



# ORTHODOX PARISH OF THE HOLY PROPHET ELIAS

St Anne's Church  
Old Tiverton Road  
Exeter EX4 6LA

Church of St Symeon and St Anna  
Touchstone, Shute Lane  
Combe Martin  
North Devon EX34 0EU

Parish Web site: <http://www.orthodoxdevon.org>

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**From our Parish Priest**

We have entered the holy season of Great Lent when we prepare to celebrate Pascha with mind and heart renewed. In the Anaphora of St Basil the Great, which we use on Sundays during Great Lent, we hear that while paradise was lost through disobedience, God spared nothing to restore us to what was lost, and to much more besides. He sent the prophets, the Law, the saints and the angels, until finally He spoke to us through his Son. While God speaks, He begins by listening. The journey made by God's people of old from slavery and hardship in Egypt to freedom and life in a new land that God provided, which we read about in the Book of Exodus and use to make sense of our progress through Great Lent, began when God heard.

'And now behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me; and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them.' Exodus 3:9

To be listened to and to know that we are heard, is something we need and should look for in life. The tradition of the Church witnesses to this through the practice of spiritual direction and through personal confession. To have a spiritual mother or father, or small group of fellow Christians, with whom we can speak in confidence about our lives, is a great blessing, as is the opportunity for personal confession. Here, the priest standing alongside us with his ear towards us is the sign of God listening. God listens to what we say and to what we can't bring ourselves to say, whether through lack of awareness or for some other reason. The important thing is that we turn towards Him who is always ready to hear us.

Hieromonk Porphyrios

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**Summary of Annual General Meeting  
December 4<sup>th</sup> 2016**

Father Porphyrios repeated the announcement made earlier in St Anne's, that Archbishop John had appointed him Rector of the Parish and had proposed splitting the Parish into its original halves of Exeter and Combe Martin. Representations had been received expressing the desirability of remaining together as one, the Parish of The Holy Prophet Elias in Devon, with two churches, St Anne's in Exeter and SS Simeon and Anna in Combe Martin. Father Porphyrios would be Rector with Father John continuing to be responsible for services in Combe Martin.

After some discussion, a motion was proposed: "That the communities meeting in Exeter and Combe Martin remain a single Parish, as in our current Statutes". The motion was carried unanimously, and the result has been forwarded to the Archbishop.

The Ordinary General Assembly of the Archdiocese in Paris during November 2016 was attended by Celia Olsson and Aidan Cahill, elected lay representatives of the parish, and by Father Porphyrios and Deacon Peter. Father Porphyrios' nomination for election as assistant bishop to Archbishop John was supported by the Ordinary General Assembly of the Archdiocese with 87% voting in favour. His nomination will be forwarded to the Holy Synod in Constantinople. It will not make its decision before May 2017. Father Porphyrios had accompanied Archbishop John to the Phanar in Constantinople (Istanbul), visiting Patriarch Bartholomew and spending two days there. If elected bishop, Fr Porphyrios will continue to live and work in Exeter.

Father Porphyrios emphasised the importance of Paris as the meeting place for Orthodox from all over the Exarchate of Western Europe, and in the history of our own Parish through Father Barnabas and Father Nicanor.

Celia reported that elections were held for the Archdiocesan Council, resulting in much broader representation from across the Exarchate. There had been insufficient time for a major discussion on a prepared document on the "Declaration of the Identity and Future of the Archdiocese". This has been translated and will be circulated to parishes throughout the Archdiocese for discussion later.

Celia also reported on the Clergy/Laity Meeting of the UK Deanery in London; various parishes described their activities. Father David (Gill) spoke about last year's successful Conference, mentioning especially the large number of children present. The 2017 Conference will have as its theme: 'Let us Attend – Attentiveness to the Word of God in prayer and everyday life'. Speakers will include Metropolitan Kallistos of Diokleia on Attentiveness in Prayer and Worship, Deacon Peter on Metropolitan Evlogy and the beginnings of the Archdiocese, and Father Porphyrios.

Further reports were given on training of the Parish Welfare Officers, on Children's Events and on Uganda.

The following were elected to the Parish Advisory Council:

Christopher Tsamalis as Parish Warden, Thomas Scorer having stepped down from this post;

Joanna Taylor as Parish Secretary;

Dora Smith, Christina Spanou and Martin Olsson as Welfare Officers;

Naomi Schubert and Thomas Scorer as additional lay members

If anyone would like further details on any of the above, please contact me.

