



November 2020

Dear friends

It's going to be a Christmas unlike any other we've known. Whatever the level of lockdown here in Cornwall, it's going to be different. We won't be able to belt out the great Christmas songs together at Carol services; Christmas markets and High street shopping will happen behind masks and the news will continue to be full of statistics about Covid cases, stories about possible vaccines and the latest response from government. It will all feel very different this year.

But even in these demanding times, most of us will still have a roof over our heads, enough food on the table and a safe place to call home. That isn't the case for the homeless people supported by St Petrocs. The challenges they face are far more complex and demanding.

One of the great privileges of being the Bishop of St Germans is being involved with St Petrocs, and I have already seen how important their work is to so many people, and how that work has been more important than ever through lockdown. Amazingly, they never closed and their houses and support services have remained open every single day, even when things were so difficult in March and April, and even under significant financial pressure.

I encourage you therefore, if you can, to consider supporting the wonderful work of St Petrocs this Christmas. Whether it's a direct donation, encouraging your church, school or community group to raise funds or something more creative, every pound that you give will help keep people off the streets.

I know that money is tight for many people this year - and it may be that you aren't in a position to give. If that's the case, please consider supporting St Petrocs in another way; by giving support on social media, praying for their work or running a fundraiser. And if you are able to give, please know that your gift will be used efficiently and effectively for the support of the most needy.

You can find out more about St Petrocs and their work on their website at www.stpetrocs.org.uk.

Thank you and God bless



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