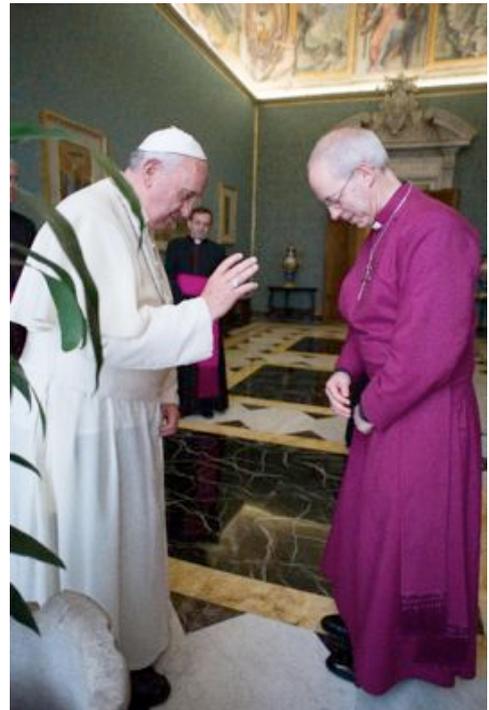


**JULY 2014**

**ARCHBISHOP JUSTIN'S  
VISIT TO ROME**

*The Director of the Anglican Centre,  
Archbishop David Moxon, writes:*

**Prayer, poverty and peace**



Perhaps a gift of grace we can offer the world is the capacity to live with a measure of difference and yet hold each other in prayerful love, as St Paul calls for.

This is certainly what Archbishop Justin calls for in these days, and he is met by exactly the same spirit in Pope Francis: a good time to be walking in unity on the Emmaus road.

We haven't arrived at the place where we can share Christ's hospitality in a Eucharist as the Emmaus pair did, but we are on that road and we are joined by the One who will lead us there. **(Continued on page 5.....)**

**A closer walk with the Pope, in terms of prayer, poverty and peace;**

**a closer walk in Roman Catholic - Anglican mission in terms of street outreach to trafficked and refugee communities,**

**a closer walk in terms of prayer with Roman Catholic Christians.**

These were the themes of the Archbishop of Canterbury's visit to Rome. He affirmed the mission of the Global Freedom Network, the new anti slavery faith-based coalition, as the greatest combined initiative of the Roman Catholic and Anglican churches since the Reformation.

We seem to be drawing closer in relationship, even as we notice significant difference, especially the ordination of women to the episcopate. This is a remarkable gift of grace.



**Bishop Tim and Chairman Rev Steve Wild on "the John Wesley" having a major successful impact on the population of Looe Cornwall and surrounding area, whilst on a week's mission during June 2014**



## The Trumpets have Sounded

### Cracking sermon which was 'personal'

It was good to see an increased congregation in Gwennap Pit for the annual Pentecost service, despite a chilly wind and only fleeting glimpses of sunshine. Birdsong provided a pleasant background to the Salvation Army band from Falmouth, blowing their own trumpets. The Diocesan Bishop and the Methodist District Chairman enjoyed their usual happy banter. Introductions, hymns and prayers preceded the address given by Major Jean Harris SA from Exeter.

The BBC and other broadcasters have an "allergy" to religion and regard it as an eccentricity that is best ignored, according to Ed Stourton.

The presenter of BBC Radio 4's Sunday programme said the British media's "blind spot" had led to a "catastrophic misreading of events" in the Middle East and other regions where religion plays a crucial role in political life.

"In the aftermath of the revolution in Egypt, for example, we listened to the secular liberals in Cairo, and were completely caught by surprise by the rise of the Muslim Brotherhood.

"No honest journalist can look at what is happening in the Middle East – in Syria and Iraq, for example – without conceding that we have repeatedly underestimated the importance of religion in the region," he told Radio Times.

Stourton, a Roman Catholic, also pointed to the "astonishing religious revival" in Russia, a country he has visited many times.