Joanna Taylor, 01404 861545 [bjtyarcombe@hotmail.com](mailto:bjtyarcombe@hotmail.com)

## Book Recommendation

If you are a regular worshipper at St Anne's or Combe Martin's Ss Symeon and Anna, or wherever, seeking to edify yourself in the meanings and treasures of Orthodox worship, then you will already have Alexander Schmemmann's 'Great Lent, Journey into Pascha'.

As Schmemmann himself says: '...to take Lent seriously means that we will consider it first of all on the deepest level – as a spiritual challenge which requires a response, a decision, a plan, a continuous effort.'

If you haven't yet obtained it, I cannot recommend it strongly enough!

ISBN 0-913836-0404 St Vladimir's Seminary Press

Christa Antonina

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### Happy memories of a growing parish

Every Sunday I marvel at our multinational congregation and the size of it – all from small beginnings. Many of you may not know about these beginnings so I thought I'd share some happy memories.

My first visit to the Orthodox Church in Devon in 1985 was to the parish of St Symeon and St Anna in Combe Martin. Like many people at that time I knew about it from Peter France's radio programme.

The parish came into being from Fr Barnabas's setting up of a monastery of Prophet Elias in Willand. Stories of this were in the newsletters of 2015. Fr John Marks went to services there, then was ordained priest on 21<sup>st</sup> April 1974 and set up the church of St Symeon & St Anna in Combe Martin. As well as services there, we also had twice monthly Liturgies in the front room of the Hookways' house in Tiverton, plus some in the Ladywell Chapel in Pilton near Barnstaple (eg. The Akathist in the 5<sup>th</sup> week of the Great Fast and Thomas Sunday Liturgy) and an annual Liturgy in the chapel in Scilla and Ray White's house in Southampton (where people being baptised used the bath!).

At the time there was also the parish of St Anne in Exeter, which I didn't know about until Fr John announced their Patronal feast. This parish was having problems and Met. Anthony removed the priest and asked Fr John to take over. At Theophany in 1986 the two parishes celebrated their first Liturgy together in St Anne's with Met Anthony serving – and as is our wont a feast followed. It was decided the two parishes would become one under the name of the Prophet Elias, in memory of Fr Barnabas and the monastery.

To start with the Liturgy was held in each church every other Sunday, which meant a lot of travelling. I had been warned 'if you want to be Orthodox in Devon you need good shoes and a willingness to travel'. True words indeed. We came from a wide area – Cornwall to the Somerset Levels – and Combe Martin Sundays involved picnic lunches on the beach or in the (now demolished) shelter on the cliffs above in bad weather. There was a good crowd of us: Olssons, Gore-Lloyds, Taylors and Palmers. Whilst the children scabbled over rocks (on one occasion a brother pushing his sister into a rock pool!) a frequent topic of conversation for us adults was church life and our response to Fr John's occasional sermons. He has the extraordinary gift of delivering very, very short sermons that go right to the point, and often seemed to apply personally to each one of us. He taught us that being Orthodox was about growing into mature Christians - sometimes a difficult task for us Western Christians who were encouraged to remain spiritually at about the age of 12 - part of which meant not being priest-ridden, i.e. he encouraged us to work things out for ourselves and not rely totally on him. Things which I think have given this parish the strength to withstand the ups and downs of what was to come.

The first year as one parish Pascha was celebrated in both churches (Fr Alex Fostiropolos came to help out at St Anne's). Thereafter Pascha was held in Exeter with some of the Holy Week services held only in Combe Martin - Holy Wednesday Matins and Unction service Holy Thursday Vespereal Liturgy. When the Whites moved to North Devon they kindly offered many of us beds for the night. Other major feasts were also held in Combe Martin only. The most important of which of course was the Patronal Feast at the beginning of February. One year we hired the St John's Ambulance hall for the feast (too many coming to fit into John and Dawn's house), when Fr Nicholas Behr from the Bristol church concelebrated. Lovely Liturgy, lovely feast but the highlight had to be Deacon Nicanor dancing with a skeleton he'd found in a cupboard whilst we were clearing up. Another was Dormition when Joanna and her daughter Irene often came to stay with me in Tiverton. Off we set in my Peugeot 104 with children and Ferdy our black Labrador in the back and picnic in the boot, one time rescuing a stranded Dcn Nicanor whose bike had broken down. Most of these journeys involved a lot of laughing, I seem to recall. In addition, various of us joined together to attend Patronal feasts in other parishes such as the Cathedral in London, Bristol, and the Greek church in Torquay.

