



Sclerder Family Festival – 19th August 2017 10am-10pm
Sclerder Abbey, Looe, PL13 2JD

An Ecumenical Event for All Ages

"Home is a place where the heart is"

Since August 2014, the Chemin Neuf Community has established itself within Sclerder Abbey which was steeped in prayers for more than a century by Poor Clare and Carmelite Sisters. The Chemin Neuf Community, born in France in 1973 and founded by Father Laurent Fabre SJ, was called to Cornwall by the former Bishop of Plymouth, the Rt Rev Christopher Budd. Bishop Emeritus. The Chemin-Neuf are a Catholic Community composed of members from many different walks of life (couples, singles, priests, consecrated brothers and sisters) of different Christian denominations (Catholics, Protestants, Orthodoxes).

Before leaving Sclerder Abbey, the Carmelite Sisters, who for decades had been praying in this peaceful place, shared with Chemin-Neuf the fact that they deeply felt that this place was called to be an Ecumenical place. In fact, during the past two years the Chemin-Neuf Community have welcomed several groups for Quiet days, Ignatian Retreats and Cana weeks where Christians from different denominations could experience, all together, the grace of communion and peace in this place.

Following a suggestion from a Cornish Mum and Anglican Ordinand, Helen Priestley, and with the encouragements of Bishop Mark (Roman Catholic) and Bishops Tim and Chris (Church of England), the Chemin-Neuf Community has decided to set up **Sclerder Family Festival** in the grounds of Sclerder Abbey on the 19th of August 2017. Both local families and holiday-makers will, during the whole day, experience a variety of workshops including:

- Guided historical tour of the Abbey,
- Videos Net for God,
- Mimes and Sketches,
- Choir practice,
- Face painting,
- Outdoor games – football – rounders,
- Indoor games – giant snake and adder etc.
- Cross production,
- Crèche with sand pit and other games for the pre-school age,
- Care of our common home through Gardening,
- Making Greeting cards for homeless people (Refugees, Prisoners, etc).
- Producing Door decoration,
- Cake making,
- Action songs for the family,
- Pilates for young and adults,
- Candle decoration and Pebble painting,
- A Spiritual adventure of the family.

This is a fantastic opportunity given to all Christians involved with their own churches, Churches Together, Kingdom Vision, etc not only to announce the Good News of Jesus, but to testify our faith to one another. By doing so, we can share in fellowship with Christians from different denominations, have fun together and, most importantly, pray and worship the Lord our God in unity.

During summer time, we know that we have on our doorstep thousands of holidaymakers. We could expect to welcome, without accommodation, approximately 300 to 500 people. Those coming from far away could hopefully find camp sites and B&B in the area. Chemin-Neuf is in the process of securing a live band for entertainment and worship times. Thanks go to all of the many volunteers and donations of time and materials that are helping make this happen along with funding from the Archbishops Council Mission Fund.

Registration on the Web site is highly recommended for the day and other activities at <https://www.chemin-neuf.org.uk/en/home/ecumenism/sclerder-family-festival>

