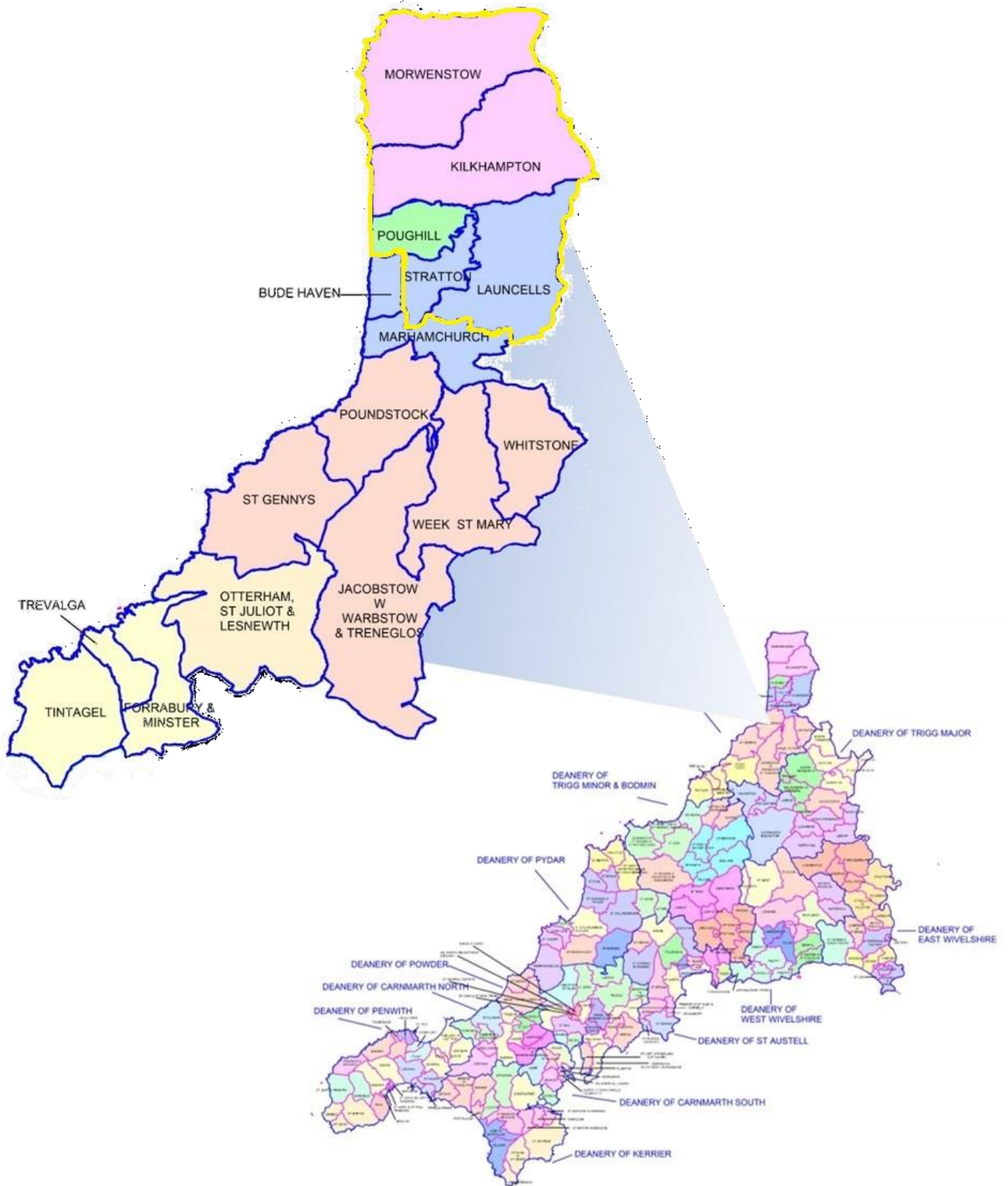


Priest in Charge



Launcells – Stratton – Poughill – Kilkhampton – Morwenstow



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Letter from Bishop Philip:

In this Diocese of Truro we are deeply committed to 'Discovering God's Kingdom: Growing the Church'. Ordained ministers are crucial to this task, so I sketch out here the kind of priests we invite to work with us.