#### Related Articles

- [BBC plans Easter spectacle for the non-religious](#)  
12 Jan 2014
- [ITV will broadcast just one hour of religious programming this year](#)  
23 Jun 2010

"But you aren't likely to find any of this in the British media," he said.

"Russia's religious revival joins my lengthening list of stories that have been missed because of the British blind spot about religion.

"We do not deliberately ignore things – it is rather that we come from a culture that regards religion as an eccentricity. The consequence can be a catastrophic misreading of events."

Stourton said the "British allergy to religion goes well beyond the newsroom, and has certainly infected broadcasting culture more generally".

In the recent Sandford St Martin Television Awards, for which he was a judge, nine of the 10 shortlisted programmes were broadcast by the BBC.

Rather than seeing that as a cause for celebration, Stourton argued that it showed programme-makers "see religious broadcasting as a duty, not an opportunity".

Stourton urged broadcasters to "let religious programmes out of the ghetto" and recognise that they can make compelling and popular television.



Taking Pentecost as her subject she referred to its origins as a Jewish celebration and feast, which has developed into both a corporate celebration and personal encounters with Christ. She explained how Jesus had instructed the disciples to wait in Jerusalem, illustrating this with a story from Stanstead Airport, where a young man waited for his wife and baby. At the time of Pentecost the young church waited together in heart and mind.

At the appointed time everyone was filled with the Holy Spirit. Tongues of fire settled on each of them as recounted in prior readings from the Acts of the Apostles. Originally there was Unity, but also each individual experienced a personal encounter with the Spirit who came with power giving individual gifts. This should still occur, but she suggested that all too often the given gifts are not used and that non-Christians view the church as fragmented.

She concluded with a further appeal for unity so that all may join together as the Body of Christ – but it is bound to be Unity in Diversity. It was a very well presented address. The meeting concluded with further hymns before Bishop Tim gave the closing prayer and blessing.

The congregation included a large contingent of people from Zimbabwe who have an alternating exchange arrangement with Saltash Methodist Church. But of course the organisers including the Cornish Methodists could not pass up a chance to provide 'eats' with jam and cream at the exit.

**Primrose Peacock. 08.06.14.**

#### For information:

Delighted to announce that Churches Together Looe & District now have a website. Please do have a look and see what can be achieved. Congratulations to all involved.

[www.looechurchestogether.org.uk](http://www.looechurchestogether.org.uk)



### A fillip for Philip.

The Revd. Canon Philip Lambert was the Eucharistic President and Preacher at his farewell service on Sunday June 22<sup>nd</sup>. He is moving to St. Thomas Kefalas in Crete. Canon Philip is very well acquainted with Greece knows the language and has long-standing interests in Orthodoxy and iconography. He is an active member of the Friends of Mount Athos. He joined the Cathedral staff in 2006 as Canon Missioner. A very large congregation gathered to hear his final sermon, which was followed by presentations.

His subject was fear, He initially addressed many common fears such as new situations, financial problems or singing in public. All of these could be destructive. He then illustrated the problem with remembrances from his days as a curate in London aged twenty-four, when he was required to meet many different types of people. Some of them were very unorthodox and disconcerting.

He mentioned his first funeral visit and other situations when he was afraid of not being relevant. But then he found that his church became a place of community like a swimming pool where all could go at their own pace. *“Everyone can teach us something about God – however eccentric they may seem. Aspects of their lives then become teaching and relevant. Practical action should be a must. It will allow ordinary people to become vehicles of truth.”* We then heard a reference to ‘the duck’ one of Canon Philip’s many funny tales.

Canon Philip then referred to the Orthodox Churches, and how Anglican churches could learn lessons from them. He praised many aspects of the cathedral and its community including the Chapter, the choir, artists, which had been a specific interest and various lay groups.

He reminded us that Jesus said, *“Do not be afraid”* He recognised that by moving to Crete he was in most respects going to an unknown and possible fearful situation. He quoted from St. Matt. 10.29 where two sparrows were sold for a penny and perfect love (of God) from St. John. He concluded by reading a prayer written by Br. Roget of Taize Monastery in France.

