

*The Parish Magazine
of
St Stephen's Church
Guernsey*



July 2026

We have a new contributor this month and, not only that, but I am told that she will become a regular which thrills me no end.

I am talking, of course, about our lovely new Deacon. I think that we are very lucky to have her and that she will enhance our church life; not just spiritually but as a friend and a

welcome addition to our happy family. We really are blessed what with her and our wonderful Vicar (I've told him he can pay me later) and I am sure that we have a happy and fulfilling future ahead of us.



I often listen to Alexa's thought for the day (sad I know but what can I tell you, I live alone and I don't get out much) and the one for the day I am writing this got me thinking. It is, "be the change that you wish to see in the world" and it ties in with something that I have been musing on for a while which is that it is too easy to think that one person can't make a difference when actually several individuals doing the same thing can have an enormous impact. Whether it is recycling and looking after our planet or standing up to bullies and warmongers, we all have a duty to do our bit.

Anyway, you don't need a sermon from me, as mentioned we have people who are much better qualified than I am so I will just close with sending you all my love as always and wishing you a wonderful summer.

Have a great month.

Nikki

All contributions for the August magazine
will be gratefully received!!.
Copy deadline will be Friday July 24th 2026
Send to nikkiattwool@gmail.com

Breakfast with Bees



As I sat eating my breakfast this morning, lost in thought as usual, I happened to notice a most beautiful sight. The early morning sunlight was playing across the lavender, and dancing around the flowers were a number of bumble bees... what an incredibly special moment!

That thought had me wondering (or is that wandering... both are true) about how many times we miss the simplest displays of God's great love for us because we are too busy to notice. Every day brings some joy and beauty into our lives, if we are open to recognising these moments and celebrate them. The complexity and joy of each flower and all the different insects that may visit that flower, so easily lost when we fail to look.

Walking around a garden market recently, I commented that the large variety of flowers are such a wonderful example of the creativity of God; I would struggle to suggest that these have all emerged as a result of chance, there are too many of them. For us as Christians, we see these examples (alongside millions of others) as pointers to the fun that God had when He created the world – a splash of red there, a hint of blue here...

We live in a world which is increasingly becoming thoughtless and simple – just ask the search engine to find the answer or solution to our problem. There is even a tool which allows people to ask faith questions of a computer, and it will generate the most likely answer. In all of this we run the risk of losing our uniqueness as God's children. We lose sight of the magical and mystical as we constantly search for "reality". And yet, the answer is right there under our noses all the time.

Does God chuckle at our pathetic attempts, or does He cry in desperation at our failure to recognise His hand at work? We take so much for granted on a daily basis, like the fresh air that we breathe, and we don't give it any thought until something changes in our circumstances. (The line, "there are no atheists in a shell hole" springs to mind). One can't help but reflect that our lives are the poorer for this.

William Wordsworth captured this in his poem, Tintern Abbey, "*While with an eye made quiet with the power of harmony, and the deep power of joy, we see into the life of things.*" Our lives make sense when we look beyond those matters that divide us, and we seek the experience of knowing and being known at the deep level of existence. Somewhere, down in the darkest corners of who we are, lies a glimmer of hope. That glimmer is fed when we see the hand of God at work within us and around us, in family and friend (and sometimes in foe). When we realise that we are a small part of a much greater complexity that we call life...

Clearly my wonderings over my cereal have allowed the milk to cool, as the bees continue their merry flittering from flower to flower, basking in warm sunshine. How blessed are we that we can muse on such things, and on the great love that God has for all of us. Thank you to all who share our beautiful Church. May we continue to be amazed and blessed by God in all we do.

Love Fr Joe

FROM OUR DEACON'S DESK...

Mother Jill Mabire was installed as Deacon to St Stephen's Church on Pentecost Sunday, 24th of May and she preached her first sermon on Sunday, 28th of June 2026:



In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..

I think that sometimes Jesus says some hard and difficult things to us as we look to follow him... over the last few weeks we have been hearing some of the things Jesus said and did with his disciples as recorded in Matthews gospel, plenty of instructions and warnings about what might happen as they go out to minister by themselves, and also the Rewards they might expect. What he said then is something that can still so easily challenge me today,

The thought of Jesus telling me, to my face, "I never knew you" is something that challenges me as a christian, to really look at my life, my faith, my beliefs.

Do I really know him personally, and does He know me?

But then the invitation to follow Jesus is not an easy option and here Jesus makes it so difficult as to appear almost obstructive.

It is an invitation to engage in personal change.

At the heart of it is the knowledge and acceptance of the Will of God. Jesus speaks of a "deeper life", a life lived in the long term.

There is care needed in building for strength on the right foundations. The images are harsh and the talk tough showing us that the stakes are high.

It is the kind of life we want to lead that hangs in the balance here. Will we choose the soft option of going with the crowd and a superficial faith - or will we take the road less travelled — to a kingdom kind of life, a future life lived in the now?

