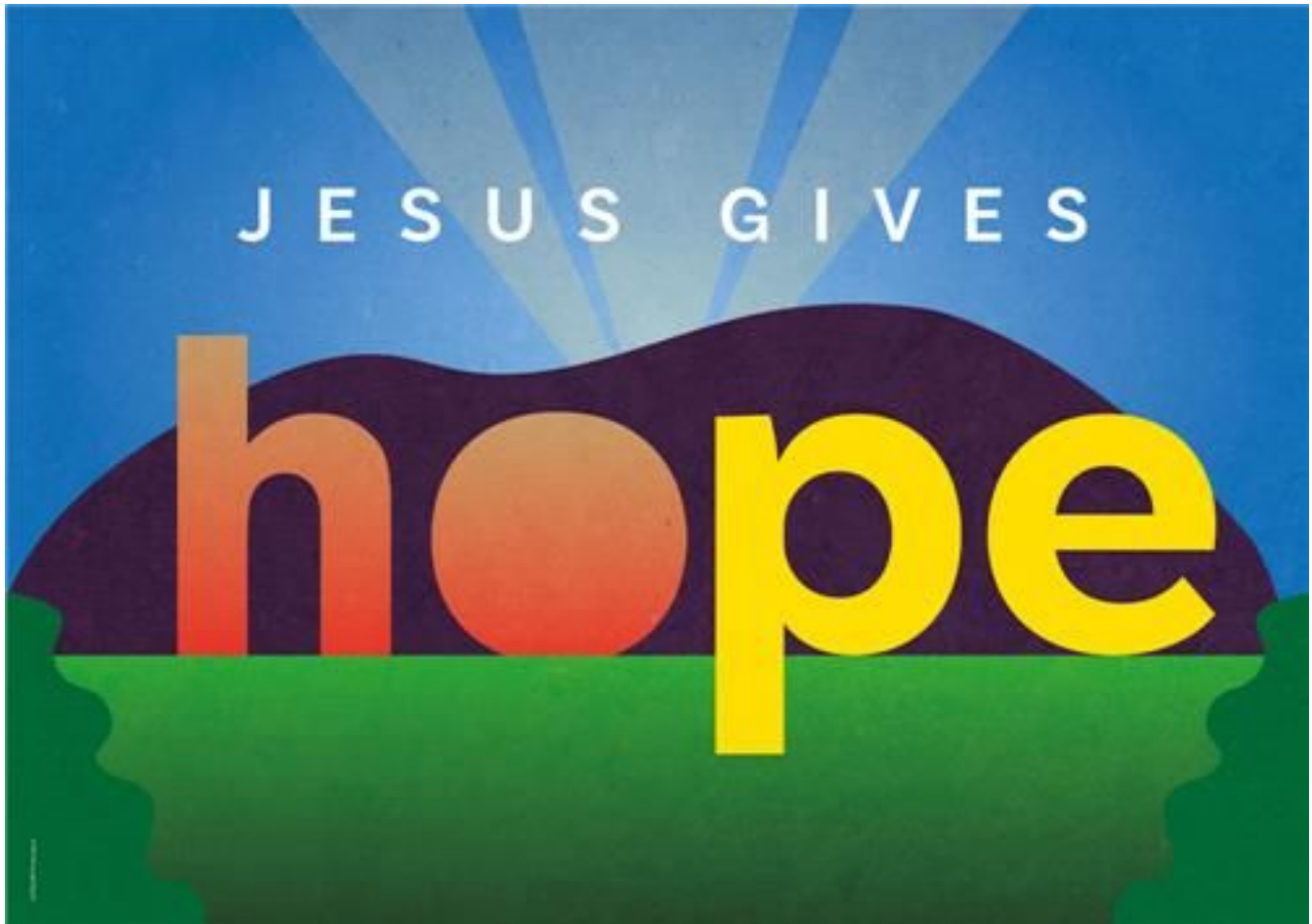




PPT: the Parish Church of St Peter, St Paul
& St Thomas of Canterbury, Bovey Tracey
and St Mary's, Hennock