We were a close-knit group with numbers gradually increasing. After a few years more and more people were coming to St Anne's in Exeter - many associated with the university - and Fr John felt it important that more services were held in Exeter. The pattern became 3 Sundays a month in Exeter and 1 in Combe Martin. Some of us felt we'd lost something but we realised the need – even now we try to keep up the monthly visit. Fr Nicanor who had been deacon for many, many years was ordained priest to help out and John Palmer was ordained deacon (later he became a priest and served in

the Westbury-on-Trym parish) and so things continued until the break from Surozh in 2006.

This was a terribly upsetting time for the parishes and cathedral of Surozh, but fortunately for us, our liturgical and parish life carried on as usual. I think many were unaware of the dreadful situation until Fr John told us. Sitting on one of those tall stools in St Anne's he gathered us around him and announced we were following our bishop (Bishop Basil who had taken over after Met Anthony died) out of Surozh, for a while into the diocese of Great Britain and Thyatira and then to our home now, the Exarchate. We were lucky; the transition was seamless although no doubt some regretted the break with Moscow. We suffered none of the ructions some parishes did. I think this was largely due to Fr John's calm decision and with Fr John, Fr Nicanor and Dcn Peter as our clergy we were a pretty happy parish. After the split Fr John's work as Dean took up much of his time and energy, helping people come to terms with the split and the changes. I think it's due to his amazing efforts that the Deanery is as strong today as it is.

Our other great strength has been the tireless work of Peter and Irina Scorer, who with their knowledge of services, theology and church custom have taught us so much, and Fr Nicanor's dedicated service. When I talk to people at Clergy-Laity meetings in London and General Assemblies in Paris I realise how fortunate we are.

Over the years we have been blessed by those who have joined our parish, either by conversion or coming from Orthodox countries to study or stay permanently. They have all become important members of our parish family. We seemed to have had a continual supply of young men who've served in the Altar – Vassilios, Andreas and Vanya immediately come to mind. When they left it felt like they'd emigrated rather than gone home. Now we have Arsenii who luckily for us has made his home here. In addition, Prophet Elias parish has produced four priests – apart from Fr John and Fr Nicanor – Fr Gregory Palamas (David Carpenter) in Plymouth, Fr Matthew (Arnold) currently in Cyprus, Fr John (Palmer) in Westbury-on-Trym and Newton Abbot, and Fr John (Edmund Hookway) in Edmonton, London. And who knows we may even have produced a bishop! All this from small, humble beginnings.

In those early days the dedication of everyone and their willingness to travel long distances did much to cement the parish community. As a parish we have been ready to take part seriously in events within our own diocese, and now archdiocese, which has broadened our knowledge and outlook, and (Boast Alert!) I get the impression we are valued for that effort. Whatever the future may bring, I think our 'upbringing' has given us the strength to soldier on and I feel very, very lucky to be part of this parish.

Celia Olsson

## From the Service Books

Christ the Lord, my Maker and Deliverer, came forth from thy womb, all-hallowed Queen, and clothing Himself in me He delivered Adam from the curse of old.

Theotokion in the 6<sup>th</sup> Tone from  
Matins of the Sunday of the Prodigal Son.

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## Patronal Feast at Combe Martin

This year, as usual, we kept the feast of the Meeting of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in the Temple (2 February) over the following weekend. This coincided with the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> of our beloved friend and shepherd Fr John Marks.

Fr Porphyrios had hoped to be at Combe Martin for Vespers on the Saturday, but was prevented by illness. At the Sunday Liturgy the regular congregation was joined by Deacon Peter and Irina Scorer and others who more often worship in Exeter, and 'Many Years' was sung to both Fr John and Dawn, who has been his unfailing support in his forty years (so far) of priesthood, thirty of them serving the combined parish of Exeter and North Devon.

All then joined in a celebration bring and share lunch, whose crowning glory was an amazing cake (complete with 75 candles) baked by Dawn's multi-talented niece-in-law Miranda Sykes. When Fr John had blown out the candles they were by popular request relit and blown out again by Irina, who had celebrated the same landmark birthday a few days earlier.

At the end of the meal Fr John was presented with a large book containing facsimile reproductions of pages from the pre-Schism Irish Book of Kells, the cost of which had been subscribed by a number of parishioners. The party were then treated to a couple of folk songs by Miranda, whose gigantic double bass provided a uniquely stirring form of accompaniment.