This is the choice that Jesus is outlining.

Maybe if he were to be saying this today he would use modern management terms like "You can talk the talk - but can you walk the walk?"

It helps in the understanding of this passage to realise that it forms the conclusion of the Sermon on the Mount, in which Jesus spells out the essential qualities to be found in his disciples.

Jesus saw the crowds and went up a hill, where he sat down. His disciples gathered round him, and He began to teach them.

His disciples, those 12 men who had given up everything to follow him. They must have felt their lives were incomplete, that there were questions to which no-one could give a satisfactory answer. Then they met Jesus and they knew, although they could not have explained it, that he held the answer, that he WAS the answer, and they just had to go with him.

As Jesus looked at them, what did he see in them?

He saw what no-one else could see, that here were men who would change the world, because, through him, they would be changed.

As they listened to him on that quiet hillside they heard something more than mere words and they went out and lived what he had taught them, and life changed completely.

Today, Sunday by Sunday, we hear the same words about a new way of life, a new kingdom, the Kingdom of God.

But do we go out and live these words? Are we changed by them?

Jesus himself was asked what was the greatest commandment, and he replied:

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength, *and love your neighbour as yourself.*

To love God and to love people is not something that we can organise, it is a relationship we enter into. It is a response with every bit of our being and it will alter your attitude to worship, to work and to everything that we do.

We will feed the hungry, care for the strangers, visit the sick, comfort the sad, love the unlovable.

We will respond to human need without a second thought, because we love people - and want the very best for them, not because we are looking for gratitude or praise.

To love your neighbour as yourself, to love your enemies are some of the most radical words in the gospel, but it is the sort of love proclaimed by Jesus. This is the clearest expression of what it means to be a disciple.

This is walking the walk.

I was looking for a book I own the other day. A book about Mother Teresa and her private letters and writings. She perhaps, more than anyone, exemplifies someone who did the will of God, answering his call to minister to the poorest of the poor, answering His longing for the salvation of every human being.

She walked the walk, and at great personal cost as the book makes clear.

The book finishes with a story she told that expresses the heart of her life and mission.

It also invites each one of us "to be His light" by partaking in humble deeds of love and compassion that may seem insignificant but are, in fact, nothing less than the means of radiating God's love to each person we meet, thus transforming little by little, the darkness of the world.

Mother Teresa was in Australia to visit the Missionaries of Charity working there.

On a big reserve where all the Aborigines were living in small shacks made of tin and old cardboard, she entered one. She says "I call it a house but its only one room, and inside the room everything. So I told

the man living there, "Please allow me to make your bed, to wash your clothes, to clean your room." and he kept on saying "I'm alright, I'm alright." And I said to him "But you will be more alright if you allow me to do it." Then he allowed me. He allowed me in such a way that, at the end, he pulled out from his pocket an old envelope, and one more envelope, and one more envelope. He started opening one after the other, and right inside there was a little photograph of his father and he gave me that to look at.

I looked at the photo and I looked at him and I said "You are so like your father." He was so overjoyed that I could see the resemblance of his father on his face. I blessed the picture and I gave it back to him, and again one envelope, second envelope, third envelope, and the photo went back again in the pocket near his heart.

After I cleaned the room I found in the corner a big lamp full of dirt and I said, "Don't you light this lamp, such a beautiful lamp, don't you light it?" He replied "for whom?" Months and months and months nobody has ever come to me. For whom will I light it?" So I said "Won't you light it if the Sisters come to you. and he said "Yes." So the Sisters started going to him for only about 5 minutes to 10 minutes a day, but they started lighting the lamp.

After some time he got into the habit of lighting.

Slowly, slowly, slowly, the Sisters stopped going to him. But they used to go in the morning to see him. Then I forgot completely about that, and then after about two years he sent word - "Tell Mother, my friend, the light she lit in my life is still burning."

We close with the Eucharistic Prayer of Mother Teresa: let us pray:

O God, we believe You are here. We adore you and love you with our whole heart and soul because You are most worthy of all our love. Flood our souls with Your spirit and life. Penetrate and possess our whole being utterly, that our lives may only be a radiance of Yours. Shine though us, and be so in us, that everyone we come in contact with may feel your presence. Let them look up and see no longer us, but only Jesus.. Amen



Friendship Lunch



TUESDAY 14TH JULY 12PM

St Stephen's Community Centre

MENU

Chicken Alexander

with muchrooms & peppers in creamy white wine sauce

OR

Chicken in Port & Merlot Jus

*with roasted shallots & chestnut mushrooms
(Gluten-Free & Dairy-Free)*

OR

Spanish Bean Stew

*with peppers & kale in smoky tomato sauce
(Vegetarian & Gluten-Free & Dairy-Free)*

all served with new potatoes & salad

Classic Lemon Tart with cream

RSVP: by Sunday, 12th July

Jill Mabire

Linda Barnes

Aileen Thompson

01481 720 268



Peter de Sausmarez

MODERN-DAY SLAVERY

A huge increase in modern-day slavery is reported by the Global Slavery Index this year.

