

January 3rd 2021 Newsletter

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE !

Well a blessed 2021 from the core staff of the cluster. I wonder how you marked the end of 2020? Some of us took to zoom once again to pray and also to have a New Year's drink together...ending the old year with the inventiveness and hope in Christ that has seen us through a remarkable and challenging year.

TIER 3

So we have a new status! And with that comes new restrictions in order to try to keep us and our communities as safe as possible physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually.

I trust that we will continue to support each other and also be prepared for others to come alongside us to offer support. None of us have walked this ever changing journey before so we need to be gentle with each other.

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

For the time being we are sending out a cluster newsletter weekly as a way of staying in touch. Many of you will get this electronically. Other people will need to receive it in paper form. So if you are able to print a copy out why not take one to someone you know who is not on line?

It's a good reason for a doorstep visit and chat as you go on your daily walk....

But remember that the person you deliver to might prefer to let the newsletter stay unread with their post for a day or two if they are being extra careful about the spread of Covid.

WHAT'S on this week

Sunday 3rd : 1030am: a short act of worship at St. Peter's Newlyn, St Mary PZ and Paul
Sunday zoom worship can be found on the Penlee cluster website ..so that you can worship safely from home.

Monday 4th: 1030am: Super soups support group :St Marys PZ

Tuesday 5th 930: Communion at St. Peter's and on zoom
1030am: staff meeting : Zoom

Tues 5th cont 4pm: PCC of St Mary and St. John: And PCC of Paul both on Zoom

Wed 6th

9am: 1662 Eucharist : Paul church and zoom
11am: PCC of St Peter Newlyn : Zoom
7pm: Twelfth Night entertainment : Zoom

Thursday 7th:

1030: communion and wisdom reflections: St Mary PZ and Zoom

Friday 8th

1030- 1130: well being group : St Marys PZ

Saturday 9th

830am: traditional language Eucharist: St Marys PZ and zoom

SUNDAY 10th

1030am: a short act of worship at St. Peter's Newlyn, St Mary PZ and Paul

Sunday zoom worship can be found on the Penlee cluster website ..so that you can worship safely from home.

EACH WEEK DAY :

Morning prayer: 8am: Zoom

Night prayer: 9pm : Zoom

IF YOU WISH TO GET A LINK TO ANY OF THESE ZOOM ACTIVITIES PLEASE REQUEST

A LINK FROM : teamlead@penleeccluster.org.uk or from admin@penleeccluster.org.uk

We will be working hard this week to find a way that you can phone onto these events too...for those not on internet.



COVID 19...TIER 3.....new protocols

From next week there will be a temp check before entering church buildings

Wear a mask at all times in church: even when no one is present. (not if you are helping conducting worship)

Sign in for track and trace

Sanitise hands thoroughly

Go straight to your seat or table

Do not put your mask in a bag if taking it off and not on a surface ...please.

Do not mingle with others in the building after worship or a support group ...do not all try to leave at the same time.

SUPER SOUPS REFLECTIONS

There is frenzied chopping, we chat and giggle. We boil and simmer, purée and decant into pretty soup jars. Snippets of news are swapped and we give each other advice. We sing and sometimes dance around the steamy pots. We gather with spoons poised for the final tasting, fussing and sprinkling until it is just right.

Finally, the aprons are thrown off and we scurry through the streets of Penzance handing out our warm soup to unsuspecting members of the congregation. It is a wonderful excuse to knock on people's doors and check to see that all is well with a cheery chat.

I adore Monday- soup- making -days at St Mary's. Although, I must tell you my little secret! -These lovely soup ladies are my Soup Angels - there is more than soup being made in God's Soup Kitchen, they are helping me enormously too, they make me feel useful and valued with their cheerful chats, caring friendship and love."

The Twelfth Night Show! And now to Plan B !

The move of Cornwall from Tier 2 to 3 today it has meant that there has had to be a change in arrangements for the Twelfth Night Show.

Instead of meeting in person at 7pm on Wednesday 6th January at St Mary's Church we will do so via zoom for an evening of songs, poems, sketches, stories, show and tell presentations and such like – with the 'performers' being members of the 4 Cluster churches – so that could mean you!

To join the zoom gathering at **7pm on Wednesday 6th January** click

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3592262475?pwd=TC9UQ2lyWIMyN1c4ZFB3empkbDNFQT09>

Meeting ID: 359 226 2475
Passcode: Pz4

As Scotland's bard once wrote "The best laid schemes o' mice an' men gang aft a-gley". Had Robert Burns been alive today he would of course used zoom instead. And that is what we will do. The evening will start promptly at 7pm and will finish by 9pm, with a 10 minute break to have a chat or replenish your glass.