The choir then sang as a tribute, a prayer set to music by the late John Tavener entitled *“Mother of God”* while Canon Philip stood facing the Cathedral icon of the virgin and child which he had commissioned in 2010. Following the final blessing coffee was available before the Dean made the presentations. Mrs Frances Lambert, until recently a specialist nurse at the Mermaid Centre joined her husband on the podium.

Dean Roger Bush was in the amusing mode and produced a series of slightly different gifts. They included a miniature bottle of Ouzo, a ball of string relating to the Cretan legend of the Minotaur, a cheese knife, sun glasses and a cartoon drawn by Miss Peacock before politely handing over a certain white envelope with love and thanks. He spoke about Canon Philip’s tenure being one of fun, fellowship and faith. A finger buffet was then served in the refectory for those who wished to stay.

**Primrose Peacock. Photography by Keith Sparrow**

**United Reformed Church**

**The Baptist Union of Great Britain**

**The Church of Scotland**

**The Methodist Church**

## The Lies We Tell Ourselves: Ending Comfortable Myths About Poverty

As Christians we are called to have a distinctive and joyful presence in the world. Our calling leads us to seek after truth, and that means facing up to our own blindness as well as holding others to account.

This cross denominational report is entitled - **The Lies We Tell Ourselves: Ending Comfortable Myths About Poverty** - because it is clear that we are often complicit in the myths that we have been willing to believe about poverty in Britain today. The report has demonstrated how statistics can be manipulated to support a story that is comfortable to hear: that the poor are a distinct group of people, somehow deserving of their poverty, and therefore deserving of the deprivations and cuts which they increasingly face.

It will always be possible to find examples of individual good or bad behaviour, including by people living in poverty. It is also possible to use such a story to justify an opinion.

However we should not attempt to understand a large group of people on the basis of a single story. We should look at the evidence and test our prejudices and our opinions against it. We should never allow the evidence to be bent to fit our prejudices, and we should be outraged when others do it on our behalf - even if we find the prejudices reassuring.

If poverty in the UK were caused by the faults and laziness of the poor, then of us might feel more comfortable with it. Our charitable instincts might prompt us to offer help, but there would be no injustice to be righted.

But the truth is that poverty is an injustice crying out for correction and cannot be explained away as the problem of individual families. Responding with charity can help to break down the barriers in society and is a partial solution, but we all have a moral responsibility to build a more just and more understanding society. As Christians we believe that the infinitely loving creator, shared by us all, demands no less of us

<http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Truth-And-Lies-Report-smaller.pdf>

## **AN ORTHODOX EASTER**

My 14 year old daughter Rosie and I recently attended the Orthodox Service on Easter Saturday. This was held late on Saturday night, with the liturgy starting at 10pm.

The tiny Orthodox church - the only one in Cornwall - is situated on Laity Moor, tucked behind Ponsanooth on the road to Stithians. This is just down the road from where we live and we have driven and cycled past it dozens of times, often wondering what it's like. The church is a spiritual home to Orthodox Christians from many different nationalities and traditions, including Greek, Russian and Syrian churches. It was originally a tiny Methodist chapel, fallen into ruin, but now wonderfully restored and cared for by the Orthodox community in the past 15 years.

There is barely enough seating for a dozen people, and the service started in near darkness with just a single desk lamp illuminating the words of the sung liturgy for the choir of 2 women. This was sung in both Greek and English, in the unique tones of the Eastern Church. Coming from an Irish-Anglican (and Quaker!) background I recognised many of the elements in terms of Psalms and the Nicene Creed.

On entering the church we were each presented with a tall tapered candle. Being there in good time, Rosie and I were able to sit through the first half hour of the service until it became apparent that there were maybe 20 people crammed into the small porch area, including some older people. So we vacated our seats for the regular members, and standing near the back we were able to gain a bigger view of the event, including the many ornate Icons that are central to the Orthodox tradition.

