

OUR NEWS

OCTOBER 2021



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BISHOP HUGH NAMED AS BISHOP TO ARMED FORCES

This post will be **in addition** to Bishop Hugh's role as Bishop of St Germans. Bishop Hugh was consecrated as Bishop of St Germans in July 2020.

Lambeth Palace announced that the Bishop of St Germans, the Rt Revd Hugh Nelson would take over the role of Bishop to the Armed Forces in September.

Bishop Hugh was formally licensed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, during a meeting of the College of Bishops in Oxford in September.

Bishop Hugh is taking over from Bishop Tim Thornton, Bishop at Lambeth, who is retiring after four years in the post.

Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, said: "I am very pleased indeed that Hugh has agreed to take on this essential ministry. The work of military chaplains is crucial, and is widely recognised as such within the Armed Forces. They need our support and prayers, led by the Bishop to the Forces. Military personnel are confronted daily with deep and vital questions about being human, our relationships, our values and morals. There are no tidy answers to these, but chaplains can offer compassion – being alongside and resolutely with those asking these questions, and those experiencing pain or grief – and they can offer hope. Indeed, chaplains to the Forces embody something of the love



of Jesus Christ, offered in every place and to all people. I know that Hugh will ensure he gets to know these chaplains and will work alongside them, as well as being a representative for the church in wider issues relating to the Forces."

Bishop Hugh said: "It is an honour to take up this role supporting the Chaplains of the three services as they provide pastoral, spiritual and practical care to the men and women of the Armed Forces. Their work, often in difficult and dangerous situations, is a crucial part of the ministry of the Church of England and I very much look forward to being involved as Bishop to the Armed Forces."

The Venerable (Air Vice-Marshal) John R Ellis QHC, Chaplain-in-Chief and Archdeacon for the Royal Air Force, said: "The Bishop to the Armed Forces plays a key role in connecting the military community, not just to the Church of England, but the diversity of the global Anglican community. The Royal Air Force warmly welcomes Bishop Hugh and looks forward to developing a fruitful partnership in a world where matters of faith and belief are proving ever more significant."

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE](#)



SAYING NO TO FOSSIL FUEL EXTRACTION INVESTMENTS

Having committed to becoming Net Zero by 2030, the Diocese of Truro is pleased to announce that it no longer invests in funds that include fossil fuel extraction.

The Bishop of St Germans, the Rt Revd Hugh Nelson who leads on Creation Care in the diocese, announced the decision ahead of COP26 and in support of Operation Noah's Bright Now campaign.

The diocese launched its new environmental strategy Cherish Creation, Cut Carbon Speak Up: A diocesan vision and strategy for Creation Care in early 2021 and this announcement is the latest in a series of changes the diocese is making to meet its commitments.

Bishop Hugh said: "We are proud to be able to say we no longer invest in companies whose principal business involves the extraction, production or refining of coal, gas and oil.

"We know there is still a long way to go and we will be looking very closely at all our investments to try and divest wherever we find an indirect link to extraction but we are pleased to have taken this first, big step."

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE](#)

CONFIDENT IN OUR CALLING NEW TRIENNIUM STARTS WORK

The first meeting of the new diocesan synod triennium took place on Saturday (September 25) with the theme of 'Confident in our Calling', one of the five priorities in The Saints' Way.

Following opening worship, Bishop Philip took the chair to deliver his Presidential Address (see right).

"We should be a Church that is confident in its calling," Bishop Philip told his audience.

In particular he wanted to see the parishes across the county, "Knowing just what they are called to be and to do, which also liberates them from what they are not called to be and to do. Whether that's to focus on families, or the elderly, or schools, or to embrace in all its fulness one tradition or another; or to serve the poor and those on the margins; or to plant new worshipping communities, or any combination of the above."

But in his Presidential Address, Bishop Philip said, "I think the parish church today is under real threat."

Read the full address [here](#).

While a large proportion of the meeting was given over to welcoming new members and introducing how synod works, there were updates on The Saints' Way and its five priorities, On The Way particularly focusing on Fruitful and Sustainable and a balanced operating budget.

Members were also asked to elect a new chair of the Truro Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd which saw Michael Sturgess from St Martin's Church, Liskeard, re-elected.

A decision to postpone the approval of Standing Orders for deanery synods was taken after members raised several questions about points within the motion.

The meeting closed just after 2pm.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: WE ARE AT A CROSSROADS

Giving his Presidential Address at diocesan synod on Saturday, Bishop Philip was keen to point out that while there were real challenges, the church needed to choose a better way and to respond faithfully and joyfully.

