

THE PORTICO

CHRISTIAN UNITY: WEEK OF PRAYER

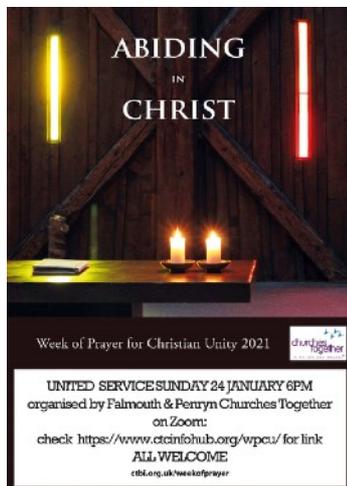
THIS COMING WEEK is a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity around the world. As Catholics, we also bear witness to our faith through our actions in community with others within the wider Church of Christ. Pope Francis tells us that “All of us, as Christians, are united by faith in God, the Father who gives us life and loves us so greatly.” (*Querida Amazonia*) He goes on to remind us how much binds us together:

“We are united by faith in Jesus Christ, the one Saviour, who set us free by his precious blood and his glorious resurrection. We are united by our desire for his word that guides our steps. We are united by the fire of the Spirit, who sends us forth on mission. We are united by the new commandment that Jesus left us, by the pursuit of the civilization of love and by passion for the kingdom that the Lord calls us to build with him. We are united by the struggle for peace and justice. We are united by the conviction that not everything ends with this life, but that we are called to the heavenly banquet, where God will wipe away every tear and take up all that we did for those who suffer. **All this unites us.**”

United Service for Cornwall 24 January 2021 6pm

Join other Christians in Cornwall on Zoom for a United Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at 6pm on Sunday 24 Jan, organised by Falmouth and Penryn Churches Together. This quiet, reflective service will also be used worldwide on this day so we will share our prayers with Christians across the globe at this time of great uncertainty.

Click this [link](#) to join the service.



Christian Unity: daily online service at noon [here](#)

The online service at noon on 18 January will be led by our Deacon Andrew and Val Kincaid.



CTC daily podcasts [here](#)

Messages

I hope you had a lovely Christmas and wish you a Happy New Year. I attach a rather frosty scene from the garden. With all blessings *Antoinette*



I can't imagine doing an Autumn fair but it was obviously a super event and good money raiser in the past. *Mary*

Reflecting on 'A Precious Place' and inter -Parish cooperation, how widely do you think your Portico should be open? (*Francis*)

Happy Birthday Sam!
(a bit belated - sorry!)

Happy New Year ! I had a good Christmas. My 40th Birthday was good too, despite the restrictions. Celebrating a bit more when I can do so.

Good poem from Fr Mark Skelton. He's good at poetry! *Sam*



needs coffee + tins of custard, puddings, & fish



SVP Truro
07474-941099
For help or a chat

CAFOD: Reclaim our Common Home

As we seek to plan a world after coronavirus, let's tackle the other challenges that plague our common home. More info [here](#)

Keep in Touch

Send greetings, news or other items, join our mailing list
WRITE to us at:
theportico@icloud.com

Modern Slavery: Cornwall Starts 4 February 2021



Transformation Cornwall are working with The Clewer Initiative, New Street Church in Falmouth, Falmouth & Penryn Churches Together and Churches Together in Cornwall to work out how we deal with slavery in Cornwall, where there have been 31 Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking cases reported in the last 12 months (these are only the reported cases).

This Hidden Voices online training is a new resource designed to help Cornish Churches and communities respond to modern slavery. It begins on Thursday 4th February 2021 from 7.30 pm – 9.00 pm and will include Biblical reflections, case studies and practical tools and activities. Plus contributions from Steve Rowell, Cornwall Council's Serious Organised Crime Operational Lead and Naomi Bruce, founder of charity Bringing Freedom.

If you would like to be part of a group of local Christians taking action against modern day slavery in Cornwall find out more at: [Hidden Voices](#)

The deadline for signing up is on Thursday 28th January 2021.

Lost touch with someone?
Ask us at THE PORTICO and
we'll try to put you in touch

THEPORTICO@ICLOUD.COM

Poem (excerpt)

Back in the days of tanners and bobs
when mothers had patience and fathers had jobs
when football team families wore hand me down shoes
and TV's only had two channels to choose

Back in the days of threepenny bits
when schools employed nurses to search you for nits
when snowballs were harmless & ice slides permitted
your jumpers were warm {and always hand knitted}

Back in the days of hot ginger beers
when children remained so for more than six years
when children respected what older folk said
a pot was something you kept under the bed

Back in the days of listen with mother
when neighbours were friendly and talked to each other
when cars were so rare, you could play in the street
when Doctors made house calls and Police walked the beat.

