** SPIRE & LIGHT United Churches**

United Benefice of St Keverne, St Ruan with St Grade,

& St.Wynwallow (The Lizard)

[www.spireandlight.com](http://www.spireandlight.com/)

**Sunday 29th January**



**Epiphany 4**

**Readings – 1 Kings 17.8-16; Psalm 36.5-10; 1 Corinthians 1. 1-31; John 2.1-11**

**11am – United Benefice Service at St.Keverne (please note – there will be no services in the other churches)**

Next Sunday Feb 5th 3rd before Lent

9.30am – Holy Communion - St. Peter’s, Coverack

9.30am – Holy Communion(BCP) *-* St.Wynwallow, The Lizard

11am – Morning Prayer(BCP) – St.Keverne

11.15am – Morning Prayer – St.Ruan, Ruan Minor

**Diary Dates**



Deanery Candlemas Service

Thursday February 2nd 4pm Mullion Church

Celebrant Revd Canon Shane Griffiths

Preacher Revd Geoff Davis

During the service, candles that we use in our churches and in our homes will be blessed, so please feel free to yours along if you want.

It would be lovely if we could have all the churches in our Deanery represented at this important time in our Church life together. We will celebrate with a glass of wine after the service.

Free parking available in the two village car parks really near

**Tuesday February 28th** - Corporate prayer - Bob and Jane's (also on March 28th) Do come.

**Our Reflection from Rev.John Ough**

Dear friends,

I worry sometimes that some people seem to assume that they know what God’s judgements might be ‘when’ or ‘if’ they get to heaven.  We are clearly told that we should leave any judging to God, for often He thinks quite differently from what some of us might imagine.  Humility is central to His life and teaching, and we are called to follow Him in this way.

The following is an extract from a story by Hugh Latimer:

‘We read the story of St. Anthony, who, being in the wilderness, led there a very hard and strait life, insomuch that none at that time did the like, to whom came a voice from heaven saying, ‘Anthony, thou are not so perfect as a cobbler that dwelleth at Alexandria’. Anthony hearing this, rose forthwith, and took his staff and went till he came to Alexandria, where he found the cobbler.  The cobbler was astonished to see so reverend a father come to his house.

Then Anthony said to him, ‘Come and tell me thy whole conversation, and how spendest thy time.’

‘Sir’ said the cobbler, as for me, good works have I none, for my life is simple and slender.  I am but a poor cobbler; in the morning when I arise, I pray  for the city wherein I dwell, especially for all neighbours and poor friends as I have; after I set me at my labour, where I the whole day in getting my living, and I keep me from all falsehood, for I hate nothing so much as deceitfulness; wherefore, when I make to any man a promise, I keep it and perform it truly: and so I spend my time poorly with my wife and children, whom I teach and instruct, as far as my wit will serve me, to fear and dread God.  And this is the sum of my simple life’.

In this story we see how God loves those who follow their vocation and live honourably, and with integrity in their dealings.  This St. Anthony was a great, holy man, yet the cobbler was as much valued before God as he.  As followers of Christ we are called to walk humbly with our God.  May we all strive to achieve this on our Christian journey into 2023.

Blessings as you travel humbly,

Yours Rev. John

**The Prayer Spot**



Dear Heavenly Father, as we come to pray to you today, remind us of the love we must share with others, that love given to us by you. Help us to remember those in need within our churches and community and how we can be there for them - it may just need an act of kindness and to show you really do care. It says this in 1 Peter 1. Therefore, prepare your minds for action, be self- controlled, set your hope fully on the grace to be given to you when Jesus Christ was revealed to you. As obedient children of God do not conform to evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance but just as he who has called you is Holy so be holy in all you do for it is written be holy because I am Holy. Remember God has given you gifts to use in the need of others. Use them well because everyone needs your help in these troubled times we find ourselves in. Be generous and full of God’s love. Pray for all those who are in need of hospital treatment and that God will be present with them and for those who have the job of taking them. Pray for all our benefice that God will guide us all in our care for everyone and to remember them all in our prayers. We praise you for your kindness showing to us all and the love you give to us by the great care given to us all for your endless willingness to forgive us when we fail you. We thank you for love shown to us as members of your flock for being the shepherd who guides us through each day given us all the help we need to care for others. Thank you for those wonderful gifts given to us of forgiveness, kindness, justice, generosity and peace and of course that great joy of knowing your presence in our lives. As I always tell you, God will be ever present in your prayer time and will answer all your prayers in the name of his Son Jesus Christ. Be blessed by all you do in His Wonderful name.

Here is prayer for you to say – ‘O God our Father, grant that whatever happens to us today we may take it to thee. If we shall have decisions to make, help us to ask thy guidance and grant us humility and obedience to take it when you give it to us. If we shall have problems to solve, help us to ask thy light upon them so that we may see a clear way through them. If we shall have hard and difficult things to do, help us to ask for thy strength so that we may be enabled to do the things which we could not do ourselves. If we shall have temptations to face, help us to seek thy grace remembering that Jesus became tempted and is able to help others who are tempted. Help us through today to decide everything by thy will and to test everything by thy presence so that we may come to the days ending without mistakes and without regrets through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.