If you would like to be one of the performers, please let me know either by e-mailing me at georgedow51@btinternet.com or phoning me on 07732 951 205 and mentioning what you will be offering to the programme, be it song, poem or something else. I'll then put together an 'order of service'.

Should you prefer not to 'perform' then that is equally fine. Just come along and be entertained. You may witness talents of your fellow congregation members which have so far been hidden.

LIGHT ACROSS THE BAY CHRISTMAS EVE

As part of our Re-Imagining Christmas offering we wanted to convey the sense of awe and wonder over the birth of God as a human being in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago. So with a Mission Fund Grant we arranged a firework displays at 5.30pm on Christmas Eve Mounts Bay was lit up with colourful star shapes to make us think of the star leading the magi and streaming patterns like the angelic chorus serenading the hill side shepherds.

After watching in the Quiet Garden in Paul we were moved to sing a carol. **Silent Night Holy Night ... Son of God, Love's true light** summed it all up perfectly. It was seen right around the Bay we have since had messages of thanks for arranging this event and this comment is typical of many we have received

What a beautiful start to Christmas thank you so much for making that happen. It certainly was a positive ray of light in dark times. Thank you.



INTERRUPTIONS: Reflecting on Impact of Covid time during this next period Individually and as a Church Community

I wonder if you are asking what this Covid period has taught us? You might be thinking about all that we have lost as well as what we might have gained. For each of us this experience will be different. Rowan Williams, our former archbishop, has written a very thoughtful book called "Candles in the darkness". You might want to read it.

He ends with asking a very simple question: when we have emerged from the shadow of the pandemic what will we have learned? Like all his questions they take much time to answer thoughtfully, truthfully, and in a way that might allow us to be transformed by God and the experience.

So from next week we invite each one of you to come on a journey of discovery....

By reflecting on psalms, pictures, gospel passages and Celtic prayer we will think through what effect this Covid interruption has caused in our lives and the lives of our community and churches.

JOURNALING : one of the ways that people often reflect is by a process of journaling.....

Simply a note book or sketch pad into which you record your responses. You might want to paint, draw, stick photos in, write poetry or a prayer. You might try to make your response in a way that you have not tried before....having a go at drawing...or taking photos.

The journal is a personal journal of your thinking about this time of interruptionyou might want to share an insight or thought ...but it is for you and God primarily.

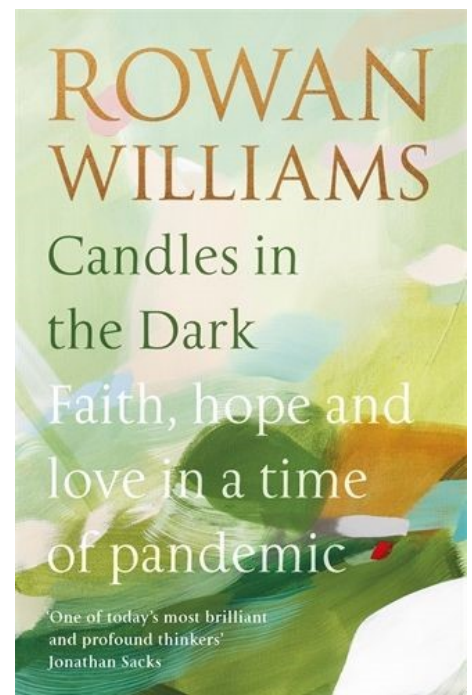
So starting next week :

INTERRUPTIONS: Emerging from the shadow of the pandemic : what we have learned

You can join in through the following ways : a number of people will be helping to lead this process over the next 10 weeks....you can join in as much or little as you like .

- **Penlee Cluster Website : resource and exercise for the week (and video clip)**
- **Newsletter : resource and exercise for the week**
- **Wed wisdom group: 6pm: Zoom**
- **Thursday communion and reflection : St. Mary 1030**
- **Friday communion and reflection : St. John 1030**
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- **Friday wisdom group : 1030am Zoom**

If you would like a sketch pador would like to try your hand at using oil pastels or watercolour paint do contact us and we will get resources to you. teamleader@penleecluster.org.uk



"Faith does not deny the fragility we all share....nor does it make light of the cost and pain of it"

Rowen Williams : Candles in the dark