



Chaplain's Blog October 2018



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A short blog:

I do hope to see many of you on Saturday at the annual service when we will welcome Esther Brown to our ranks at the end of her three years of study. Please keep in your prayers a couple of Readers from out of the diocese who were due to join us but cannot because of serious health complications. Also prayers for several readers who cannot attend because they have caring duties for poorly partners.

There will probably be another short blog at the end of the month.

Our Bishop of Truro Designate

Just in case you were not at synod or seen the YouTube video of Revd Canon Philip Mounstephen speaking to Truro Diocesan Synod September 2018 – here is a link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKwnN2UQ78E>

And here is a link to our Bishop of Truro designate's Twitter feed- for those of you who Tweet!

<https://twitter.com/pmounstephen>

Worship Resources

A visitor recently gave me a link the "Worship Together" site. <http://www.worshiptogether.com/>

It will not be everybody's cup of tea but it is a great resource of worship songs and music and if you register you get a free song complete with tutorials, music, chords etc on a regular basis. Some are very catchy and thought provoking, others I have to confess at turning off before the end. See what you think.

Creeds Continued

Kim's creed prompted some responses and there's another one to read in this edition from Martin Adams. Please have a look and comment. The full text with explanations in the menu!

I believe in an eternally existent Heavenly Father who created the universe in an act of loving omnipotence.

God created man in His own image, to have fellowship with Him.

As a reflection of His own image, God gave man free will.

Even as man rebelled, bringing death into the world, God showed his love for the world, and especially man, by setting up the means of eventually restoring all things to Himself.

That restoration is embodied in Jesus Christ, the pivotal figure of history. He is eternally existing; but in an act of love, He was born of Mary.

I believe that Jesus's great work includes undoing the power of death. When He rose from the dead and ascended to Heaven he triumphed over all earthly and spiritual powers opposed to God; and via God's grace he has undone death's power in the lives of those who place their faith in Him.



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When Jesus died, He took upon Himself the penalty we deserve for our sins.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who empowers believers to think and act according to God's will.

I believe in the Church — the body of believers worldwide who are to continue Christ's mission of showing God's love and redeeming purposes until Jesus returns.

I believe in the communion of saints — the spiritual bond with those living on earth and with those who have died in the faith.

I believe there will be a general resurrection on a day of judgement, when we all shall be held to account.

I believe that, in God's good time, there will be a new heaven and a new earth, in which fellowship with God shall be restored, both of man and of creation.

Pilgrimage and retreat idea

The last blog stirred some interest with pictures of Lindesfarne which set me thinking about retreats and pilgrimages in general.



What about a Diocese of Truro Reader's Pilgrimage?
Would anyone want to go?
How would we travel?
What would it cost?
Who would lead it?
When would we go?

Martin Adam's and I chatted about it at the monthly coffee and conversation morning (Penventon Hotel Redruth, 10 am every second Monday!) and distilled the ideas to the following:

1. It should be far enough away to make it a real pilgrimage from Cornwall.
2. It should be to a place of real Christian significance – possibly passing others on the way, possibly Iona or Lindisfarne.
3. We would travel by rail, meandering up the country by the cheapest group discounted tickets rather than necessarily taking the quickest route,
4. It would probably need to be 2020 because retreat houses get booked up a long way in advance
5. Probably out of the holiday season.

We would need at least ten people to make the most of group travel discounts.

Having got that far, Martin went away to look at trains and I went away to look at retreat houses. Apparently we can get very good deals on travel by booking in advance as a group and/or by making use of railcards.



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Choosing a retreat venue is a wondrously complex and bewildering matter and I found myself wanting to book an individual retreat on Lindisfarne for story telling that I discovered until I found it was going to cost upward of £400 for four days not including travel! Trying to focus on how to make a group booking in the end eluded me and I decided to write this blog piece and invite thoughts and ideas from the huge resource that is the hive mind of the Readers where there are bound to be folks who have done this sort of thing before.

So comments, thoughts, ideas, tentative bookings, offers to lead or organise all gratefully received!