First and foremost, we are looking for joyful disciples and ambassadors of Christ, who share the Gospel they have come to know themselves both in word and deed - and above all with love. We seek people who are committed to setting the whole people of God free in mission, ministry, and in loving service. We are looking for people who, on this journey, are imaginative and realistic, creative and determined and are hopeful of a better future. But we also want to work with those who recognise that they are not perfect and will sometimes fail, who learn from their mistakes and will take the initiative in seeking reconciliation with others.

We are convinced that all ministers need the support and companionship of others and we help priests in a number of ways so that they never work alone. In this spirit, we encourage priests who can forge good relations with others and actively collaborate with them for the sake of the Kingdom to join us in Cornwall: a very special place with its own distinctive identity and Christian heritage which we are called to value, serve and love.

I pray that as you consider this position you might discern God's calling and purpose for you in this next chapter of your discipleship and service.

+Philip



Letter from Archdeacon Audrey:

Set in the northernmost corner of Truro Diocese, this post offers the opportunity to work creatively with a new configuration of parishes, to establish imaginative ways of working together, and to build up a team of lay and ordained colleagues. This will be the first time in which this cluster of five parishes will be ministered to by the same priest in charge. The parishes currently are set within 3 separate benefices, but have been working increasingly together over recent months, and in due course will explore the formation of a new benefice. Stratton Deanery Plan was developed over the last 18 months, and is working towards a more sustainable and effective pattern of mission and ministry across the entire deanery. A Conventional District has been formed out of all the deanery parishes to allow the appointment of clergy across benefice boundaries. The first two stipendiary clergy are already in post, and this appointment will result in a full complement of stipendiary clergy within the deanery.

The deanery plan is founded completely on the understanding that stipendiary clergy are called to minister alongside the whole of God's people; lay members, local pastoral ministers, local worship leaders, readers, and all other clergy. We recognise that this is a challenging plan, but also one which will enable the local churches to play their part in the life of their local communities, and church members to live out their respective vocations. More details relating to the plan can be found in attached documentation. The deanery has a strong history of clergy and lay officers meeting together weekly for prayer and fellowship, planning and support. The 'deanery college' meeting will be an expected part of the life and ministry of the appointee.

This post requires someone who can be a faithful and creative priest in seaside, coastal and rural contexts, as well being able to form and lead a diverse team of volunteer colleagues. They will need to have the ability to nurture and develop the ministries of others, to feel comfortable ministering within different church traditions, and to help develop a vision for the life of these churches living and serving together under God.

Thank you for your interest in this post. If you would like an informal conversation about the role at any stage, please don't hesitate to be in touch.

The Ven Audrey Elkington.

Archdeacon of Bodmin - 01208 892811 - audrey@truro.anglican.org



Our Civil Parishes:

Introduction to the area

The Northern Cluster of Churches sits within an area of outstanding natural beauty, a place where a spectacular heritage coastline meets the countryside, with its special mix of rugged rocks, glorious sandy beaches, rolling farmland, scattered hamlets and villages, and quiet country lanes.

The area offers its visitors a variety of holiday experiences from a short break to challenging activity holidays in natural surroundings, family holidays with nearby attractions and adventure parks and opportunities for many outdoor pursuits.

Residents can benefit from these excellent facilities too - from keeping fit in a well-equipped sports Hall, walking, rambling, surfing and golf, to water sports on Tamar Lake, bird watching, singing, the cinema and classical music concerts and many other activities.



The nearby resort of Bude remains unspoilt with many Edwardian houses around the links golf course, all overlooking the sea. It is an easy-going town where you can visit and do things at your own pace - a friendly town with many independent shops owned by locals. Special events and festivals are held throughout the year. There is a sea-filled swimming pool and a canal with a unique sea-lock and nature reserve.