Spring Bulletin



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Letter from the Vicar:

You don't need me to tell you that we seem to be living in times of unusual turmoil - on the international stage, with trade wars and tariffs, uncertainty about the future of NATO and the peace of Europe- and continuing trouble in the national church, following the resignation of the Bishop of Liverpool and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The words of Psalm 82 seem very appropriate advice for all our leaders:

*Defend the cause
of the weak and fatherless;
maintain the rights
of the poor and oppressed.
Rescue the weak and needy;
deliver them from the hand of the wicked.*

*"They know nothing,
they understand nothing.
They walk about in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.*

In such times we are called to be steadfast in faith and hold fast to the hope that we have in Christ our King.

"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our "God is a consuming fire."

In a time of general anxiety, to hold to our faith with hope and peace, is a powerful witness to the world.

During Lent we are continuing to study Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. He calls us to be the salt of the earth, and the light of the world. If our way of life attracts the notice of the world it is not to win their admiration, but to give glory to our father in heaven. I encourage you to use the study questions each week, and to use the season of Lent to read the bible more deeply, and to learn more about the Lord's prayer in particular, so that we may celebrate Easter with greater joy, and

share our faith and hope with others. You can read more about our plan on p.11.

There are also a number of practical issues to address in this season.

We are very sorry to say farewell to Angie Blanche, who has been our youth worker for the last three years. Under her leadership the work with teens has flourished, and we are determined to sustain and develop the work further. Please pray for the PCC and leadership team, that we will make wise decisions for the future.

We are now drawing up a new Electoral Roll, so everyone who regards themselves as a regular worshipper and sees PPT or St Mary's as their home church needs to complete a new application form before 13 April. The annual Parochial Church meetings will be held on Sat 10 May (PPT) and Sun 11 May (St Mary's).

Following the successful installation of new lighting at PPT, our next priority is to ensure that we have reliable heating. The current oil boiler is near the end of its life, and we cannot replace it under church 'Net Zero' rules. Our plan is to instal electric heaters under most pews in the first phase, and provide radiant heaters in other areas in a later phase. Details of fundraising plans should be available soon.

Whatever happens to the world around us, we belong to a King whose throne is unshakeable and who is worthy of our worship!

yours in Christ,
Graham

Caveat emptor

So goes the old Latin tag – let the buyer beware. The world is full of sharks eager to persuade us that we should part with money for something that turns out to be at least a disappointment, if not a good deal worse.

We had news recently about a funeral directors business in Hull accused of fraud and preventing proper burial. The fraud related in particular to funeral plans paid for but where there was no record of the policies.

The last twenty five years has seen a good deal of promotion of ‘funeral plans’ where we pay ‘up-front’ while we are still alive for a plan that will cover all the expenses of our funeral and relieve our families of the anxiety, stress and expense. But not all of those plan providers are still in business and ITV’s Tonight programme (May 2nd) reported on instances where the assurances in the publicity that money invested in the plan would be secure turned out to be empty. The result is double expenditure and added stress.

The collapse of a number of providers took place as the result of the implementation of regulation in 2022. At that point, all funeral directors were required to make available their charges in clear form, but the Tonight programme revealed that there are many who still do not do so. Caveat emptor – make sure you know what the charges are likely to be.

Caveat emptor – read the small print and don’t believe all that you are told, is the lesson. And even if the firm is well established, it is still important to read the detail carefully to be clear about what the plan will cover, and crucially what it will not cover. These firms are not in business simply to provide you with assurance or to provide all that you

would wish. They are there to make money - though some have got that wrong too. Funeral plans characteristically cover the basics only – a service in church, a burial either in a cemetery or woodland burial site will involve additional expense.