Hugh Allen

## Uganda News

### Saint Cyprian's

On 14<sup>th</sup> November I received an email from Fr Daniel's daughter Sarah saying that her father had been very ill and consequently unable to pay the school fees for two of his children. It seems he had been in hospital since mid October, for which he will have had to pay, and that although he was recovering now it was a slow process and he still had a way to go. Please remember him in your prayers.

Characteristically, Father Daniel himself has made no mention of this in his letters. In his most recent, dated 12-12-2016, he dictated:

Dear Brethren in Christ

It is long since we last communicated. Greetings in the name of our good Lord. Thank you for the communications of all forms. Thank you for keeping in touch with our Parish. Sometime shortly we will have special prayers in celebration for a silver jubilee. Thank you so much for the love towards us. We also promise to do like-wise, more especially in our prayers.

The year is left with only a few days. We thank God most importantly for the gift of life. Those who have encountered shortcomings along the path of life, may God comfort you in your problems.

Thank you so much for the school fees I received in November of 1m [Uganda Shillings = £250].

We are experiencing a long period of drought which has also caused famine in most parts of Uganda. Let us join our hands together and pray that we have rain because it is very serious.

Greetings to all parishioners, to Fr John, Fr Nikanor, Fr Alban [Porphyrios], Deacon Peter and all the children.

God bless - Fr Daniel (on behalf)

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### Bishop Spartas Trust Students

Dimitrios is now halfway through his second year at Kampala International University Medical School, and has just completed his first major clinical placement. He got over 70% in all his mid-year viva tests, and passed all his written papers. He is beginning to ask himself what branch of medicine he should opt for: I have suggested that he has plenty of time before he has to decide.

Athanasios, who is hoping we can fund him for a degree in Computer Science, responds stoically each time I tell him we don't currently have the money. Meanwhile, he is helping out as maintenance man and Sunday School teacher at Saint Sophia's, a country parish about 80km north west of Kampala.

There are donation forms at the back of both our churches for anyone who would like to contribute to the Trust, or for more information, contact me at martinolsson827@btinternet.com

Martin Olsson

### **About the Diocese of Aleppo**

Archimandrite Mousa al-Khasi (vicar for the kidnapped Metropolitan Paul Yazigi in Aleppo) recently said:

“Our diocese has been subjected to tragedies and great hardships. We lost ninety percent of our properties, which were subject to vandalism and destruction. And the great pain remains of the kidnapping of Metropolitan Paul and his absence from the diocese.

Fifty members of our diocese have been killed due to the security situations to which Aleppo has been subjected, not to mention the difficulties of social life, the deterioration of infrastructure, and the lack of drinking water, medicines and other necessities of life.

On account of his standard of living, we are confronted with a harsh pain, the emigration of members of the diocese to places outside Syria, and the exodus of many of them to more secure regions of Syria, to the point that the proportion of those who have left has reached forty-five to fifty percent.

We have six churches in Aleppo, a diocesan council, a youth group, a choir, the St Elias Scouts, various brotherhoods, Sunday schools, and the al-Mashriq Model School, which was looted and pillaged. The diocese has a range of programs that provide job opportunities for people so that they can work and live with dignity, starting with a charity which provides medical necessities at nominal prices. The church also has a charitable committee that helps with difficult surgical operations in addition to distributing medicines. We have also opened the St. Elias Kindergarten.

The Diocese of Aleppo is undertaking Christmas concerts and exhibitions, the proceeds from which will go to support needy families. Despite the difficulties, our God is present among us, in our faith, and in our hearts”

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**The Exeter University Orthodox Christian Society  
Report of the Inaugural Meeting**

The Exeter University Orthodox Christian Society held its inaugural meeting on the 23 February of this year. The society's aim is to represent the Orthodox Church on the campus – to bring its message to those who were raised in it but have drifted away, to the interested but unattached, and to those who have never heard of Orthodoxy at all. The meeting was attended by the president of the society, Paschalis Gkortsilas, Hieromonk Porphyrios, Protodeacon Peter Scorer, Dr. Brandon Gallagher and about sixteen others, most of them students.

Father Porphyrios opened the meeting by leading us in prayer and blessing the food that members had brought along. He then gave a short talk on the Christian faith as we Orthodox understand it. He quoted the words of the apostle Philip to Nathanael, a curious but sceptical enquirer: "Come and see" (John 1:46). This, he said, remains the best possible answer to those who would know Christ and his Church. These are things that must be experienced personally. They cannot be expounded abstractly.