The link roads to the M5 and the A303 are greatly improved and there are main line stations at Exeter and Plymouth.

The economy of the area is largely dependent upon dairy, beef and sheep farming, followed by its successful tourist industry which supports about 1 in 4 jobs. However, [Cornwall](#) is one of the poorest areas in the United Kingdom and is one of four UK areas that qualifies for poverty-related grants from the EU (European Social Fund).

Kilkhampton

At the last census, the population of the parish of Kilkhampton was 1330 but with development (actual and planned) this could see significant increase. Total acreage is 8206. We have two other denominational churches in the village (Methodist and Christian Fellowship) with whom we have an excellent relationship. Our school currently has approximately 130 pupils and is rated good (OFSTED). The school has good connections with the Church with Messy Church (occasionally), Open the Book (regularly) and special "Experience" visits (Christmas and Easter). The children also support our annual Christingle service.

Within the village are a good range of shops, pubs and amenities. We have a good village hall (The Grenville Rooms), a sports pavilion and a good playing field which is well maintained and resourced.

Kilkhampton, as a village, enjoys a great community spirit, is welcoming to newcomers and has much to offer in terms of clubs and social activities.



Launcells

Launcells is a large rural Parish (6186 acres) of only 531 people, bisected by the A3072 road from Bude to Holsworthy. There are many hamlets, the largest of which is Grimscott, where there is a Wesleyan Chapel with whom we share a Remembrance Service and an annual cream tea.

There is a Parish Hall which is used regularly for Badminton, Skittles, Card making, Community Cafe, History Group, Parish Council and Annually for the Horticultural Show. The village Playing Field is well used by children and for the Bonfire night display. Many residents work locally in farming, garage workshops, printing, a Retirement home, holiday lets, farm food Businesses, and in various other home enterprises, however, statistics reveal rural deprivation.



There is one church member on the Parish Council, and a report on church activities is given at the Annual Parish meeting. Some Parishioners have responded to requests for help with the upkeep of the churchyard, and many help with the Lent lunches for local charities and other fund raising events.

- 23% of children in the Parish 16+ have no qualifications. (1% above national average)
- 17% of all households contain lone parent families
- 20% children under 16 in the Parish live in poverty
- Although it is a deprived area, the crime rate is very low

Our challenge is to reach out to help support these sometimes, isolated families.



Morwenstow

The church and PCC have close and productive working relationships with Morwenstow Parish Council, The Community Centre Committee, Patronal and Arts Festival Committee and both Methodist Chapels. Our local school, St Mark's C of E School, is deemed 'Outstanding' by Ofsted and we work closely with the school and current Headteacher, Ms Carol Neasham. We also have good links with Morwenstow pre-school.

There are several other organisations and Parish assets with which we have close links, they are our 13th C local public house, The Bush Inn, Morwenstow Society and the Men's & Women's institute, and GCHQ Bude. There is a newly constructed village shop within Shop which is due open very shortly.

Morwenstow is serviced by local services and shops, public houses and restaurants within Kilkhampton and more diverse range of such facilities in Bude Town. There are regular local transport links to both Bude via Kilkhampton and Barnstaple and beyond via national transport suppliers.



The Parish has access to such wonderful coastal walks, water sports at Tamar Lake and fantastic sandy beaches in Morwenstow and Bude, together with the wonderful Sea Pool, Sports Centre, Tennis Courts, Green Bowls and 18 & 9 Hole Golf Courses

Amenities, including a minor injuries department and Doctor's surgeries, Dentists, and for pet lovers two vets are located in Bude four miles from Morwenstow.

Poughill

The parish, with a population of 2800, stretches from the village of Poughill, which is one mile inland, down to the sea at Crooklets beach, and one mile East inland from Crooklets beach. There is a large number of hotels and B and B's and one independent primary school, St Petroc's, with which we have a good long-standing relationship.