At last count, Slavery today is going up by 1,000,000 a year, largely as a result of the increase of conflict, climatic catastrophies and mass migration, and the UK has unfortunately been swept up in this cruel madness and has reached the horrifying proportion that nearly 2 per 1000 of the population are now enslaved, of which 2/3rds are women and children.

So where does Guernsey stand?

Has it therefore got 12 or 13 from its estimated 65,000 population? Surely not, we would spot it straight away, you could not keep something like that secret in such a small and close-knit community.

Peter de Sausmarez, introduced and interviewed by Fr Joe Thompson, will be exploring with illustrations, these and other horrifying revelations at St Stephen's Church, on Saturday 18th July at 10.30, during Coffee, Cake & Chat morning.

He will be joined by Julie Anne Headington, who recently stood in the by-election and who has been working so diligently for Victim Support in Guernsey.

SATURDAY, 18TH JULY 2026, 10.30
ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH

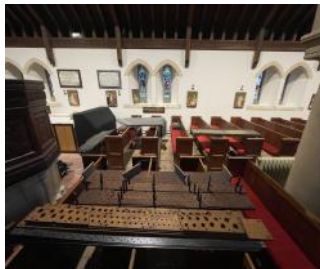
RSVP for catering purposes by Thursday, 16th July:
joe.thompson@deanery.gg / Peter 01481 235571

Organ Works

Following on from the damage caused by the storm at the beginning of the year (Storm Ciaran) a leak was discovered in the choir section of pipes above the Resurrection Chapel. Fortunately we were able to claim the repairs from our insurance and could ask Andrew Cooper (our organ builder) to come over to Guernsey and repair the damage to the organ once the roof had been fixed.

Andrew and his wife, Julie, arrived at the beginning of June. They, together with a local lad, removed all the pipes, replaced the worn fittings with new ones, and replaced the pipes – all within the space of a week! In the process of the repairs, they uncovered the marks of previous workers, one dated 1904 and the other 1933. We are so grateful to Andrew Cooper and Co for their willingness to accommodate us and for their dedication to keep our beautiful organ working properly.

Well done for such an amazing craft and workmanship.





SUNDAY, 2ND AUGUST

FAMILY PICNIC

START - ABOUT 12.30 AFTER 11.00 MASS
WEATHER PERMITTING IN THE GARDEN !
(WET WEATHER -IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE)

£10 PER PERSON
CHILDREN FREE

GIVE YOUR NAME AND DIETARY REQUIRMENTS TO
ANNE OR BETH OR MESSAGE ANNE ON 07781112557



ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH



CREATIVE CHILDREN'S CHURCH

EVERY FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH



LEARN

God's Word in fun and engaging ways.



LOVE

Building friendships and showing God's love to others.



GROW

Growing in faith, character and confidence.



CREATE

Exploring our faith through creativity, play and fun!

2.30 TO 4PM



ALL WELCOME. ACTIVITIES FOR
CHILDREN AGED 2 TO 11 YEARS
AND ACCOMPANIED BY
PARENT(S) / CARER(S)

"Let the little children
come to me, and do not
hinder them, for the
kingdom of heaven
belongs to such as these."

— MATTHEW 19:14

Children are welcome to join with us in all our services and weekly themed activities will be provided in our children's play area



Social Events Calendar

Date	Time	Event
Saturday 11 JULY	7.00 p.m.	Guernsey Brass with Guernsey Schools' Music Service
Saturday 18 JULY	10.30 a.m.	Talk by Peter de Sausmarez on MODERN-DAY SLAVERY
Sunday 2 AUGUST	12.30 p.m.	Family Picnic
Saturday 22 AUGUST	10.00 a.m.	Tea Party in support of 'Breast Cancer Now'
Wednesday 2 SEPTEMBER	5.30 p.m.	Boules Evening
Friday 18 SEPTEMBER	6.00 p.m.	Opening of the William Morris Art Exhibition
Saturday 19 SEPTEMBER	6.00 p.m.	Guernsey Choral Festival
Saturday 26 SEPTEMBER	2.30 p.m.	'Just William' Walking Tour
Sunday 4 OCTOBER	12.30 p.m.	Dedication Lunch
Saturday 17 OCTOBER	3.00 p.m.	Line Dancing
Saturday 7 NOVEMBER	6.30 p.m.	Quiz Night
Saturday 21 NOVEMBER	3.00 p.m.	Wreath Making
Sunday 6 DECEMBER	7.00 p.m.	Glee Singers Concert
Sunday 13 DECEMBER	3.00 p.m.	Only Fools and Donkeys
Sunday 20 DECEMBER	4.00 p.m.	Christmas Cheer in the Vicarage after Nine Lessons & Carols at 3.00 p.m.

