

## October Blog

### New season

Hello All,

If you have not met me yet I am revd Mark Wade, the Vicar and Oversight Minister. Each month I will write a short reflection here for our website.

For those who have not yet met me, here is some key info.

I am married to Toni and we have three children; Izzy, Asa and Imogen. I am originally from Cornwall, but been away for 22 years. For the last seven years I have been a Vicar in Wigan. In my free time I love eating, being at the beach (Loved being able to go body boarding again!) and love sport - especially Manchester united (though not so much at the moment!). It is great to be here now in Liskeard!

It has been great getting to know you all in Liskeard, St Keyne and Dobwalls. I have enjoyed meeting everyone, and I'm also enjoying the perks of the job - having a pasty between visiting the villages as you can see here!



It was also great to arrive during our month of prayer and I have enjoyed praying daily and joining together on Friday evenings. This aligned with what I have been sharing about in the first few weeks; having our foundations in prayer. We have looked through the book of James in September, looking at the importance of prayer. James - a Church planter - who shares about starting the Church and seeing the joys and challenges of Church. The number one area

that James focuses on in these 5 chapters is prayer. What did he see as one of the most important parts of growing and seeing Church flourish? Prayer.

Fast forward to Liskeard 2024 - what do I see as the most important thing we need to do as a Church and Benefice? Pray! The good news is that we are not going to just pray in September. Over the coming months we are going to be having more prayer and worship opportunities to pray together. I am not going to be bringing in lots of new schemes and new things; these next few months are a season of listening and praying. As someone in Wigan's catch phrase used to be: "Lets Join in with what God is doing", which I have heard a few times already here in Liskeard!

This is a great prayer for us in the coming weeks. My hope in the coming weeks and months is to meet you and hear your stories, prayers and hopes.

I have been asking these two really important questions:

1. What is your Hope?
2. What is your prayer for our benefice?

These questions are important as we grow together and seek what God is asking of us.

In these first few weeks there have been some great new opportunities for us as a Church and Benefice in serving our local community. Firstly, we now have a Vicar assembly every Monday at St Martins School, Open the Book is in St Martins and Dobwalls community School every other week, I am going to be going into Dobwalls as pictured here and we are going to start assemblies at Trewidland School once every half term.



We are also looking forward to developing our links with Hillfort Primary School in the coming months and looking forward to celebrating their Christingle service with us in December and lots more activities with them are being planned. We have also new pioneer leaders being commissioned this weekend by the diocese, and it is really exciting to hear about SOAR and SOAR for Women seeing people come to know Jesus and invite their friends! We have also sent 10 letters out to our 10 care homes in our local community, asking how we can connect with and support them more.

It has been really exciting to get settled into this new community, and already seeing God at work. I am looking forward to what God might be asking of us in the coming weeks and months. As we pray and seek God in this next season, I invite you to read James and pray this verse from James: 5:13-15

***13 Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise***

Let that be our prayer - that we come in prayer, pray for our needs, our hopes and come in joy.

Looking forward to meeting you all in the coming weeks and months.

Rev Mark