Other facilities include:

- Our church hall and kitchen
- Poughill village hall
- A Mission Hall at Hollabury estate, run by St Olaf's
- A Methodist Chapel
- Beach cafes, beach and beach huts

A fete is held annually on the first Thursday in August in a field loaned by a farmer for the purpose. It is called the Poughill Revel, attracts about 1000 visitors and generates a fine community spirit. St Olaf's is responsible for the barbecue gazebo and the tea tent, and one or two members of the church serve on the committee. A church service is held on the Sunday evening preceding the Revel Thursday, and proceeds from the Revel are distributed between the two churches in the parish and several charities.

There are two homes for the elderly in the parish in one of which a weekly service is conducted by a couple from the church and the other of which is visited by a retired minister in the parish with Holy Communion for the residents.

Stratton

Stratton is an ancient market town and was for a long time a centre for trade and commerce in the area, the leather and tannery trades being particularly important. Markets, attracting people from a wide area, were held in the streets and latterly in a field now called "Parc Fer Close". However, the building of the Bude canal, which opened for trade in 1823, and the consequent development of the town surrounding it, caused the commercial and administrative decline of Stratton.



Today the old town has become largely residential, with a population of over 4500 at the last census. There is strong community spirit centred mainly on the Church, the Methodist Chapel and the pubs, with a very palpable atmosphere of friendliness and relaxation. The amenities include a doctor's surgery and pharmacy, a dental practice, the Community Hospital and minor injuries unit, a veterinary surgery, a village shop with post office, a hairdresser and two public houses. There is also a Community Hall for private hire.



In recent decades the area between Stratton and Bude has been developed such that there is very little open countryside left. Most of this recent development lies within the Parish of Stratton and includes a large Morrisons Supermarket with petrol station and the Binhamy Retail Park.

Schools within the Parish of Stratton

Pupils

Bude Infant School (years R to 2)

191

Bude Junior Schools (years 3 to 6)

266

Stratton Primary School (years R to 6)

330

Budehaven Community School (age 11 to 18)

1051

What Else Do We Do?

Activities and Organisations

	Kilkhampton	Launcells	Morwenstow	Poughill	Stratton
9 Lessons and Carols	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Christingle/ Crib Service	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
School Carol Service			Yes		Yes
Remembrance Sunday Service	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stations of the Cross	Yes		Yes		Yes
Lent Groups				Yes	Yes
Home Communions	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Meditation Group					Yes
Bible Study/ Prayer Meetings		Yes		Yes	
Home Groups				Yes	
Flower Festival	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes
Craft Fair	Yes	Yes			Yes
Patronal Gift Day	Yes		Yes		Yes
Summer Fete			Yes	Yes	Yes
Concerts and Talks		Yes			Yes
Quiz Nights		Yes			
Historical Church Tours		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Collections for Food Bank	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes
Church open all day	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Coffee after Sunday services	Yes			Yes	Yes
Lent Lunches	Yes	Yes			Yes
Harvest Lunches	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Coffee Mornings	Yes	Yes			Yes
Parish Dinners	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
Lunch Club				Yes	
Mothers Union		Yes			Yes
Bell Ringers	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Christians Together		Yes		Yes	Yes
Youth Group			Yes	Yes	

Our churches:

The newly formed Northern Cluster of Churches in the Stratton Deanery is located in the Diocese of Truro under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Truro and the Bodmin Archdeaconry. The cluster comprises the 5 most northerly parishes in Cornwall.

Since the planning of this profile has started, an encouraging sense of unity and purpose between the parishes has developed.

The 5 churches in the cluster are:

St James the Great, Kilkhampton

Our Grade 1 Listed Church, the oldest part of which is the Norman doorway, has a number of noteworthy features including a complete set of medieval pews with very ornate end carvings, and several very early Clayton and Bell stained glass windows.

The organ is a very fine instrument, restored recently, which has parts said to come from Westminster Abbey.



The Church and extensive burial ground are generally in good repair. It was re-roofed in the past 20 years and the main path from the lych gate to the south porch was replaced last year. We have a peal of eight bells, rung regularly.