After an extended period of liturgy sung in the shadows, perhaps forty worshippers had gathered inside the tiny building, young and old, nearly all standing. At this stage, the priest Father Nikitas, partially opened the screen revealing just a glimpse of the golden altar-piece by candlelight and taking a large white candle he passed this light to the nearest of the congregation. In the space of a minute, each of us was holding a lit taper and the light from the candles almost blazed inside such a tiny space, making the desk lamp redundant.

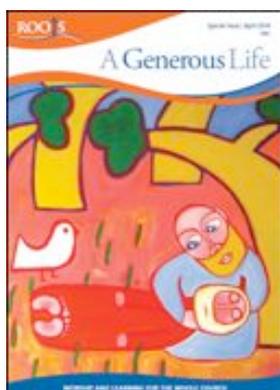
We then processed quietly out of the building following the priest and other robed members, swinging incense, onto the narrow country lane. The service continued outside for a chilly twenty minutes, with more liturgy and now with sung responses from the gathered congregation, mainly "Kýrie Eléison" which translates as "give thanks to the Lord" (1 Chronicles 16:34). A single bemused motorist stumbled upon us with our candles filling the dark lane, and after a couple of minutes with dipped headlights and rumbling engine, realised we were unlikely to move any time soon, so found another way through to Stithians.

We returned indoors around 11pm, Rosie and I both grateful of the tiny warmth from our candles, and the service continued with the admission of a new member to their church, a middle-aged man with a beard that would surely qualify him for the priesthood shortly! This ceremony took the form of an anointing with a recent consignment of holy oil (Chrism) all the way from Greece. The new member declared his faith and was blessed repeatedly by Father Nikitas.

By now it was nearly 11.30pm, with Holy Communion still to commence. In the candlelight of the foyer, Rosie and I had both read that we would be (politely) excluded from partaking in this, so we made a quiet exit to the warmth of the car and home.

Coming from quite a traditional Christian background, both within Friends and from involvement with other churches, I have long been touched by the solemnity of Easter, as well as the celebration of new life. I found the Orthodox Easter service in the darkness and cold of a Saturday night, surely the lowest moment for the followers of Jesus, to be enlightening and spiritually uplifting. Most of all I'm pleased that a very different faith community from my own was able to welcome and involve complete strangers such as Rosie and me on their most holy night. I hope to visit them again in the coming months and years. I know we would welcome them just as warmly.

Maurice Matthews (Falmouth Quaker Meeting)



### **Excellent resources for worship from the Methodist Church**

**Drama Script** ['Ideology' - A three-part drama for use in churches](#) (Word doc)

#### **Worship planning**

A special, one-off issue of [ROOTS](#) magazine features worship planning materials (prayers, sermon pointers etc) to enable churches to explore what it means to be a generous disciple in the local church context. It includes worship resources for Adult & All-Age, as well as Children & Young People. It has been produced by the Methodist Church in Britain and the team at [ROOTS](#) magazine.

A copy has been mailed to churches. [Download the magazine](#) (Pdf)

You can also [order the magazine via Methodist Publishing](#) (free, + P&P).

# Waymark Event.

The 'Way of Life' booklet and programme was launched by the Diocese of Truro during 2013. Following an enormous amount of hard work and detailed planning by the Diocesan staff, **Way to Go** took place in the Cathedral on Saturday 31st May as a follow up. There was a varied programme and related literature tables.

Fr. George Guiver Superior of the Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield was the keynote speaker. Following appropriate introductions by Bishop Tim and Canon Philip, Fr. George commenced his lecture using large screen slides. He asked rhetorical questions about Christian discipleship today. He then concentrated on three themes in the modern world - Community, Story and Fidelity.

**Community** all too often is abandoned in favour of making decisions to affect one's own life and then arranging it to suit oneself. He contrasted the way of life and attitude of the Mirfield Community, with the new Brownie promise. "*be true to myself and develop my beliefs.*" This, he said reflects modern thought but something is shrinking. We are losing the sense of community in the church. This should be addressed.