In all probability, you will have seen TV adverts recently and may well have received a mailing advertising **Pure Cremation**, another business set up in the wake of the remarkable rise in funeral costs, but in this instance aiming to provide a considerably cheaper option. What they offer is contained in their name, also known as direct cremation, or as unattended cremation. *Pure Cremation* make the interesting claim that they are ‘Britain’s most popular funeral plan’ and ‘most trusted’, a claim based, they say, on a report by Mintel in 2023. Without obtaining the whole report (at a cost of £2195) I have only been able to establish that the report asserts that it is the largest provider, which may not be the same. Another comparison site, based on reviews, rates *Pure Cremation* as number 12 in their rankings, with the list headed by Distinct Cremations and Direct Cremations.

It is certainly the case that there are considerable financial savings to be made by making use of one of these companies, with prices ranging between £1100 and £2000. But once again – caveat emptor. *Pure Cremation*, for example, will collect the body from anywhere on mainland UK, but only from a hospital or a coroner’s mortuary, and that within office hours. They say nothing about collection from a private residence, while another of the providers will do so at an additional charge of £250.

cont on p.4

The cremation will take place at a crematorium and at a time of their choice. Some providers will allow for a ceremony attended by a small number – at extra cost. The plan does not include viewing, doctor's fees or cost of the coffin. Caveat emptor.

These firms are responding to concern about the cost of a traditional funeral and to other concerns, such the perceived stress of people attending a ceremony, of families having to organise a funeral and underneath all of that, I suspect, an inability to cope with the idea of death and loss. I am left with the feeling that an unattended cremation, where the body is

taken straight to the funeral director's premises to be prepared and then taken direct to a crematorium to be disposed of without ceremony or friends or family present, amounts to a sort of somewhat up-market refuse disposal service. Of course, the advocates will respond that an event (memorial, thanksgiving etc) can be organised afterwards, at a convenient time and place, but what so easily gets overlooked is the business of acknowledging loss, of taking leave or (for Christians and other believers) commending the deceased person into the hands of God. Caveat emptor!
Canon Michael Sansom

From the registers:

Our condolences to the families of those whose funerals were held at PPT:

Tony Cox

Teresa Tinsley

Brian Mason

Molly Lockley

Victor Palmer

Christopher Simons

Lilian Isaacs

and to the family of Alec Jacobs, whose funeral was held at St Mary's Hennock

Congratulations to the family of Beatrix Hardy-Mills whose Baptism was held on 2 March at PPT.

Church Room Cleaner

The Church Room at PPT is used several times a day by many different groups from the church and the community.

Cheryl Newport has been cleaning the church room in a very efficient and cheerful manner since 2020, but now wants to step back.

If you are interested in cleaning the church room twice a week, so that it is presentable for all the different groups, please contact the Vicar. The role is paid at £12.50 per hour for 6 hours a week.

Mission Focus.

Each month we have a different focus for our prayers and mission giving.

March: Leprosy Mission

April: Heatree Activity Centre

May: CPAS Falcon Camps

If you wish to make a donation you can put cash in the collection plate on

Sunday,

use the contactless payment device, or make an online donation through the

Church Bank account: please name the mission focus in the reference box.

If you wish to make a donation to general church funds, please set up a standing order, or use the yellow envelopes in each pew and at the back of church.

The sums raised for mission in the last few months are listed below:

Christian Institute (January): £250

Open Doors (February): £599

What's on at PPT Bovey & St Mary's

see the weekly notice sheet for details of regular midweek services and events

March

2nd

Last before Lent: An audience of One

Bible readings: Isaiah 58.1-9, Matthew 6.1-18
9.30am Sunday Praise & Baptism: Rev Graham Hamilton
11.00am Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
5.00pm Prayer & Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton r

St Mary's

11.00am Bible readings: Leviticus 19.1-18, Matthew 5.38-48
Holy Communion: Canon Michael Sansom

5th

Ash Wednesday

10.00am Holy Communion- Rev Graham Hamilton

9th

Lent 1 -Your Kingdom Come

Bible readings: 1 Tim. 6.6-19, Mt 6.19-24
9.30am Sunday Praise: Rev David Harris
11.00am Holy Communion: Rev David Harris
5.00pm Prayer and Praise: Rev David Harris

St Mary's

11.00am Bible readings: Deut 26.1-11, Lk 4.1-13
Morning Worship: Mrs Carolyn Laycock

16th

Lent 2- Our Daily Bread.