It is my vision and my desire to see each of our churches both bathed in heavenly light and love and sharing that light and love with its community. It is because of that, that one of the five priorities in The Saints' Way (TSW) is that we should be 'a Church that is confident in its calling'.

When I talk about us being 'a Church that is confident in its calling', yes, I mean us as a diocese, and deaneries, but in particular I mean our parish churches. This is about our churches knowing just how they can be those beacons of light and love; knowing just what they are called to be and to do – which also incidentally liberates them from what they are not called to be and to do. It's about not looking enviously or with superiority at the church down the road, but knowing your calling in this place, in this parish, and responding to it faithfully and joyfully.

I don't think that as a consequence of the pandemic, this imperative for churches to discern their God-given calling, and for us to do so together, has become any less urgent. Quite the opposite in fact. It's become far more so. It's become far more so because I think the parish church today is under real threat.

I'm certainly not blaming anyone for this state of affairs. This is really no one's fault. The forces that have led to this state of affairs have been in play for at least 150 years. So I really do not want any of us to feel guilty or anxious about any of this. These are real challenges we must take very seriously. But we are not to blame for them.

A key test of whether our parish churches have truly discerned the call of God will be whether their mission and ministry is truly shaped by and for the context in which God has placed them – because that is what true parish ministry is all about.

[READ THE FULL ADDRESS HERE](#)

NATIONAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO HELP CHURCHES BE 'AT THE HEART OF CHRISTMAS' THIS YEAR

'At the heart of Christmas' is the Church of England's theme for Advent and Christmas 2021.

Churches all over the country will be welcoming their communities – onsite and online – to celebrate and share the good news of Christ's birth with special services and events, supported by a wide range of national resources and support.

Inspired by readings from the Gospels of Luke and John read at so many Christmas services, At the heart of Christmas is an invitation to everyone to discover – or rediscover – the good news of God's saving love as revealed in the birth of Jesus. It is also a challenge to each of us to ponder in our hearts – as Mary did – what the extraordinary events of the first Christmas might mean for us now and in the years ahead.

At the heart of Christmas

At the heart of Christmas is a deliberately simple and open theme – one that we hope can be used by local churches to invite their communities to share in celebrating the good news of Christmas in a whole variety of ways, whatever the prevailing circumstances.

The message is designed to work alongside a wide range of local, diocesan and national initiatives and activities – supporting and highlighting the many ways churches help their communities connect with the heart of Christmas through thick and thin, year in, year out.

[FIND OUT MORE HERE](#)

ARCHDEACON PAUL GETS ON HIS BIKE FOR CANCER CHALLENGE

The Archdeacon of Cornwall, the Ven Paul Bryer, has raised £700 so far for Lymphoma Action by cycling 27 miles on the Bissoe Trail from Devoran to Portreath Lymphoma Action.

Paul took part in the Charity's 27 in 27 fundraising campaign during Blood Cancer Awareness Month to highlight how every 27 minutes someone is diagnosed with lymphoma, making it the most common blood cancer in the UK. Paul is still receiving treatment for the condition himself, after receiving a diagnosis of type of lymphoma in February this year. His fundraising page can be found [here](#).

"My journey with blood cancer was one I never anticipated, but I have learnt so much along the way and I am so grateful for all of the support I have received over the past few months" says Paul.

Speaking before the challenge, Paul said: "I am looking forward to riding from coast to coast, not only raise funds for a brilliant cause, but also to raise awareness about lymphoma as the fifth most common cancer in the UK."

"We are so grateful to Paul for his support," says Sarah Thorn, Community and Partnerships Manager at Lymphoma Action. "Through funds raised from people like Paul, we can continue to provide vital information and support to people affected by lymphoma to make sure no one has to face lymphoma alone. Paul has been sharing his lymphoma story through social media which we



know makes a big difference to others going through a similar experience."

Throughout Blood Cancer Awareness Month, Lymphoma Action is raising awareness of the symptoms of lymphoma to make sure everyone knows the signs to look out for, and to visit their GP if they are concerned. The symptoms include a lump in the neck, armpit or groin; feeling worn-out for no reason, unexplained weight loss, excessive sweating at night, and constant itching for no reason. For further information visit www.lymphoma-action.org.uk/ BCAM



SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY: GET INVOLVED

Safeguarding Sunday takes place on October 10 and churches are being urged to get involved.

The Church of England is supporting Safeguarding Sunday and a short sermon for use on the day has been provided by Bishop Jonathan Gibbs, the Church of England's lead safeguarding bishop.