St Swithin, Launcells

St Swithin's Church is situated just off the main road from Stratton to Holsworthy in a quiet, wooded valley, by a stream. It is Grade 1 listed and well maintained being described by Sir John Betjeman as "The least spoilt church in Cornwall". Famous for the magnificent medieval carved pew ends and encaustic tiles in the chancel, it contains no stained glass, however, much of the original medieval plain glass remains creating a wonderful soft light.



Known for the excellent acoustics it is a popular venue for concerts. The church is open daily and enjoyed by many visitors, as is evident from comments in the visitors' book. A fine set of bells is rung regularly. The church is surrounded by a 'living churchyard', creating a haven for wild life.

The congregation, which is drawn from the surrounding district as well as the Parish, enjoys services from the Book of Common Prayer with the priest wearing vestments. There are three newly commissioned Local Worship Leaders. Holy Communion is taken to Parishioners in both Launcells and Bude by a Eucharistic Lay Minister and visits are made by a Local Pastoral Minister.

Grants have recently been received, and work has now been completed supplying mains water and a sewage system to the church, together with an extension to the car park. A kitchen and disabled toilet have been installed and will be of benefit to our worshippers, our many visitors, and the teams of helpers serving home-made refreshments at regular fundraising events.

The outbuildings of the fine Georgian house behind the church have been converted into a wedding venue, undoubtedly raising the profile of St Swithin's on social media, increasing the average number of people aged under 30 attending services!



St Morwenna & St John the Baptist, Morwenstow

The Parish Church St Morwenna & St John The Baptist is located on the cliffs above the north west face to The Atlantic Ocean, between Sharpnose Point and Gull Rock, in a wooded valley leading to Vicarage Cliff.

The Parish Church serves the Hamlets within Morwenstow of, Woodord, Gooseham, Eastcott and Shop of approximately 800 souls. The Parish lies between the A39 from Clovelly and Kilkhampton and The North Coast of Cornwall.



Morwenstow attracts many visitors each year as it is an area of outstanding natural beauty, as well as its association with past rector Reverend R S Hawker, who established the modern tradition of The Harvest Festival.

Visitors who visit the church have the joy of spiritual experience of Hawker's Hut located, at Vicarage Cliff and the ancient well attributed to St John, which is situated in The Old Rectory Gardens adjacent to the church.

The church is open all day and is very much enjoyed by visitors from all over the World.



The church has a fully attended PCC, a full team of bell ringers, two servers to assist at Holy Communion, two worship leaders. We are also blessed with two resident Organists who we share with our fellow church of St James in Kilkhampton, and use the Ancient and Modern and Mission Praise hymn books.

There is a close and healthy relationship and service swaps between the Parish Church and the two local Methodist Churches at Shop and Woodford, and also have strong spiritual links with the pupils, parents and staff of our local C of E school of St Marks in Shop.

St Olaf, Poughill

St Olaf's Church is situated in the village of Poughill, pronounced Poffil, on the outskirts of the popular seaside town of Bude. It is dedicated to the Norwegian king and so-called martyr St Olaf who died in battle in 1030 AD. The church, which is typically Cornish in style and dates from the fourteenth century, is famous for its splendid carved oak bench ends and 15th century wall frescoes.



It is a Grade 1 listed building and was damaged during the Battle of Stamford Hill in 1643. There is a separate hall with kitchen which is owned by a trust called The Church Houses the trustees of which are the churchwardens. The church is also responsible for a mission hall in the parish where a service is conducted weekly on Wednesday mornings. We have an evangelical foundation and aim to be proactive and dynamic in outreach to the community.

'St Olaf's runs a fortnightly lunch club for the community which is attended by 30-40 people and also an after-school club in the hall for children on Friday evenings. The church also organizes, together with the other local churches, an annual Free Family Fun Festival in the Castle grounds and assists with the annual fete, called the Poughill Revel, which is attended by about 1000 people, providing the barbecue and the tea tent. Major events are advertised on poster boards and by leaflet drops to the houses in the parish'



St Andrew, Stratton

The Parish Church of Saint Andrew is Grade 1 Listed and stands on high ground in the centre of the historic and picturesque town of Stratton, which lies approximately 1 mile from the coast and the seaside town of Bude. The church has served the needs of the Christian Community in the area for over 800 years, being built and enlarged during a period when Stratton was still an important market town.



