STATEMENT OF NEEDS

The United Benefice of the parishes of Maker with Rame, Millbrook, St John in Cornwall and Torpoint, (known locally as The Rame Peninsula Team Ministry) in the DIOCESE OF TRURO

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INTRODUCTION

The United Benefice of the parishes of Maker with Rame, Millbrook, St John in Cornwall and Torpoint, was created on 1st July 2019 and is known locally as the Rame Peninsula Team Ministry (RPTM). The RPTM seeks a House for Duty Priest (HfD), male or female, who will support the Rector and the people of the United Benefice, in our ministry to the people of the peninsula. The HfD priest will be located in the Parsonage House, 25 Maker Road, Torpoint, Cornwall, PL11 2HY. (Pictures of the Parsonage House can be seen on pages 11 and 12). The HfD Priest will be an Assistant Curate, known locally as Associate Priest.

The HfD priest will be required for Sunday duties, the occasional offices and part time as arranged by mutual agreement with the Rector.

The United Benefice consists of four parishes located on what has been described as the “forgotten corner of Cornwall”, and between them we have seven centres of worship. And as a benefice we follow a middle of the road approach to the Anglo Catholic tradition, using common worship one and the Book of Common Prayer, vestments are worn. Incense may occasionally be used in two of the parish churches. Maker with Rame parish has three worship centres, the parish church being located at Maker. Torpoint has two worship centres, the parish church being St James the Great, in the centre of Torpoint.

The Patrons of the United Benefice are as follows: in the first turn the Sovereign, then in the second turn, jointly the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, the incumbent of Antony House (presently Sir Richard Carew Pole, Bt) and the Bishop of Truro.

The Rector is located in the Vicarage, Newport Street, Millbrook, Cornwall, PL10 1BW, situated next door to All Saints Church Millbrook.

The Team Ministry has a Robed Choir under the direction of Mr Steve Lacy. The Choir appears at all 5th Sunday services and any other special services as requested through the liturgical and civil season.
The top left picture is the parish church of Maker with Rame parish, St Mary & St Julian Maker, it is flying the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe’s standard on his wedding day. The Earl and Countess live in the parish. Above right is the church of St Germanus Rame. Below centre is the mission church of St Andrew’s Cawsand.

The parish of Maker with Rame is served by three worship centres as above. The Parish Church being St Mary & St Julian Maker, a Chapel of Ease being that of St Germanus Rame, and a Mission Church called St Andrew in Cawsand. Originally Maker and Rame were two separate parishes, but they combined in the 1940’s, with Maker becoming the Parish Church.

Worthy of note here, is that St Germanus Rame has no power source to it, so the organ is hand pumped and the church is candle lit, there is no heating. With this in mind, no services take place in St Germanus Rame from the end of September until after Easter, with the exception of an hour by the cross on Good Friday, the Christmas Carol Service for Maker with Rame Parish and funeral services. This Church is a marriage venue but not during the closed period.

All of the three churches in this parish are well used for the occasional offices and most of the marriages are by Superintendent Registrars Certificate, which suggests that they are very often not local marriages.

The reserved sacrament is maintained in St Andrew’s Cawsand.
The civil parish of Maker with Rame consists of the villages of Cremyll, Kingsand, Cawsand and Rame. They are wonderful villages but sadly more and more properties in them, on becoming vacant, are being purchased to be used as second homes which, as a consequence, make it difficult for locals to find somewhere to live. The population of the parish was listed at 977, at the 2011 census. The villages are presently served by five public houses, the Kingsand Community Hall, the Institute, one mini supermarket, two gift shops, one of which houses the Post Office counter, a delicatessen and a beach souvenir and take away shop.

There is a foot ferry at Cremyll to the Royal William Yard (Plymouth) all year round and to the Barbican (Plymouth) in the summer. There is also a foot ferry from Cawsand Beach to the Barbican (Plymouth).

Cawsand has a Sailing Club and a Gig Club, both of which are very popular and well supported.

The parish of Maker with Rame also has the Mount Edgcumbe Estate within its boundary and there is a consecrated chapel within the House, known as the Earls Chapel. The Mount Edgcumbe House estate is self managed on behalf of Plymouth City Council and Cornwall County Council, and is open to the public for walking, picnics and the like, the house and estate grounds also hosts the national camellia collection.

In the Mount Edgcumbe House grounds there is a 5” inch gauge miniature railway and a model railway located in the Saw Mill, adjacent to the stable block, along with other attractions.
Millbrook Parish:

The Christian community in Millbrook is served by All Saints Church of England Church and the Methodist Church.

All Saints Church, Millbrook, is well maintained and has in the past enjoyed the highest of Anglo Catholic worship. Sadly because of falling numbers this tradition has not been maintained. The reserved sacrament is maintained in the Lady Chapel. The Church was originally built as a garrison church and can presently seat at least 200 people, having had a lot of seats removed. The Church has been used for concerts and plays.

