The next Creation Care Network gathering is on Thursday, July 10, 10am). All are via the Zoom [link](#).

+ **CREATION CARE WEB PAGE**  
+ **REGISTER FOR THE KERNOW GREEN CHURCH AWARD**

+ **BECOME A CREATION CARE CHAMPION**  
+ **SIGN UP TO RECEIVE CREATION CARE UPDATES**  
+ **CREATION CARE FACEBOOK GROUP**

**CLICK HERE TO LISTEN**

Encouraging links between churches & their local schools

**SCHOOL CREATION CARE WORKSHOPS**

Are you passionate about Creation Care?  
Would you like to forge links with your local school?  
Would you like to work with children in your church?

The Creation Care Resources are a set of resources designed for churches that wish to engage with their local schools. Many churches and churchyards provide an amazing resource for young people to experience the wonder of nature and learn about the world around them.

Download the free pack from our website: [Creation Care Workshops](https://www.creationcareworkshops.org.uk/resources/education/creation-care-for-schools/creation-care-workshops/)  
[trurodiocese.org.uk/resources/education/creation-care-for-schools/creation-care-workshops/](https://www.creationcareworkshops.org.uk/resources/education/creation-care-for-schools/creation-care-workshops/)

All you need to organise and run Creation Care Workshops for Schools in your church

MORE INFO OR HELP - CALL 01072 301380 EMAIL [CLARE.GREEN@TRURO.ANGLICAN.ORG](mailto:CLARE.GREEN@TRURO.ANGLICAN.ORG)

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