For more information, please contact:
Linda Barnes 07781 416 305



Teacher: Who killed Goliath?

Student 1: "It wasn't me!"

**Student 2: "I wasn't even
at school that day."**

Student 3: "I don't know."

**The teacher, frustrated,
called the principal
to the class.**

Principal: Who killed Goliath?

Class: It wasn't us!

**Principal: "If no one tells
me who killed Goliath,**

I'm calling all your parents!"

Class: "We really don't know!"

**The principal turned
to the teacher and asked:**

**"Are you sure Goliath
was killed by**

someone from this class?"

The teacher fainted.



NERD CORNER



So we have at last reached the final instalment of 'The Great Nerdsville Boiler Drama' - do you realise you have been reading about this drivel since last October! Well done to those who have stood the course. *I wouldn't have blamed you to have given up and done something more productive and exciting with your lives.*

We are at the final hurdle the moment has arrived when my life's ambition will be realised (Felicity don't be such a drama queen) and I will be able to control my heating using my phone. I have the correct heating control panel (see last month's drama) and a 'Gateway' - I have the app on my phone and the Gateway is linked to the modem and all I have to do is 'pair' the heating control panel to the Gateway.

Well, as those of you who have stood the course, and not resorted to watching your toe nails grow like other sensible people, should know that this is not the way in Nerdsville, and trust me it didn't disappoint.

I followed the instructions to the letter, which is against a fundamental law of Nerdsville and I quote *'If all else fails read the instructions'* Maybe this was my problem because try as I might, and folks I really *really* tried, the two would not pair. I pleaded, threatened, bargained stood on my head, but to no avail. Then I remembered how helpful the helpline had been (they lived up to their name) when I was struggling with the heating control panel, (which was the wrong one) so 0800 I dialled and spoke to another nice man who politely told me that I now had the wrong 'gateway' for the model of heating control unit. O, for goodness sake!.

The thing is folks, I am now getting embarrassed about going back to the shop because I had been back so many times, but I've got this far I had to plough-on, so plucked up the courage and went back. I got the replacement and drove home with a spring in my step. (Does that make any sense? No, but it's my article and my artistic license - so bear with me.)

Within seconds of plugging it in, everything just clicked into place, my life's ambition realised! And Felicity (asks no-one) 'Are you pleased and was it worth the effort?' Yes, folks, I'm thrilled as I can control my heating and water from anywhere in the world, if I so wished, it doesn't take much does it? Well, it does because my nerves were in shreds. Now, for the next adventure, what will it be? Till next time nerdlettes...



Saint of the Month

ST SWITHUN

We know so little about the life of St Swithun (or Swithin) made Bishop of Winchester in 852AD, except that he was the trusted counsellor of the Wessex kings Egbert and Æthelwulf.

Much of the legend that grew around him only arose after his death, and particularly when his bones were removed from a relatively obscure grave and placed in Winchester Cathedral a century after his death. When Dunstan and Æthelwold of Winchester were inaugurating their church reform, Swithun was adopted as patron of the restored church at Winchester, formerly dedicated to St Peter and St Paul. His body was transferred from outside obscurity to inside the new basilica on 15 July 971. His shrine in Winchester Cathedral was destroyed by Henry VIII in 1538 but later rebuilt.

As Bishop, Swithun was known for his piety and his zeal in building new churches or restoring old ones. At his request, King Æthelwulf gave the tenth of his royal lands to the Church. Swithun made his diocesan journeys on foot and when he gave a banquet he invited the poor and not the rich. Swithun's best-known miracle was his restoration of a basket of eggs that workmen on a bridge had maliciously broken.

It was after his death that people began to appreciate St Swithun, many miracles were attributed to him in the medieval world, which led to pilgrims visiting his shrine in large numbers. There is some doubt as to the actual date of his death, some suggest 861, others 862 or 863.

St Swithun's day if thou dost rain
For forty days it will remain
St Swithun's day if thou be fair
For forty days 'twill rain nae mare

The origin of this poem suggesting that the weather on St Swithun's Day will hold good (or bad) for the next forty days is uncertain (nor necessarily accurate in this time of climate change). Likewise, Swithun is regarded as one of the saints to whom one should pray through to ask for relief in the event of drought.

St Swithun's feast day is the 15th of July.

