

Joyful Abundance

The Five Saints parishes are joyful in the abundance of God's love and delight in knowing Jesus His Son, seeking the power of the Holy Spirit to enliven us.

We recognise our fruitfulness as we celebrate creation and carefully note our need to be gentle and watchful with the earth's resources; This particularly finds expression at St Pauls Church, Chacewater.

Where also Community life is part of outreach and mission in singing and events, loving neighbours and being kind to each other.

The school and its young people, their families and the staff find a welcome in and from the church.

Growing Faith is enriched with gifted Worship Leaders leading groups.

At Stithians Church the faithful there have a huge part in the community, leading and resourcing the Scouts, Guides, Beavers and young peoples church with Cheeky Pandas and Messy Church (Muddy Church).

Their discipleship is rooted in helping others and the church building is open every day.

Links to so many of the villages other groups and wider Cornwall Charities keeps the worshipping few very busy.

Stithians is blessed in having a stipendiary Associate Priest and self supporting Associate Deacon residing there, additionally 3 Priests with Permission to Officiate live and minister from that community.

An active and very gifted Reader and PTO Reader both offer ministry and guide Growing Faith.

Music and community singing are envisaged.

An active and deeply appreciated group of bellringers summon the faithful and enter fully into the worshipping life of that church.

St Day Holy Trinity Church is unique and delights in its identity as a Shine for Our Lady of Walsingham, rejoices in its High Anglican tradition and Anglo Catholic worship.

Community life revolves around the faithful within the town and although the church itself can be said to be on the margins of society, those physically living on the margins of the community at Wheal Jewel Travellers site are served and outreach envisaged to celebrate their culture and share the Good News together.

The Society of Mary meets from the month of May to the beginning of the winter months, finding an expression for discipleship.

Faithful worshippers offer of themselves in outreach and visible presence.

A Reader in Training who is also the only Churchwarden leads worship and is deeply committed to mission.

The Vicarage is opposite this church and a well known and loved PTO Priest living in the town offers pastoral ministry and takes worship regularly.

Carharrack as a Chapel of Ease and dedicated to St Piran is a beautiful community building, deeply appreciated by the residents there.

It hosts The Church of the Cross, an independent non conformist church.

Whose desire for mission and outreach enhances and adds to our ability to be Joyful in the abundance of God and showing Jesus to the world.

Sadly the sustainability of the faithful Anglicans of Carharrack is worrying, the pandemic, age and infirmity have conspired to reduce the usual attenders to only a handful of faithful souls.

Within Community Life the church is delighted to be welcoming several weddings this year.

Carharrack share outreach and mission with St Day.

Gwennap Church is a beautiful and loved building now resplendent in a small community, telling its own story of days past when mining was the major source of employment and a population of tens of thousands lived and worked and had their being nearby.

It works and prays for and with the residents there, summoning worshippers by bells in a separate bell 'house'.

The Church Hall is the only community space apart from the church itself and offers space for concerts, fairs and village lunches.

The poor are in the hearts and minds of the faithful few and families are welcomed to excellent worship opportunities shared by gifted worship leaders there.

Sustainability is a pressing and worrying issue, with the age profile of the available people being elevated!

Therefore when praying into the priorities we have been invited to consider:

As the Five Saints, who began their journey together only recently to becoming one Parish, we can demonstrate that we are active in:

Fruitfulness:

The Poor
Schools Children and Youth
Discipleship
Community Life
Creation

Sustainability:

New Faith
Growing Faith

We are tested and worried by money and meeting our invitation to contribute to MMF.

Our buildings, especially Stithians Church cause us to be anxious.

The one huge concern is succession, in particular seeking Office Holders:
We need Churchwardens and a Treasurer.

We are very pleased to have an excellent Administrator, whose eases the burden considerably.

However, because we are joyful in the abundance of God we know that we can flourish.

The working relationships are healing from a difficult transition and some pastoral breakdowns.

Being the Vicar of these Five Saints is wonderful and gives me great joy.

As we emerge from the pandemic restrictions, opportunities will abound to really embrace mission and outreach.

Overburdening the faithful must be avoided and our priorities therefore identified and concentrated on.

Let us acknowledge then the abundance of God's love and be joyful in it.

Canon Jem
March '22