Millbrook is the largest village in Cornwall with a population of 2,214, according to the 2011 census. Millbrook is a working community with a wide cross section of ages and occupations. The employment being found within the village, Devonport Dockyard, HMS Raleigh, Plymouth University and Derriford Hospital. The village is supported by two mini supermarkets, a newsagent, two hairdressers, a beauty salon, a fruit and vegetable shop with cafeteria, the Kernow Café, a chemist, estate agent and a charity shop. There is also a Fish and Chip Restaurant and take away, and an Indian Restaurant and take away. The Rame Centre (a local Charity organisation) holds a post office counter on certain days of the week.

Millbrook enjoys easy access to the facilities provided by Liskeard, Plymouth, Saltash & Torpoint, by using private transport, a regular bus service and the Cremyll and Torpoint Ferry services.

There are three public houses in Millbrook, a Masonic Hall and a football club. There is a modern Community Hall, that at one time was the Church Hall, a Doctor’s Surgery in the centre of the village and a group main practise located in Torpoint, there is also a local Funeral Director.

Millbrook has a Church of England Primary School, which is part of the St Barnabas Multi Academy Trust that includes five other Church of England Primary Schools.

Secondary Education for the community is served by the Torpoint Community College and the Plymouth Grammar Schools.
**St John in Cornwall:**

St John the Baptist Church, in St John in Cornwall, dates back to Norman times and possibly before. The tower, dating from 1150 stands to this day and houses a peal of three bells. The Treble dating between 1450 and 1500, the Bass 1682 and the Tenor 1743. The church reserves the sacrament and follows a low Anglo Catholic tradition and vestments are worn. The Churchyard is still open for burials. Very few weddings or funerals take place in St John because of the church’s size. People opt for either, Millbrook, Maker or Maryfield for these services.

St John in Cornwall covers a large land mass that is very rural and includes the population that’s located at Freathy overlooking Whitsand Bay. The parish has a good mix of people numbering 391, at 2011 census and the principal employers are Devonport Dockyard, HMS Raleigh, Plymouth University and Derriford Hospital, alongside local Farms and small holdings.

St John has a public house that opens on a Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. It serves food on a Friday evening. St John also has a well used and supported village hall. There is also a community hall that can be found at Freathy.
**Torpoint:**

The parish of Torpoint is served by two worship centres, St James the Great Church, which is the parish church of Torpoint, and the Chapel of Ease called St Philip and St James at Maryfield. The latter was at one time, the family chapel for the incumbents of Antony House, which is also located in the parish and in the hands of the National Trust. Both St James’ and Maryfield churches are generally considered as being open, traditional and mainstream, in their worship and vestments are worn. The sacrament is reserved in St James’ Torpoint.

The Christian community of Torpoint is also served by the Joan of Arc, Roman Catholic Church; the Cornerstone Church (United Methodist/URC); and the Torpoint Fellowship.

The Right Honourable Sir Reginald Pole Carew Baronet, laid the foundation stone in 1816 and Torpoint became a separate parish on St James’ Day 1872. Many changes to the building followed over the years which have resulted in the church and hall that we know today. The removal of pews and their replacement by chairs being the most recent one in 2007. This means many activities take place in the Church and Church Hall but of particular note is the toddler group (Tuesday am), 2nd Torpoint Brownies pack (Tuesday evening), and the Friday coffee morning. The hall is also used for fund raising (Big Breakfast) and also charities (Christian Aid Lent and Harvest Lunches).

Members of the congregation play a full part in services acting as welcomers, sides-people, readers and Eucharistic assistants. The Wednesday morning Communion service is also well supported each week.

In 2006 “Play and Praise” was introduced at Maryfield, a programme designed to maintain contact with the many families who bring their children to Maryfield for baptism. It is based on
providing a number of events during the year and to support this, a Family Service was introduced.

Weddings and baptisms form a large part of part of Maryfield’s mission with many families coming back time and again to use the facilities of this beautiful church with its unique murals and garden.

Relationships between the various denominations are extremely good and members of all churches support each others’ activities.

There are good relations with the Town Council and British legion. The Rector is the Mayor’s Chaplain and Chaplain to the Royal British Legion.

Torpoint could be described as a gateway to Cornwall, because like the other parishes it is situated on the Rame peninsula in East Cornwall, just across the River Tamar from Plymouth. The population was 9,364, at the 2011 census. The Torpoint ferry (a chain ferry) connects Cornwall with Devon across the river Tamar and the first official ferry service started as far back as 1791, allowed by Act of Parliament. In 1832, the first chain ferry was started and three ferries operate daily in normal circumstances. The ferry is still free for foot passengers and there is a charge for vehicles travelling in the Plymouth direction.

Torpoint became a town in the early nineteenth century. Before this, the nearby village of Antony was the main centre of habitation in the area. However, there had always been families living beside the river and there is some mention of the area in the Domesday Book.

Close to the town is a pretty stretch of water known as St John’s Lake. However, this can only be seen at certain times because it is completely tidal and drains as the tide recedes. The old marina, Ballast Pound, is next to the local sailing club which holds frequent races during the yachting season. There is also a Gig Club.

Torpoint is not a holiday resort, but neither is it just a suburb of Plymouth. It is indeed a hub for the peninsula, where the local people cling to their Cornish identity even though many refer to Plymouth as “the town”.