Bible Readings: Rom 8.18-25, Mt 6.25-34
9.30am Sunday Praise(HC): Rev Graham Hamilton
11.00am Morning Worship: Rev Graham Hamilton
5.00pm Prayer & Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton

St Mary's

11.00am Bible readings: 1 Tim. 6.6-19, Mt 6.19-24
Holy Communion: Rev David Harris

23rd

Lent 3- Judging and being Judged.

Bible readings: 2 Sam 12.1-13, Mt 7.1-6
9.30am Sunday Praise: Can. Michael Sansom
11.00am Holy Communion: Can. Michael Sansom
5.00pm Prayer & Praise: tbc
St Mary's
11.00am Bible Readings: Rom 8.18-25, Mt 6.25-34
Holy Communion- Rev Graham Hamilton.

March			
30th			Mothering Sunday: Good Gifts.
PPT	9.30am		Bible reading: 1 Jn 3.1-10, Mt 7.7-12
	11.00am		Sunday Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
	5.00pm		Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
			Prayer & Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
St Mary's			Bible reading: 2 Sam 12.1-13, Mt 7.1-6
	11.00am		Morning Worship: Canon Michael Sansom
April			
6th			Lent 5 - Time to decide.
	9.30am		Bible reading: Deut 30.15-20, Mt 7.13-end
	11.00am		Sunday Praise: Mrs Carolyn Laycock
	5.00pm		Morning Worship: Mrs Carolyn Laycock
			Prayer & Praise: tbc
St Mary's			Bible reading: 1 Jn 3.1-10, Mt 7.7-12
	11.00am		Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
13th			Palm Sunday: Behold Your King!
	10.30am		Bible reading: Mt 21.1-11, Mt 27.11-54
	5.00pm		United Service: Rev Graham Hamilton.
			Prayer & Praise: Mr Richard Thomas.
St Mary's			Bible reading: Isa 50.4-9 and Matthew 27.11-54
	11.00am		Morning Worship: Mr Keith Butler.
18th			Maundy Thursday
	7.00pm		Bible Reading : Ex 12.1-10, Jn 13.1-17
			Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
19th			Good Friday
	10.00am		Bible Reading: Isa 52.13-53.12, Jn 18.1-19.42
	2.00pm		Good Friday Service- Rev Graham Hamilton.
St Mary's			Good Friday Service- Rev Graham Hamilton.
20th			Easter Sunday - The Empty Tomb.
	9.30am		Bible Reading: Acts 10.34-43, Mt 28.1-10
	11.00am		All Age Worship: Rev Graham Hamilton.
	5.00pm		Holy Communion: Can. Michael Sansom
			Prayer and Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton.
St Mary's			Bible Reading: Acts 10.34-43, Mt 28.1-10
	11.00am		Holy Communion - Rev Graham Hamilton.
27th			Easter 2- The Great Commission.
	9.30am		Bible Reading: Isa 40.12-17, Mt 28.11-20
	11.00am		Sunday Praise: Mr David Robinson
	5.00pm		Morning Worship: Mr David Robinson
			Prayer and Praise: Mr Robin Alexander