The church is open daily for private prayer and reflection, or for interested visitors. Our aim is to serve the people of the community regardless of whether they are churchgoers or choose to become Christians.

In 2017 St Andrew's obtained a Faculty for the removal of pews at the back of the church in order to create a multi-purpose space, complete with new kitchen facilities, suitable both for church use and a space that the church can offer for the use of the local community. Work commenced in 2018 with the removal of the pews and the relocation of the font, and it is hoped that the new kitchen will be completed during the spring and summer of this year.

St Andrew's also has a well-supported 'Friends' organisation which is celebrating its 10-year anniversary in 2019. Joining FoStA enables the many people with links with St Andrews but who can no longer attend, to maintain their connections and contribute towards the costs of preserving the building and churchyard for future generations.



Pattern of Worship

Church	1 st Sunday	2 nd Sunday	3 rd Sunday	4 th Sunday	5 th Sunday	Mid-week
Kilkhampton	11.00 am Holy Communion	11.00 am Morning Prayer	11.00 am Holy Communion	11.00 am Morning Prayer	11.00 am Combined Service with Methodist Church	Thursday 10.30 am Communion
Launcells	6.00 pm Evensong (BCP)	11.15 am Holy Communion (BCP)	11.15 am Holy Communion (BCP)	11.15 am Holy Communion (BCP)	11.15 am Holy Communion (BCP)	
Morwenstow	9.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)	9.30 am Family Service (alternating with Methodist Churches)	9.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)	9.30 am Sung Matins	9.30 am Songs of Praise	
Poughill	10.30 am Family Communion Sunday Club	8.30am Communion 10.30 am Worship Service Sunday Club	8.30am Communion 10.30 am Worship Service Sunday Club	8.30am Communion 10.30 am All Age Worship	8.30am Communion 10.30 am Worship Service Sunday Club	Wednesday 10.30 am Hollabury Mission Hall
Stratton	8.00 am Said Mass (BCP) 9.30 am Morning Worship (led by Worship Leaders)	9.30 am Parish Mass (CW)	9.30 am Parish Mass (CW) 6.00 pm Evensong (BCP)	9.30 am Parish Mass (CW)	9.30 am Parish Mass (CW)	Wednesday 8.45am Morning Prayer (CW) 9.30 am Said Mass (CW) 10.00 am Christian Meditation

Mission Statement and Person Specification:

Mission Statement:

To know Jesus Christ and to make him known through helping our communities experience God's love.

Person Specification:

We are looking for an enthusiastic and experienced priest who:

- Will work with us to create a vision for our new benefice as we move forward together.
- Is enthusiastic for God and is grounded in prayer and the scriptures and open to the guiding of the Holy Spirit.
- Is a good negotiator and communicator able to engage with individuals and groups in both the church and the wider community.
- Is a team leader who sensitive to the need to initiate change and build up the links between the churches.
- Has a flexible approach to different styles of worship.
- Is an innovator and is prepared to take risks.
- Can maintain a good work/life balance, has a sense of humour and is able to build a support network to enable them to continually flourish in the role.

Housing:

5 Cormorant Close, Bude, EX23 8FJ

Description:

Located at the end of a private road, 5 Cormorant Close is a bright and airy executive modern family home. Spacious living accommodation comprising 5 bedrooms (2 with ensuite).

Family Bathroom and ground floor WC. 3 Reception rooms, spacious and smart kitchen / dining room with French door leading out to the large conservatory.



Outside:

A level enclosed rear garden, large double garage, level access from the off road parking to the entrance of the property.



STRATTON DEANERY PRAYER

**O Generous God,
you invite all people
to discover your Kingdom and grow your church;
give us, then, the courage,
the strength and the vision
to share in the mission and ministry of your Son
that with the Lord of the Church
we may be, truly,
the Church of the Lord. Amen**