Back in the days of Milligan's goons
when butter was butter and songs all had tunes
it was dumplings for dinner and trifle for tea
and your annual break was a day by the sea

Back in the days of Dixon's dock green
crackerjack pens and Kelly's ice cream.
When children wore pink NHS glasses
and teachers stood at the FRONT of their classes

Back in the days of rocking and reeling
when mobiles were things you hung from the ceiling
when woodwork and pottery were taught in schools
and everyone dreamed of winning the Pools

Back in the days when I was a lad
can't help but smile at what fun we had
Hopscotch and roller skates, snowballs to lob
Back in the days of tanners and bobs.

by David Wood, sent by Margaret S

Provoking Thought (1)

Jesus says, "You are the light of the world." I like even more what Jesus doesn't say. He does not say, "One day, if you are more perfect and try really hard, you'll be light." He doesn't say, "If you play by the rules, cross your T's and dot your I's, then maybe you'll become light." No. He says, straight out, "You are light." It is the truth of who you are, waiting only for you to discover it. So, for God's sake, don't move. No need to contort yourself to be anything other than who you are.

*Fr Greg Boyle, Tattoos on the Heart:
sent by Kay F*

Counting the Cost: 2020 severe weather events

Storm Ciara did \$1.5 billion of damage in UK and Europe but was only a small fraction of the \$150 billion damage caused by extreme weather events around the world in 2020. We remember the countless victims in our prayers

The CA Report can be found [here](#)

Evening Prayers

Mondays at 6pm.

Contact Dcn Andrew Shute at
Andrew.Shute@pcdtr.org.uk
for joining instructions.

ALL WELCOME!

Provoking Thought (2)

My dear mother used to say God never gives a mountain more snow than it can carry. Once I asked “What does it mean?” She answered “Look at the mountains and the snow on top. A little mountain has a little snow and a big mountain has lots of snow. If a mountain has more snow than it can take it will look like a mushroom and the snow will fall leaving as much as the mountain can take.”

Josianne



(Frosty the spider! from Paul V.)

Women lay ministry roles confirmed in Canon Law

A change to the Code of Canon Law was signed by Pope Francis on 11 January 2021. The Motu Proprio observes that “certain ministries instituted by the Church are based on the common condition of being baptised and the regal priesthood received in the Sacrament of Baptism” rather than from ordination, and confirms that such lay ministries may therefore be entrusted to both male and female faithful.

This change in Canon Law ratifies what has already been in common practice in many dioceses across the world, but it appears to be the first officially documented right of women to a proper institutional mandate to carry out church ministries such as readers, servers and eucharistic ministers.

The Holy Father says in his letter accompanying the Motu Proprio, that in the mission of the church “we are ordained to each other”, ordained and non-ordained ministers, men and women, in a mutual relationship.

The Vatican press release can be read [here](#)

Good Samaritans...?

It is striking that Jesus’s definition of the ‘greatest commandment’ appears in almost identical words in 3 out of the 4 Gospels -

To love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind with all your strength - this is the first commandment and the second is to love your neighbour as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.

It is all-embracing, full of power Luke - never short of a story - immediately tells the parable of the Good Samaritan, showing how that commandment can be lived out. Matthew too re-emphasises the message in his own way a few chapters later when he writes about who will get into the Kingdom of Heaven: I was hungry and you fed me, naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me.....

Here is everything we need to understand how to live our everyday lives & how to evangelise through them.

The SVP’s role is to be like the Good Samaritan on behalf of our local community: to try before all else, to be sensitive to the needs of those we meet - and to respond as a family in Christ. Be a good samaritan with us?



THE PORTICO is an independent publication. It does not represent any official RC Parish policies. All Information and views given are those of its contributors only.

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Back issues at: the-portico.com

Christmas Box: postscript

People in Cornwall demonstrated heartwarming and extraordinary generosity this Christmas, as 3,254 Cornwall Christmas Boxes were donated! Our parishioners were as usual very generous contributors of these ‘christmas dinners in a box’.

Windows into: Eco-Theology (18 January)

Truro Cathedral is offering another in its “Windows into...” series of courses, this one to be held online via ZOOM in the present pandemic.

Windows into Eco-Theology aims to equip us with some of the theological tools to think these issues through for ourselves and for our Christian communities.

It will be delivered by the Rev’d Elly Sheard via Zoom and held over 6 Mondays from 7:30 – 9:30pm starting from 18th January 2021.

The course is free to join. You can read more and book a place on the course [here](#)