St Mary's	11.00am	Bible Reading: Acts 5.27-32, John 20.19-end Holy Communion: Canon Michael Sansom.
May		
1 Thu	7.30pm	Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra concert (PPT)
4th		Easter 3 - Faith in the King.
	9.30am	Bible Reading: Acts 3.1-10, Mt 8.1-17 Sunday Praise (Lord's Supper): Rev Graham Hamilton
	11.00am	Baptism at Morning Prayer: Rev Graham Hamilton.
	5.00pm	Prayer and Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton.
St Mary's	11.00am	Bible reading: Isa 40.12-17, Mt 28.11-20 Morning Worship: Mr David Robinson
8 Thu		80th Anniversary of VE Day <i>plans to be confirmed</i>
10 Sat	10.00am	Annual Parochial Church Meeting in church room
11th		Easter 4- Counting The Cost
	9.30am	Bible reading: Acts 4.32-37, Mt 8.18-34. Sunday Praise: Rev David Harris
	11.00am	Holy Communion: Rev David Harris
	5.00pm	Prayer and praise: Rev Graham Hamilton.
St Marys	11.00am	Bible reading: Acts 3.1-10, Mt 8.1-17 Holy Communion- Rev Graham Hamilton.
	12.00pm	Annual Parochial Church Meeting
18th		Easter 5- Growing Resistance.
	9.30am	Bible reading: Acts 4.1-13, Mt 9.1-17 Sunday Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
	11.00am	Holy Communion: Re Graham Hamilton.
	5.00pm	Prayer and Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton.
St Mary's	11.00am	Bible reading: Acts 4.32-37, Mt 8.18-34. Morning Worship- Rev David Harris
25th		Easter 6- Lord of the Harvest
	9.30am	Bible Reading: Acts 4.23-31, Mt 9.18-38 Sunday Praise: Mrs Carolyn Laycock
	11.00am	Morning Worship- Mrs Carolyn Laycock.
	5.00pm	Prayer and Praise- tbc
St Mary's	11.00am	Bible reading: Acts 4.1-13, Mt 9.1-17 Holy Communion- Rev Graham Hamilton.
29th		Ascension:
St Mary's	6.00pm	Bible Readings: Daniel 7.9-14, Acts 1.1-11 Evensong: Rev Graham Hamilton.

Youth Spring Bulletin- Angie Blanche

Youth @ PPT

The groups have grown a bit more since we last wrote at Christmas, with new members coming along to see what we do. Many are not from a Christian background, so it's a blessing to be able to share the Gospel message with them.

Both groups are looking forward to celebrating Easter together, as part of their youth church families.

In February, the folk at Heatree invited us to go along and trial 'Tag Archery', one of their new activities. 16 young people, made of Wise Guys and Lodges went along. We had a great time, shooting each other and sliding about in the mud.



As usual, we cannot thank the leaders enough, for giving their time, for their willingness to "get alongside" our young people and for the patience and understanding that they show and how they have supported me in my role.

It wasn't an easy decision for me to step down from the role of your youth worker, but I do feel called elsewhere and with families of all ages, as this was my role in Essex and East London, prior to coming to Devon. It has been a privilege to be part of the youth groups, with such lovely young people.

To be able to watch them grow in their faith and be a small part of faith journey, has been an amazing experience - thank you ☺



Prayer points

1. Please prayer fully consider, if you are being called to lead both groups it's a rewarding, fun and sometimes challenging role. There is such an excellent team of volunteers in place who will support you.
2. Pray for the young people who are on their faith journey, especially those new to faith
3. Pray for Bovey Baptist Saturday Youth Nights and Rora monthly youth nights – it's important for the young people to have a group of sound Christian friends around them
4. Pray for the parents – teenagers can be a challenge.

Thank you for my gifts and cards!
Angie

THE FRIENDSHIP LUNCH

Fellowship is such an important part of Christian life and is particularly important to older folk when they are unable to get out of their homes so often or enjoy the company of friends as they could when they were younger and fitter. The Friendship Lunch was formed over twenty years ago in response to a survey conducted by Christians Together which highlighted the loneliness experienced by many older people in Bovey Tracey at that time. Due to space the numbers are restricted to about thirty two places.

The lunch club has had to relocate several times since it started and we

currently meet at Stover Golf Club on the second Monday in the month from September until May for an excellent meal, friendship and a short topical talk by Graham, our vicar, based on a bible passage and are encouraged to chat about this over our meal. A two course meal and coffee is enjoyed by all with the opportunity to enjoy scenic views over the golf course. The staff are very friendly and make everyone welcome. The Friendship Lunch has created many lasting friendships through the years and hopefully this will continue for many years to come.