**Story** was illustrated by his Leicester school photograph from the 1960s, which had largely retained values from Victorian Society when the Bible and prayer were central to all. Now he said, there is often no sharing, little group Bible reading or study in many Anglican churches.

**Fidelity.** (Faith) Fr. George spoke about the value of prayer, how at one time during his early ministry he was brought up with a jolt and had stopped praying. "Today group prayer has all too often been replaced by Law, Rules and Contracts causing a loss of the community spirit. We are not sure who we are or where we belong. Society is out of balance" He suggested setting out a specific time for daily prayer with other Christians anywhere.

Fr. George pointed out how each of these subjects was found in the Church, which is a community organisation based on the Gospel and faith in God. "A strong church is not based on money, numbers or power but one that is spiritually strong. We have become the nurse to a weak church, although admittedly this is patchy." He concluded his lecture by outlining methods by which the local churches and the Diocese could make a prayer covenant for daily prayer and have targets similar to those applied in secular work.

The company then dispersed in order to participate in 'Workshops' before and following a lunch break. The closing worship and commissioning was conducted by an enthusiastic

Bishop Christopher with the Kea Church music group leading community singing before the introduction and commissioning of a group of Way Guides. They are people prepared to give practical and spiritual help to others. Marion Lane explained what this involved before the Bishop commissioned about fifteen people as Guides. This was followed by some interesting examples of group work currently in progress.

The Rev. Hilary Samson (St. Enoder) who organises monthly evening Communion services for primarily teenagers represented **The Journey Up**.

**The Journey In** focused on the reading of Psalm 139 1-13 by Christine (?)

Canon Tony Ingleby (Liskeard) explained **The Journey With**. He engages in a programme of shared meals, discussion and prayers.

**The Journey Out** had two representatives. Barbara Pollard from St. Austell showed how money obtained from the Bishop's Den was being used for '*Pamper Evenings*' involving manicure, make-up and time for ladies to discuss their problems.

She was followed by Canon David H Smith from the Churches Together in Penzance Area "Giving Shop". The shop started by recognising that the nativity scene would be better displayed in a shop window in the "Market Place" rather than in a church. During its eighteen months of life to date the shop had received 15,000 gifts of food, blankets, children's Christmas presents and raised just under £10,000 for local charities. It is now going through the process of relocating within the Penzance Wharfside Shopping Centre re-opening late June 2014.

**Primrose Peacock. C 31.5.14.**

(continued from page one .....)

## On the recent visit between Pope Francis and Archbishop Welby....

Speaking frankly about the centuries old division between Catholics and Anglicans, Pope Francis said, "We cannot claim that our division is anything less than a scandal and an obstacle to our proclaiming the Gospel of salvation to the world." Indeed, he said, "our vision is often blurred by the cumulative burden of our divisions and our will is not always free of that human ambition which can accompany even our desire to preach the Gospel as the Lord commanded."

Then striking a note of hope, he declared that while "the goal of full unity may seem distant indeed, it remains the aim which should direct our every step along the way."

Drawing on the Second Vatican Council's Decree on Ecumenism, the pope told the primate of the Church of England, in words also meant for the worldwide Anglican Communion, that "we should advance in our relationship and cooperation by placing no obstacle to the ways of divine providence and by not prejudicing future promptings of the Holy Spirit."

Pope Francis recalled that "progress towards full communion will not be the fruit of human actions alone, but a free gift of God." But, well aware that many Catholics and Anglicans are deeply discouraged by the growing divisions between them—

"matters of deep significance that separate us" was how Welby put it—resulting from decisions in the United States, Australia and New Zealand, and most recently in the Church of England (expected to be confirmed by the General Synod next month), to proceed with the ordination of women bishops, the pope reminded everyone that "the Holy Spirit gives us the strength not to grow disheartened and he invites us to trust fully in the power of his works."