Dr. Brandon Gallagher then gave a short talk on the Lenten Fast. He told us that fasting, properly understood, did not express contempt for the body, though it has often been interpreted that way. On the contrary, it is an attempt to sanctify the body, to turn it into a vehicle of the spirit. This then led onto a discussion of icon painting, which (the speakers told us) is also an attempt to transform the physical materials of wood, pigment and egg yolk into a window onto the spiritual world. We are permitted to make visible images of God because we believe that God himself took visible form. Icon painting is an expression of faith in the incarnation.

From these theological heights the conversation descended naturally to the food that was still lying, uneaten, on the table in front of us. Deacon Peter explained why pancakes are traditionally eaten in abundance during the week before Lent – because they are made of eggs and milk, which cannot be eaten for the next 40 days – and proceeded to demonstrate the correct method of preparing a "blini". We then tucked in. After this, the meeting broke up into small, animated groups.

We hope that from these modest beginnings the society will grow and prosper, and be a permanent witness to the Holy Orthodox Church at the University of Exeter.

Edward (John) Skidelsky

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## Fasting Recipes

It can sometimes be difficult to keep food simple for fasting days. Providentially, I recently found the Real Food Store in Exeter have a display stand with suitable recipes. Timely, as we are coming to the end of the Great Fast and perhaps in need of fresh encouragement. If one desires, olive oil can be substituted by other oils.

### Roasted Celeriac and Kale Soup

Serves 6-8

1 medium celeriac, peeled and cut into chunks  
2 Tbsp olive oil  
Salt and pepper  
2 Tbsp sunflower oil  
2 onions, roughly chopped  
2 medium carrots, roughly chopped  
2 sticks celery, roughly chopped  
1 ½ tsp Dijon mustard  
150 g potatoes, peeled and roughly chopped  
1.5L vegetable stock  
200g kale, washed and the leaves stripped from the stems

Preheat the oven to 180 C. Toss the chunks of celeriac with the olive oil and some salt and pepper and roast for around 40 minutes until golden and tender.

In the meantime, heat the sunflower oil and gently fry the onion, carrots and celery for around 15 minutes, until softened. Stir in the mustard before adding the potatoes and half the stock, then simmer for another 15 minutes until the potatoes are cooked.

Once the celeriac is tender and the potatoes are cooked, add the celeriac along with the rest of the stock and kale. Simmer for a further 5 minutes before partially blending (or to desired textured) with a hand blender or by transferring to a food processor. Check seasoning and adjust to taste.

Chickpea, Leek & Potato Stew  
Recipe by Rebecca Dearing (Real Food cook)  
Serves 6

1 large onion, sliced  
5-6 leeks, washed and sliced  
1 large carrot, diced  
1 celery stick, diced  
2 garlic cloves  
6-7 medium potatoes, diced  
3 x 400g tins cooked chickpeas  
1 Tbsp tomato puree  
1 L vegetable stock  
2-3 Tbsp olive oil  
2 Tbsp apple cider vinegar  
1 tsp mild curry powder, pinch of chilli flakes, 1 bay leaf, 2 tsp mixed herbs, salt and pepper to season

Heat the oil in a large pan, add the onion, leeks, celery and carrot with a pinch of salt and cook until the veg is softened (6-10 mins).

Add the garlic and potatoes and cook for another 5 mins. Add the herbs, spices and tomato puree and cook for a few more minutes.

Add the apple cider vinegar and the bay leaf, and simmer to reduce the liquid. Cover with the stock and bring to the boil, then cover and simmer for 10-15 mins until the potatoes are cooked.

Drain and rinse the chickpeas and stir through the stew. Add more stock if needed and bring back to a steady simmer for 3-4 minutes. Season to taste and remove the bay leaf to serve.

Crown Prince Squash Soup  
Serves 4

1 red onion  
1 large beetroot  
1 carrot  
½ a large squash (such as crown prince)  
½ block creamed coconut  
2 garlic cloves  
1 Tbsp ground cumin  
olive oil  
1-2 pints vegetable stock

Cut the squash, carrot, onion and beetroot into chunks and cover with olive oil, salt and cumin. Roast in the oven, along with the garlic cloves.

When the veg is cooked, transfer to a saucepan. Cover with enough stock water to completely submerge the veg. Grate in the creamed coconut and season to taste.