If you would like to know more about this friendly gathering, contact Sylvia Francis.

Generous Giving (Stewardship Report)

Stewardship, the Christian financial services organisation, recently published their second report on research into Christian "generosity", or giving, in the United Kingdom. The report and, if you enter your email address to download a copy, the follow-up marketing emails from Stewardship, have undertones of "how can we get people to give more" but putting that to one side, it is a good prompt to circle back to the topic of financial giving in our parish church family. Interesting findings in this report include that 18-24 year old Christians give far more of what they receive to their church than all older groups, and the tail-off in giving increases with age. There are some nuances at play, such as the level of commitment, or Christian practice, among these younger Christians is higher on average than "cultural Christians" compared to those aged 60 and over. We also learn that independent (non-denominational) and pentecostal churches give more. A key correlation highlighted by

the report is between higher giving and prevalence of teaching and discussion about financial giving in church life. A key factor in why Christians give more to their churches than other organisations appears to be trust. Perhaps trust has been lacking recently in our church family around our financial relationship with the Diocese and doctrinal disagreements in the Anglican Communion. We ought to balance our individual responsibility to exercise discerning financial stewardship against our sinful tendencies to want control of money. Giving sacrificially can never repay the cost of our salvation, hence my reluctance to use the term "generosity", so let's not pursue repayment. Instead, in giving, we have an opportunity to exercise trust in the Lord and turn our back on at least some of our love of money. We can also thank God by investing his financial gifts to us into godly endeavours. Some respondents to the Stewardship survey felt joy in their giving, and I wish this for you too, as you review your offering to the Lord.

Choosing the next Archbishop of Canterbury

The unexpected resignation of Justin Welby in November 2024 created a vacancy for the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury. [The Archbishop of Canterbury](#) is a key leader within the Church of England and the wider Anglican Communion, which is made up of churches in over 165 countries. The Archbishop is also the Diocesan Bishop of Canterbury, supported by the Bishop of Dover.

People across the Church of England and the Anglican Communion are being invited to share their views about the qualities, values and vision the next Archbishop of Canterbury will ideally have. A public consultation is running until 28 March. Share your views and read about the appointment timeline by completing the [online consultation form](#) or writing to

Canon Stephen Knott
The Archbishops' Secretary for
Appointments, Canterbury Crown
Nominations Commission (CNC)
Lambeth Palace
London, SE1 7JU

This is a unique opportunity to influence the future of leadership within the Church.. Every response helps us better understand the qualities that the next Archbishop should have to meet the needs of the Church today and in the years to come.

The themes that emerge through this consultation will sit alongside the 'Statement of Needs' produced by the Diocese of Canterbury, as well as other information provided by the National Church and Anglican Communion. This information will inform the Canterbury



Crown Nominations Commission (CNC) of the needs of the mission of the Church of England and the wider Anglican Communion.

please do hold this important process of discernment – and all those involved – in your prayers:

Heavenly Father,
shepherd of your Church,
send us a faithful pastor
to lead with wisdom, courage, and love,
proclaiming your Gospel,
celebrating the sacraments,
and guiding your people in unity and
truth.
Strengthen your Church, we pray,
and direct us in your ways;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Good news on the Door-Step

The stereotypical image of the door-to-door salesman is not good- forceful personalities selling inferior quality products to vulnerable residents. That is why many people have stickers on their front doors saying, “No cold callers” But Jesus sent his disciples out to share (not sell) the good news of the kingdom. He said,

“Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you.” (Luke 10.3-5)

The gospel is free- a gift of grace from God- and the greatest treasure this world affords, so we cannot keep this news to ourselves. It should be our joy to share it with friends and neighbours, and it is also our calling.