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR JULY 2026	
Wednesday -Friday	8.00am Morning Prayer
Thursday July 3	5.45pm – 7.45pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal
Saturday July 4	10.00am – 11.30am Coffee, Cake & Chat
Sunday July 5	The Fifth Sunday of Trinity 9.30am Mass 11.00am Sung Mass 2.30pm – 4.00pm Creative Children’s Church
Monday to Friday	8.00am Morning Prayer
Tuesday July 7	11.00am Weekday Mass
Wednesday July 8	4.00pm – 5.30pm Rainbows
Thursday July 9	5.45pm – 7.45pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal
Saturday July 11	10.00am – 11.30am Coffee, Cake & Chat 7.00pm Gurensey Concert Band & Music Group Concert
Sunday July 12	The Sixth Sunday of Trinity 9.30am Mass 11.00am Sung Mass
Monday to Friday	8.00am Morning Prayer
Tuesday July 14	11.00am Weekday Mass 12.00pm Friendship Lunch
Wednesday July 15	4.00pm – 5.30pm Rainbows
Thursday July 16	5.45pm – 7.45pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal
Saturday July 18	10.00am – 11.30am Coffee, Cake & Chat 10.30am – 11.30am Talk by Peter de Sausmarez on Modern-Day Slavery
Sunday July 19	The Seventh Sunday of Trinity 9.30am Mass 11.00am Sung Mass
Monday to Friday	8.00am Morning Prayer
Tuesday July 21	11.00am Weekday Mass
Saturday July 25	10.00am – 11.30am Coffee, Cake & Chat 10.00am – 11.30am Toddlers Group
Sunday July 26	The Eighth Sunday of Trinity 9.30am Mass 11.00am Sung Mass Bake Sale after both services
Monday to Friday	8.00am Morning Prayer
Tuesday July 28	11.00am Weekday Mass
Wednesday July 29	4.00pm – 5.30pm Rainbows
Thursday July 30	5.45pm – 7.45pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday -Friday	8.00am Morning Prayer
Thursday July 3	5.45pm – 7.45pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal
Saturday July 4	10.00am – 11.30am Coffee, Cake & Chat
Sunday July 5	The Fifth Sunday of Trinity 9.30am Mass 11.00am Sung Mass 2.30pm – 4.00pm Creative Children’s Church
Monday to Friday	8.00am Morning Prayer
Tuesday July 7	11.00am Weekday Mass
Wednesday July 8	4.00pm – 5.30pm Rainbows
Thursday July 9	5.45pm – 7.45pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal
Saturday July 11	10.00am – 11.30am Coffee, Cake & Chat 7.00pm Gurensey Concert Band & Music Group Concert
Sunday July 12	The Sixth Sunday of Trinity 9.30am Mass 11.00am Sung Mass
Monday to Friday	8.00am Morning Prayer
Tuesday July 14	11.00am Weekday Mass 12.00pm Friendship Lunch
Wednesday July 15	4.00pm – 5.30pm Rainbows
Thursday July 16	5.45pm – 7.45pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal
Saturday July 18	10.00am – 11.30am Coffee, Cake & Chat 10.30am – 11.30am Talk by Peter de Sausmarez on Modern-Day Slavery
Sunday July 19	The Seventh Sunday of Trinity 9.30am Mass 11.00am Sung Mass
Monday to Friday	8.00am Morning Prayer
Tuesday July 21	11.00am Weekday Mass
Saturday July 25	10.00am – 11.30am Coffee, Cake & Chat 10.00am – 11.30am Toddlers Group
Sunday July 26	The Eighth Sunday of Trinity 9.30am Mass 11.00am Sung Mass Bake Sale after both services
Monday to Friday	8.00am Morning Prayer
Tuesday July 28	11.00am Weekday Mass
Wednesday July 29	4.00pm – 5.30pm Rainbows
Thursday July 30	5.45pm – 7.45pm Chamber Choir Rehearsal



Whispering Oak

There was once a poet called Whispering Oak
who could think of nothing at all to write
his mind was blank, his page was white
So he set off to sit in the busy town square
hoping to find inspiration there.

He sat quite still, he listened and watched,
caught fragments of stories, laughter and worries
snippets of arguments, hunger and anger,
he learnt about lives not so different to his own,
the closeness of lovers, the fathers and mothers,
anxious their children were lost or in danger.

For hours he sat till the day was done,
but the voice of the poet at last had spoken,
for with all he had heard, his heart was broken.

The square was quiet now, the people all gone,
and Whispering Oak felt tired and sad,
he packed up his blanket, his chair and his pen
and hungry for supper he set off for home,
overwhelmed with the verses that were filling his head.
For his soul was so burdened with all he had seen,
So he stopped by the hedgerows, and he took out his pen,
and began a new poem which may never end,
for all he had heard he would write through the night
and all the next day, for the rest of his life.

©Theresa Le Flem



A Note from Steph regarding 'Easyfundraising'

We have a new contributor.

Thank you to those who are already buying through easyfundraising when going on line, I have just banked another £28.14. for Church funds.

TURN YOUR ONLINE SHOPPING INTO EVERYDAY MAGIC FOR
ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH WITH EASYFUNDRAISING.

You shop, brands donate to us, it won't cost you any extra!

Visit the link www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause

1. You can search for St. Stephen's Church, Guernsey, or enter your good cause yourself.
2. Your favourite brands donate whenever you spend with them.
3. You could also download the App on the App Store.

