

THE PORTICO

A Truro Wedding, at last!



Helen and Christian cutting their wedding cake yesterday

Helen and Christian finally got married at Our Lady of the Portal Church on 17th April, after several postponements due to the pandemic. Helen is of course familiar as a regular singer in the church choir and has even been known to perform for us with her ukulele!

Helen's mum Evelyne writes "I can't thank Fr John, Rosemary and Genevieve enough for their kindness - they even brought out a chair for Wyn to sit on as she was determined to throw petals over the couple when they came out. We really hope to give a party for the parish when the Covid restrictions are lifted."

Our best wishes and prayers to Helen and Christian as they start their life together.

Prince Philip, RIP

We pray too for the Duke of Edinburgh, whose funeral was held yesterday. Some of our more senior parishioners may also recall his visit in



1981; he is shown here shaking hands with our own Tony Barber who was then Mayor of Truro.

St Petroc's goes Mobile

St Petroc's Society has launched a new mobile phone app providing remote support to homeless people in Cornwall. See their website for details [here](#)

Messages

Thanks for that poignant picture of the solitary Pope at St Peter's; it reminds me of watching Andrea Bocelli singing alone on the steps of Milan Cathedral at a concert he gave on TV early on in the pandemic which moved me to tears. *Jean*

The Portico, as always, provides helpful information *Mary*

I echo others' appreciation of your efforts over the past year. *Jean*

It's incredible to think it's a year since the Portico was first published I'm still enjoying it! *Sam*

Thanks again for the newsletters you send us, *Angela. x.*

I really enjoy the Portico *Ginny*

Please pray for:

Arlana, who was whisked off to Treliske by ambulance last week. Pamela and family would like to thank everyone who kindly prayed for Arlana during her emergency operation (the results of which are very promising). We hope for a speedy recovery.



Truro Foodbank needs
Tinned fruit
Tinned potatoes / mash
Soap, body wash, etc.



Truro Group
Our family in Christ
helping each other
07474-941099

Need help getting online?
If anyone needs any help going online, using ZOOM or finding an online mass etc, SVP Truro can help

Keep in Touch

Join our mailing list.
Send greetings, news etc.
WRITE to us at:
theportico@icloud.com

SVP Knowledge hub

The SVP Truro group hopes to restart activities post-lockdown by discussing recent national guidance on finding local needs, that is both practical and thought-provoking.

Being an SVP member is less about what you do, and more about wanting to respond — as individuals and as a community — to any local need with fraternal concern. To find out more, write to jenny.kwee@me.com.

CAFOD Walk for Water

Congratulations to Samantha F who raised £545 for CAFOD during Lent by Walking 532,371 steps for Water - and thanks to those who sponsored her. Well done! Seven other people logged their walks during Lent (a total of 1,297,344.2 steps altogether) and a further £405 was donated via our justgiving page. Many thanks to everyone who took part in any way.

A Precious Place: restart

Just a reminder that the restart of "[A Precious Place](#)" review of parish structures, which we reported in Portico Issue 38, will be marked by an online event led by international speaker Michael Dopp, on Missionary Parishes.

Follow this link to [register for this event](#) which will take place on Saturday 1 May 2021 (11am-noon, then 1-2pm).

Pope Francis on Prayer

“(Prayer) always returns into daily life from the Liturgy: on the streets, in offices, on public transportation... And there it continues the dialogue with God: one who prays is like someone in love who always carries the beloved person in his or her heart wherever they go.

“Essentially, everything becomes a part of this dialogue with God: every joy becomes a reason for praise, every trial is an opportunity to ask for help. Prayer is always alive in our lives, like embers, even when the mouth does not speak, but the heart speaks.”

(from “Prayer in daily life”)

Pope Francis shares his understanding of the catechesis on prayer at his regular Wednesday audiences, starting last October. The above extract from No.24 on 10 February 2021 gives you a flavour of what you can expect.

All his Wednesday audiences so far can be found [here](#).

Memories of Tremough Convent School



Tremough in springtime!

Les Filles de le Croix, a religious order founded in France in 1641, included in its mission providing girls with the same educational opportunities as boys. At the beginning of the second world war, the Sisters had a school in Falmouth, but wanted to open for boarders. They bought Tremough and the school opened in 1943.

In 1970, I was a newly qualified teacher seeking a post in Cornwall. A lecturer told me about Tremough Convent - I thought the chances of a

vacancy for a Maths teacher were remote, but he kept asking if I had heard, so I applied, to show that I had tried. I could not have known that my letter of application would arrive on the same day a Maths teacher announced that she wished to retire! - and so in due course I was appointed. I was delighted but did not expect to stay for more than a year or two - I remained for twenty eight.

The academic standard was good and the secret was excellent discipline - not oppressive, but it was the norm. New pupils did not always come with good manners and behaviour, but they soon adapted. Teachers had a warm relationship with the pupils and the whole atmosphere lent itself to high standards of behaviour, academic achievement and university entrance. It was a very special place. The Sisters set standards of love and care which permeated the whole school. The atmosphere of kindness and welcome was almost tangible.

Sadly, times change. Many boarders were sponsored by the armed forces and when their criteria changed, numbers reduced. At the same time, a boys' school became co-ed and parents with both boys and girls preferred them to attend the same school. The Sisters sacrificed so much to keep the school open, but could not ward off the inevitable. Tremough closed, with much grief and sadness, in July 1998. My time there was one of unfailing joy. I miss it still and it is a pleasure to hear how, after all these years, past pupils speak so highly of their time at Tremough.

Monica Biscoe



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