In previous years we have sent out small teams in the longer Spring evenings to knock on doors in different parts of the town, to introduce ourselves as coming from the parish church, to conduct a simple community survey and to offer free literature. Unlike some religious groups, we send a letter in advance, so people can request not to receive a visit, and our experience has been that many people are intrigued and appreciative that we are interested in them and have bothered to visit.

This year we are planning to work with the parish of St John’s Bovey Tracey to visit some of the new housing estates in the town. If you would like to be part of the team, please contact Graham. There will be a training session at the end of April, and two or three nights of visiting.

Chancel Banner Restoration

In May 2022 we discovered that the silk banner which had hung in the chancel for many years was in need of major repair and restoration. The Royal School of Needlework estimated it would cost at least £4,000, but a team of students, led by Josephine McKenzie and Nellie-Mae Morgan at the textile conservation department of the University of Lincoln offered to restore it for only the cost of materials. It was returned to us in November 2024, and now David Horton has created a sturdy display cabinet for the banner which is at the west end of the church, out of direct sunlight to protect the fabric. We are very grateful to David, to the University of Lincoln, and to Margaret Steele who has been co-ordinating the project.

The latin text of the banner reads:

*Bone Pastor, panis vere,
Jesu nostri miserere*
‘Good Shepherd, True Bread
Jesus, have mercy on us’



Who's who at PPT Bovey & St Mary's Hennock:

Vicar:

Rev. Graham Hamilton 833813
email: vicar@pptbovey.church

Church Administrator:

Camilla Matheson 834835
(Home number if urgent -01364 661195)
email office@ pptbovey.church

Family Worker:

Rosie Stephens 07876 662138
email: familyworker@pptbovey.church

Youth Worker:

position vacant

Churchwardens (PPT)

Michael Codner 01626 824644
Peter Chesterman 07487 690791
Email: wardens@pptbovey.church

(Hennock)

Ellena Jamie 854752
Miles Pomfrett 331062

Licensed Lay Minister:

Carolyn Laycock 01626 832335

Anna Chaplain:

Jill Hosford 01626 832966

Elected P.C.C.Members (PPT):

Mike Limb 01626 832705
Jill Hosford 01626 832966
Sharon Alexander 01626 854635
Tim Stephens 01626 834115
Shirley Codner 01626 824644
Katie Law 07484 757105
Karen Chesterman 07714 745576
Steve Matheson 01364 661195

Deanery Synod Reps:

Roy White 832771
Mathew Percy 07913
706627
Jack Knightly

Diocesan Synod Rep:

Dawn Hamilton 833813

P.C.C. Hon. Treasurer:

Roy Pitchford 07793 909985
e: treasurer@pptbovey.church

Gift Aid Hon. Secretary:

Kate Martin 01647 277458

Safeguarding Officer:

Tim Stephens 01626 834115

Safeguarding Administrator:

Shirley Codner 01626 824644

Captain of the Ringers

Mike Wigney 07748 933779

Choir Co-ordinator:

Margaret Steele 832137

Church Room Secretary:

Jane Midgley, 832751
jane.midgley@gmail.com

Flower Rota:

Sarah Gilbert 833934

PPT Bovey is a registered Charity: 1128849.

The PPT Bank account is
'P C C Bovey Tracey',
acct no. 01219910, sort code 30-96-06.
PPT bank account (via Ephesians Fund)
Name: P C C Bovey Tracey
account no: 7995 6060, sort code 30-84-67.

The Hennock bank account is:
FOR PCC OF HENNOCK
acct no: 01220021 sort code 30-96-06

Please note that the Church office is no longer staffed, but ansaphones, emails and post are checked regularly during the week. Contact the church wardens for details.

The Church Website contains details of all events, audio sermon files and documents for download: go to www.pptbovey.church

"PPT Bovey is committed to the safeguarding of children, young people and adults.. If you are concerned that a child or adult has been harmed or may be at risk of harm please contact the Parish Safeguarding officer. If you have immediate concerns about the safety of someone, please contact the police or local authority Children or Adults Services."