"Whether churches can give just a few minutes or dedicate their whole service, Safeguarding Sunday is a really helpful and important way of focusing on all the work that goes on 365 days a year in our churches to make them safe places.

"Protecting vulnerable people is at the heart of the Christian message"

"From our children's and young people's activities to clubs for the elderly and foodbanks, our churches are involved in every community. Protecting vulnerable people is at the heart of the Christian message.

"Safeguarding Sunday is all about creating an opportunity for churches to show their communities that they take this responsibility seriously," said Bishop Jonathan.

The specialist safeguarding charity thirtyone:eight provides bespoke resources including films and animations, prayers, preaching notes, children's activity sheets, hymns and songs and a safeguarding pledge. You can register and access them [here](#).

GENEROSITY WEEK: JOIN IN!

Generosity is at the heart of our faith. The generosity we show is testament to a lived-out faith and our generous God.

This Harvest we invite your church to take part in Generosity Week. Together we will celebrate the generosity that has helped us through these difficult times, reflect on God's generosity to us and explore how we can grow generosity in our churches.

The Diocese of Truro will be holding its



Generosity Week from October 10 - 17, 2021. Look out for daily resources and reflections on the website and social media, which you can use in your churches and small groups.

You may choose to join in with that week, or you can choose another week

that suits you. There are a range of free resources for your church to use including service and worship materials, a podcast series on generosity in our churches, generosity reflections and guidance on engaging the wider community with generosity through 'Living Faith' - two new discipleship sessions for small groups. You may wish to use all of the resources available or just a selection. They can be found [here](#).

For more information, advice and help in running your Generosity Week, contact your Generous Giving Advisors [here](#).

RESOURCES LIVE ON THE WEBSITE NOW!

Over the last few weeks we've added some key resources to help equip the parish church and community to respond to Creation Care.

Maybe your looking for resources to help enable a Creation tide act of worship?

Why not have a look at the **Creation Justice Toolkit**;

Maybe your church is looking to engage with the new Kernow Green Church Award and A Rocha Eco Church? You can find resources to enable that **here**.

Maybe you want to better understand what COP26 is all about and how to pray for lasting environmental

change? There's a briefing document **here**.

If you spot any accessible resources that you think could encourage the church to Cherish Creation, Cut Carbon, Speak Up, then please share them with the diocesan environment officer via email: deo@truro.anglican.org



WHAT'S ON SEPTEMBER

28 Using Google for Parish Administration, 11am - 12.30pm, led by Revd Chris Painter. **Book here**.

OCTOBER

3 Creation Care Service, St Martin's Church, Liskeard, 3.30pm. See the main event information left.



6 Balancing nature and health for the future, 10am - 12 noon, online, **book here**.

9 Reader Service, Truro Cathedral, 11am.

11 - 17 Challenge Poverty Week

10 - 17 Generosity Week

18 The Bodmin Way Mini-Pilgrimage - walking with a purpose to appreciate the natural world & reflect on our response to caring for the environment, 9.30am, find out more **here**.

DIOCESAN CREATION CARE SERVICE INVITATION

On Sunday, October 3 at 3:30pm there will be a diocesan Creation Care service at St Martin's Church, Liskeard.

Bishop Hugh will be sharing with us from God's word, and we hope to hear the voices of some of our children and young people who have a real concern for the environment.

We would love to have you with us for this service, but also please think about your carbon footprint in terms of travelling to Liskeard.

The service will also be livestreamed on the St Martin's Church YouTube channel, so there is an opportunity for many people from around the diocese to join us in this way.

We are looking for photos or videos to contribute to the service - can you help? The service will help us to think about PLACE - especially about those places that we regard as sacred or special and those places where God's Creation has been de-sacralised, or desecrated.

Send us your photos or videos of places in Cornwall that speak to you about the sacred and the desecrated and we hope to incorporate as many of them as possible into our reflections in the service. Send all contributions to reverendelly@gmail.com no later than September 24.

Watch the service on youtube here.



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GIVE A GIFT OF HOPE THIS CHRISTMAS

Why not give a gift locally this Christmas and do something good for the community at the same time?

The Cornish Christmas Giving Catalogue 2021 features many worthy local groups and charities who are all working in Cornwall to provide assistance, support, activities, beds and more to people in our own community.

This year you can choose from 20 Cornish charities to donate to and in return you will receive a gift certificate to pass on to your family member or friend. Gifts start from just £1 up to £100.

For more information on all the charities and to order your gift click on the catalogue link **here**.