Blend the soup and add more stock if necessary, until desired texture is achieved (squash makes a beautifully smooth soup).

Recipes reprinted with permission from The Real Food Store. More to be found at [www.realfoodexeter.co.uk](http://www.realfoodexeter.co.uk)

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## **Saints We Have met on our Travels**

### **Saint Clether**

You don't have to travel very far to find Saint Clether – only about 15 minutes over the Tamar into Cornwall, just off the Launceston to Wadebridge road. On the churchyard wall of the present church is a sign pointing to the Holy Well Chapel, and a well maintained footpath winds half a mile or so along a rocky valley to a small fenced enclosure. Here a crystal clear spring rises in a small well house, from which it is channelled through a plain granite chapel to a second well before making its way down the fields to join the River Inney. Both well house and chapel have been restored more than once over the years, but the massive altar stone in the chapel is thought to date back to the sixth century when Saint Clether chose this site for his hermitage.

Saint Clether (Cleder, Clederus) was one of the many missionary children of the fifth century Welsh King Bruchan. (According to tradition there were 24 in all, including Saint Nectan of Hartland, Saint Morwenna and Saint Keri.) At one point Bruchan employed Saint Brannoc – later of Braunton – as tutor to his children, so Clether may well have been one of Brannoc's pupils.

We know nothing more about Saint Clether as an individual, but he was one of the great wave of Welsh and Irish missionaries who travelled to Cornwall, Brittany, Gaul and beyond in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> centuries. Some, like Saint Petroc in Bodmin and Saint Sampson in Dol, established large monasteries from which they travelled over wide areas spreading the Gospel. Many others, like Saint Clether, chose a quiet spot to settle permanently and to pray. Often the first thing they did was to build a well to ensure a supply of clean water – livestock played a large part in westcountry farming then as now, and sharing muddied spring water with cattle was not conducive to good public health.

Perhaps for us the most important thing about Saint Clether is not the detail of his life, but the fact that for over 1500 years people have regarded his well and chapel as a holy place, one which has survived Saxon and Norman invasion, the upheavals of the Reformation and Civil War and the widespread modern disregard for all things sacred, and still provides spiritual nourishment for those who are looking for it.

Martin Olsson

### **Parish Secretary**

Joanna Taylor has decided to stand down from the position of Parish Secretary and so from the Parish Advisory Council. She has been a valued member of the PAC and extremely efficient in carrying out her duties as Parish Secretary; we all have reason to be very grateful to her. Thank you, Joanna.

Hieromonk Porphyrios

*Michelle Gallaher succeeds Joanna as Parish Secretary and we wish her well in her new role.*

### **New Editor**

Many of you will already know that Christina Clevinger has bravely agreed to take over as editor of the Prophet Elias parish newsletter. I have enjoyed my time as editor (in spite of feeling I was bashing my head against a brick wall sometimes!) and would like to thank all of you who have sent contributions. Prophet Elias parish covers a wide area and I think the newsletter is one of the ways we can keep together, so please carry on with submissions and send them to [cnclevinger@hotmail.com](mailto:cnclevinger@hotmail.com).

Celia Olsson

## **Funeral**

22 October 2016 The funeral of Clio Maunder, who died on 9 October, was held at St Anne's, conducted by Protodeacon Peter and Hierodeacon Iakovos. Memory Eternal!

## **Reception**

8 January 2017, Edward John Skidelsky was received into the Orthodox Church by Fr. Porphyrios. Many Years!

A new icon of St Anne has been donated by Kyriakos Papadopoulos. Many thanks.

## **Obituary**

Elizabeth Hookway died on 16 November 2016, aged 81. Her funeral took place at the monastery of St John the Baptist in Essex, on 22 November. Liz and Christopher Hookway († 23 December 2000) and their four children: Aelred, Edmund (now Fr John, a priest in North London), Esther (Banev) and Becky (Garcia) were founder members of our nascent parish, then in the chapel of the monastery of the Holy Prophet Elias in Willand Old village headed by Archimandrite Barnabas. Liz and the whole family were active in the growth of our parish, and in the early years the Divine Liturgy would occasionally be celebrated in their house in Tiverton. They continued as dedicated members of the parish when services started in Combe Martin with Fr John Marks, and in St Anne's in Exeter. After the children left home, Chris and Liz moved to Essex, to be near the monastery, and where they now both rest in peace. Memory Eternal!