Torpoint is served by Torpoint Community Infant School (which houses a Nursery Unit); Carbeile Community Junior School; Torpoint Community College; a Police Office; an on call Fire Station; an Army Cadet Unit and a Sea Cadet Unit. Torpoint also hosts the Torcare Nursing Home; Porte Rouge Residential home and Tamara House Residential Home.

There is a strong community spirit in Torpoint and, for these modern times, the existence of so many extended families of 2 or 3 generations living in the town is remarkable and, in itself, gives evidence for the quality of life in Torpoint.

CHAT- (Community Health Around Torpoint) is a significant organisation that focuses opportunities for community and voluntary activity for the benefit of the community.
PATTERN OF WORSHIP

The Rota of Services in the Benefice

The Rota of services appears confusing when trying to put it on paper for this document, but it actually works and a priest can safely travel between parishes to take their services. Each Parish will have a Eucharist on every Sunday with the exception of the 5th Sunday of the Month, where there will be a Joint Team Sung Eucharist, rotating around the Benefice.

For Example:

The First and Third Sunday’s of the Month in the Summer: There will be an 0800 (BCP) said Eucharist at St Germanus Rame, then an 0915 Common Worship 1(CW1) at St John in St John and at St James’ Torpoint. Then at 1100, there will be (CW1) at Millbrook, and Morning Worship at Maryfield and St Andrew’s Cawsand. The Morning Worship’s are Lay Led. The Eucharist’s are divided two altars to one priest and three altars to another priest. Meaning that one priest will do a 0800, 0915 and 1100, and the other will do a 0915 and 1100. On the third Sunday of the month the 0800 Service will be (CW1) in St Andrew’s Cawsand. The remainder are the same as the first Sunday of the month.

From the end of September until after Easter, there are no regular services at St Germanus Rame.

On the Second and Fourth Sunday’s of the Month, there will be an 0800 (CW1) said Eucharist in Millbrook, followed by 0915 in St John and two 1100 at Maker and Maryfield Churches. All morning worship and evening prayer services are lay led and all services follow the Common Worship Lectionary readings for the principle service. The same sermon therefore can be used at both altars, except where one church celebrates a Patronal Festival.

Midweek there are two said Eucharist’s (CW1), one at 1000 on a Wednesday morning in St James’ Torpoint and the second at 1900, (CW1), in St Andrew’s Cawsand.

THE MISSION AND MINISTRY

It is the purpose of the RPTM, to place the Church in the centre of our communities and to encourage the widest possible links with our community and the church

PRESENT MISSION INITIATIVES

The congregations of the RPTM always seek an imaginative use of our church buildings, with a view to making the Church central to the life of our wider community. Therefore, all of our worship centres are used as concert venues.

In Torpoint the PCC has supported the use of the church building as a community resource for tea dances, concerts, exhibitions and civic services, etc. The Church Hall is also well used by the church as a venue for weekly coffee mornings, monthly big breakfasts, film nights and as a space for meetings. Churches together hold Lent and Harvest lunches in the hall in aid of Christian Aid.
The St James’ Church Hall also hosts Café Abundance, the Food Bank, the Toddler Group, Brownies, Guides, W.I. Ukulele Group and the Parkinsons Group.

St James’ Torpoint supports Grace and Festo in their schools mission in Tanzania.

**St James’ Torpoint and All Saints Millbrook** both host a Christmas tree festival each year. All the parishes host an annual Carol Service.

The Easter Festivities are spread around the Team Ministry, with principle Holy Days being observed in each parish church.

There are regular bible study groups or house-groups in Maker with Rame, Millbrook and Torpoint parishes.

**RESOURCES FOR MISSION & MINISTRY IN THE TEAM MINISTRY**

There are presently no Non Stipendiary Ministers working with the RPTM and there is one Reader located in Torpoint. There is a Reader with permission to officiate located in St John. Neither Reader presently enjoys good health. Family Worship Services are Lay led by the Readers and the Worship Leaders. There are Eucharistic assistants and Pastoral Visitors. The PCC’s have the usual officers but there is presently no paid administrator/or secretarial staff for the Team Ministry. It is hoped that this will change in the near future to help the Rector and the Team Ministry in their Mission.

**KEY QUALITIES WE SEEK IN OUR HOUSE FOR DUTY PRIEST**

The key qualities we seek in our House for Duty Priest, is someone with the ability to work as part of a Team, used to wearing vestments, keen to preach the Gospel and to encourage the Church that they serve, someone who with confidence is able to enthuse others with our vision.

We seek a committed Christian in the Anglican tradition that is a good communicator, inclusive and respectful of different ages, attitudes and social groups. We are seeking someone with a sense of humour that, understands the need to listen with sensitivity.

We also seek a priest who can be proactive in leading our group of pastoral visitors in visiting the parishioners.

The priest must be able to drive and have his or her own transport.
Rear View of 25 Maker Road, Torpoint

Interior view downstairs
25 Maker Road, Torpoint, is a semi-detached three bedroom property, attractively presented with a well proportioned living space, in good decorative order throughout. The property has Gas central heating, a small front garden, off road parking, garage and a rear garden with a summer house/shed, and wonderful waterside views.