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## GOOD NEWS

### CRIME

has fallen to its lowest level since records began, including violence. But shoplifting has risen 25%, perhaps a sign of the times we are living in.

It is regrettable that our social media and newspapers don't reflect this and continue to pour out bad news when there are so many good things that we are blessed with.

### MALARIA

There is a new second vaccine about to be rolled out. The first one was expensive and not widely available. 345,000 young children die every year from Malaria. This new vaccine is cheap, easily made and will be widely available throughout the world.

### THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

is holding a month long synod; delegates, lay people and bishops from all over the world have gathered together in Rome. Preparation for this in parishes, dioceses and countries worldwide took place over a period of one year. The synod is not a decision-making event, but a time of listening and learning guided by the Holy Spirit.

### REFUGEES

The group "Falmouth and Penryn welcomes refugees" has all the preparations ready and have announced that they now ready to welcome a third refugee family.

### FALMOUTH AND PENRYN CHURCHES TOGETHER (about 18 churches)

have started a monthly meeting for prayer to discern how we are now being called to work together sharing our gifts and ministries in a new post Covid era. Countrywide a change has taken place since Covid with less emphasis on formality and structures.

### A LIVING WAGE CORNWALL COUNTY COUNCIL??.

A meeting took place in Newquay last week regarding the basic wage and a living Wage. The minimum wage is £10.40. The Living wage is £10.90.

It is hoped that Cornwall may be the first county in England to pay its employees the Living wage rather than the Minimum wage.

## FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION

### DEPORTATION OF MIGRANTS TO RWANDA

February 24 has been chosen as the date to send the first migrants to Rwanda. This is subject to a court provision that this is lawful.

### UNIVERSITY OF EXETER IN CORNWALL STUDENTS PROTEST

Two students were arrested here locally last week for daubing paint on one of the university buildings in protest as part of the Stop The Oil campaign, as Exeter University has received £14million in partnership with the big oil company Shell.

### CHILD LABOUR

In Madagascar UNICEF reports that 10,000 children work in the Mica mining sector. Mica is used in cosmetics, paints and electronics and requires people to work in dangerous conditions underground. Long term exposure causes irreversible lung damage. UNICEF is advertising for funds to protect child health and welfare and enable children to go to school.

World-wide there are 160 million children in child labour, 8.4 million more than 4 years ago due to the global recession, climate change and conflicts.

## ACTION FOR THE WEEK

**FRIDAY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS A DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING FOR ISRAEL, GAZA AND THE CESSATION OF FURTHER CONFLICT AND FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.**