Just a few of the shops you will find on easyfundraising:

Ebay; M&S; Groupon; Argos; Tui; asos; Boden; booking.com;
John Lewis; Viking; Apple; Dunelm; Very; Temu; Boots;
Not on the High St; Sports Direct; and so many more.

Go and have a look at their site and register, just have to remember to go to easyfundraising.org before you shop.

And from Peter...

I've Just booked a holiday using Riviera travel
and it's over £100 for the church - no cost to me!
We must be losing out a lot. Once you've
registered, the link pops up if that site gives
donations.
So simple really.

And Just another little gem. Just seen that
Brittany Ferries give 2% donation to bookings!





THE OLD ARM-CHAIR

by ELIZA COOK



I love it! I love it! And who shall dare
To chide me for loving that old arm-chair?
I've treasured it long as a sainted prize;
I've bedewed it with tears, and embalmed it with sighs.
"Tis bound by a thousand bands to my heart
Not a tie will break, Not a link will start.
Would ye learn the spell? -a mother sat there;
And a sacred thing is that old arm-chair.

In childhood's hour I lingered near
The hallowed seat with list'ning ear;
And gentle words that mother would give.
To fit me to die, and teach me to live.
She told me shame would never betide
With truth for my creed, and God for my guide;
She taught me to lisp my earliest prayer,
As I knelt beside that old arm-chair.

I sat and watched her many a day,
When her eyes grew dim, and her locks were grey;
And I almost worshiped her when she smiled,
And turned from her Bible to bless her child.
Years rolled on;
But the last one sped-
My idol was shattered; my earth-star fled.
I learnt how much the heart can bear,
When I saw her die in that old arm-chair.

"Tis past! tis past! But I gaze on it now
With quivering breath and sobbing brow:
"Twas there she nursed me; 'twas there she died:
And memory flows with lava tide
Say it is folly and deem me weak,
While the scalding drops start down my cheek;
But I love it! I love it! And cannot tear
My soul from a mother's old arm-chair.



Sent in by Judith

Who is God as a Father?

@saltandlightwords



A protector
Psalm 91:4



Compassionate
Father
Psalm 103:13



A provider
Matt. 6:31-32



An adoptive
Father
Romans 8:15



An ever-present
Father
Psalm 46:1



A disciplining
Father
Hebrews 12:6



A loving
Father
Jer. 31:3



A faithful
Father
Deut. 7:9



A Father who
delights in us
Zeph. 3:17



A forgiving
Father
Luke 15:20



A cat dies and goes to heaven.
St Peter meets her and says, "You've been a wonderful cat in your earthly life. What is the one thing you would like most of all now that you're in heaven?"

The cat replied,
"I would like a super soft cushion to sleep on please.
On earth I had to sleep on a cold stone floor."
St Peter replies, "No problem. I can arrange that for you."

A little later three mice arrive in heaven.
St Peter asks them what they would like.
They reply, "We've seen humans going around on roller skates and it looked great fun.

Could we have a pair each please?"
St Peter replies, "No problem, I can sort that for you."

Some time later St Peter sees the little cat again.

"How are you enjoying your soft cushion?"

"Fantastic," says the cat.

"It's really lovely to sleep on
and I do appreciate the meals on wheels!"



St Stephen's Community Centre

is busy with youth groups
for primary age children
and teenagers,
as well as weekly clubs,
classes, and more.

There is availability for
weekend functions and
activities during the day
(Monday to Friday from
09:00am to 02:30pm) and
some week day evenings.

The centre is a great
venue for happy
summer events and
exciting new ventures!



For enquiries and to secure bookings, please complete an electronic booking form via this link: <https://st-stephens-quernsey.org/459/Booking-Form>

Alternatively, contact Jenny Lambert directly on 01481 711701 or via email: ststephenscommunitycentre@gmail.com

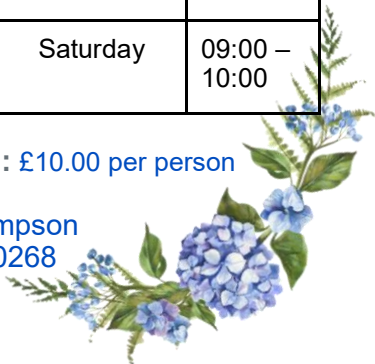
Weekly events at the St Stephen's Community Centre

Please contact the leader if you are interested to participate:

Clubs, Activities and Uniform Groups	Day(s)	Time
The French Workshop : Juliana Chapellier : thefrenchworkshopgsy@gmail.com	Weekdays (term time)	15:15 - 17:15
Yoga : Michael Wegerer : yoga.gsy@gmail.com	Monday	19:00 - 20:00
Dancing in the Dark : Louise Croft : facebook.com/danceguernsey	Tuesday	18:00 - 19:00
Dance Fit : Caroline Mauger : www.zumba.com/en-US/p/caroline-mauger/1359453	Thursday	09:45 - 10:45
St Stephen's Players : Chris Dragun : facebook.com/ststephensplayersgsy	Tuesday & Thursday	19:30 - 21:30
Beavers : Rosalyne Le Huray : firstgsybeavers@outlook.com	Monday	17:30 - 18:45
Cubs : Leon Gallienne : firstgsycubs@outlook.com	Monday	19:00 - 20:30
Brownies : Tamara Beach : ststephens.girlguiding@gmail.com	Wednesday	17:30 - 18:30
Sea Scouts : Rosalyne Le Huray : firstgsyscouts@outlook.com	Wednesday	19:00 - 21:00
Rangers : Sophie Leale : 7thststephensrangers@gmail.com	Wednesday	19:00 - 20:30
Guides : Debbie Robilliard : 7thststephensguides@gmail.com	Friday	18:00 - 19:30
Zumba : Emily Young : emily@eneevo.com / www.eneevo.com	Saturday	09:00 – 10:00

Monthly Event: St Stephen's Friendship Lunch: £10.00 per person
Tuesday, 14th July, 12.00 p.m.

Contact: Jill Mabire or Linda Barnes or Aileen Thompson
07781 416305 01481 720268





July Hymns

SUNDAY 11.00am	5th Trinity 5	12th Trinity 6	19th Trinity 7	26th Trinity 8
HYMN	239	466	232	391
PROPER	700	701	702	703
Responsorial Psalm	145 (8-15)	68 (8-end)	86 (11-end)	119 (129-136)
OFFERTORY	374	137	333	339
COMMUNION	376	358	416 2nd Tune	407
POST COMMUNION	388	354	461	S.38





The Guild of Intercession

Emily Sophia Tupper 5/7/1889; Ruth Anderson 21/7/1920; Jane Hayes 12/7/1936; Edward George Piprell 19/7/1943; Samuel Walter Mills 18/7/1949; George Stave Robilliard 10/7/1950; Geoffrey Brooke 26/7/1950; James Alexander Long 2/7/1951; Emma Mary Sealey 30/7/1952; Ivy Mary Bishop 13/7/1954; Christine Cook 15/7/1954; Kenneth McLeod 31/7/1954; Joyce Stobie 31/7/1954; Edward Alexander Howlett 22/7/1955; Richard Morgan Barton Ince Cromie 23/7/1957; William Thomas Henry Salisbury 23/7/1957; Cecil Charles Bynam 25/7/1957; Douglas Murray McLeod 26/7/1957; Wilfred Peter Renouf 2/7/1958; Arthur Gordon Newman 8/7/1958; Ellen Gertrude Le Gallez 7/7/1960; Ivor George Sanders (Priest) 15/7/1960; Audrey Dorothea Bellairs 4/7/1962; Ellen Miles 27/7/1962; Florence May Paint 28/7/1962; Hedley Nicolle 11/7/1966; Gertrude Louisa Smith 11/7/1971; Gerald Drummond 2/7/1973; Grace Faircloth 19/7/1973; William Henry Arnold 21/7/1973; Ethel Glynes 4/7/1974; Nancy Georgina Shayer 7/7/1975; Lilian Garrow Green 8/7/1975; Alice Tregoning Matthews 10/7/1977; Herbert William Carlton Shaw 13/7/1977; Florence Eliza Huddle 5/7/1979; Alfred Galliot 16/7/1984; Cecil Pattimore 10/7/1985; Gertrude Rowe 23/7/1985; Ethel May Hamilton 18/7/1986; John Norman Messenger 20/7/1987; Patrick Williams 26/7/1987; Roy Frederick Thoume 2/7/1989; Ernest Joseph Fallaize 24/7/1989; Mary Elizabeth Lorna King 23/7/1992; Ruth Mackesy 2/7/1993; John Alec Le Moigne 19/7/1993; Delmond Roy Williams 3/7/1994; Alan Henry Marquis 5/7/1997; John Bygott-Webb 25/7/1997; Carol Ann Walters 12/7/2003; Lesna Harris Millard 27/7/2003; Phyllis Elizabeth Netherton Agnelli 5/7/2004; Maud Eunice Ogier 7/7/2004; Michael Philip Gribbens 17/7/2004; John Andrew Relf 15/7/2005; Hilda Parnaby 12/7/2006; Doris Lillian Fallaize 19/7/2006; William Allen Dodd 27/7/2006; David Arthur Le Poidevin 1/7/2007; Ruby Amelia Bishop 18/7/2007; Robert Charles Crisell 26/7/2007; Brian Dyson 29/7/2007; Isobel Clara Wright 3/7/2008; Leonard Arthur Le Tocq 31/7/2009; Robert Keith Dawber 19/7/2010; Arthur William Helman 11/7/2011; Muriel Elsie Troth 9/7/2012; Jean Sermon 13/7/2012; Tom Ramsden 27/7/2012; Chase-Dean Honey 29/7/2012; Michael St John Paint 5/7/2014; John Arthur Desmond Robilliard 2/7/2017. Frank Le Fric 24/06/2 ; Monica Brook 21/07/21 Robert Jennings 27/07/21

READINGS FOR JULY 2026

Sunday 5 th July	Fifth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 9)	Zechariah Ch9 v9-12 Romans Ch7 v15-25a Matthew Ch11 v16-19, 25-30
Sunday 12 th July	Sixth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 10)	Isaiah Ch55 v10-13 Romans Ch8 v1-11 Matthew Ch13 v1-9,18-23
Sunday 19 th July	Seventh Sunday after Trinity (Proper 11)	Isaiah Ch44 v 6-8 Romans Ch8 v12-25 Matthew Ch13 v24-30,36-43
Sunday 26 th July	Eighth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 12)	1 Kings Ch3 v5-12 Romans Ch8 v26-39 Matthew Ch13 v31-33,44-52



WAFFLE'S WISDOM

A friend may smile and bid you hail
Yet wish you with the devil
But when a dog wags his tail
You know he's on the level.



Guilds, Clubs & Activities at St Stephen's

CREATIVE CHILDREN'S CHURCH (MESSY CHURCH)	Andrea Bateman andrea.bateman @yahoo.co.uk	First Sunday of the Month 2.30pm – 4.00pm	Family Service and Godly Play St Stephen's Church
TINY 'PILLARS TODDLER GROUP	Andrea Bateman andrea.bateman @yahoo.co.uk	Last Saturday of the Month 10am - 11.30am	St Stephen's Church (at the same time as Coffee, Cake & Chat)
RAINBOWS	Tamara Beach ststephens.girlguiding @gmail.com	Wednesday 4.00pm – 5.00pm	St Stephen's Church 5 – 7 years old
BROWNIES	Tamara Beach ststephens.girlguiding @gmail.com	Wednesday 5.00pm - 6.30pm	Community Centre 7 - 10 years old
GUIDES	Debbie Robilliard Tel: 714850 + 07911 132440 7ststephenguides @gmail.com	Friday 6.00pm - 7.30pm	Community Centre 10 - 14 years old
RANGERS	Sophie Leale Tel: 714850 & 07911 132440 7thststephenguides @gmail.com	Wednesday 7.40pm – 9.00pm	Community Centre 14-21 years old
1st VICTORIA SEA SCOUT GROUP Group Scout Leader Rosalynne Le Huray Tel: 07781 127263	Rosalynne Le Huray firstgsybeavers @outlook.com	Beavers Monday 5.30pm - 6.45pm	Community Centre 6 - 8 years old
	Leon Gallienne firstgscubs@outlook.com	Cubs Monday 7.00pm - 8.30pm	Community Centre 8 - 10 years old
	Rosalynne Le Huray firstgscouts@outlook.com	Sea Scouts Wednesday 7.00pm - 9.00pm	Community Centre 10 - 14 years old
ST STEPHEN'S GUILD	Marg Kaines Tel: 254858	As arranged	Church 'housekeeping'
SERVERS Guild of the Servants of the Sanctuary	Tony Kaines Tel: 254858	As arranged	Info: www.GSSonline.org.uk
CHURCH FLOWERS	Ann Goss Tel: 728433	As arranged	Church
SOCIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE	Linda Barnes 07781 416305 norton@cwgsy.net	As arranged	Church Vestry
ST STEPHEN'S PLAYERS	Steph Dragun Tel: 255654	As arranged	Community Centre

ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH
Vicar: Father Joe Thompson
Email: joe.thompson@deanery.gg

St Stephen's Vicarage • Les Gravées • St Peter Port • Guernsey • GY1 1RN

Tel: 01481 720268

Website: <http://st-stephens-guernsey.org>

Find us on Facebook

Deacon : Mother Jill Mabire

Honorary Assistant Priest
The Reverend Fr John Luff

People's Warden
Vicar's Warden

Tony Kaines

Tel: 254858

Anne Le Maitre

Tel: 07781 112557

Email: annemlemaitre@cwgsy.net

Secretary (APCC)

Ann Goss

Tel: 728433

Treasurer

Tony Kaines

Tel: 254858

Children's Ministry

Andrea Bateman

Tel 07781 167971

Safeguarding Officer

Steph Dragun

Tel: 255654

Electoral Roll Officer

Tony Goss

Tel: 728433

Director of Music

Felicity Millard

Tel: 725660

St Stephen's Archivist

Rosalyne Le Huray

Tel: 07781 127263

Community Centre

Jenny Lambert

Tel: 711701

Email: ststephenscommunitycentre@gmail.com

Flower Contacts

Ann Goss

Tel: 728433

Magazine Editor

Nikki Attwooll

Tel: 07781 144464

Email: nikkiattwooll@gmail.com

SUNDAY MASSES

9.30am

Said Mass

11.00am

Sung Mass

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday to Friday

8.00am

Morning Prayer

Tuesday

11.00am

Said Mass