**The** **Christian** **Community**   
In Devon

Movement for Religious Renewal

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27th June 2020

Dear Congregation,

The white colour has returned to the altar and the yellow has taken on a new form at the back of the chasuble with its individual crystal shapes flaming upwards:

***St John’s-tide*** is here, heralding in a new beginning.

This is the only time during the year that we hear a name resound in the seasonal prayer, ***the name*** of a human being, who is also an angel, a messenger.

***John*** was the last of the prophets, being the voice of the spiritual world bringing its message to human beings from the outside. His message is: ***change!*** – change your heart and mind, think differently about your relationship to the world. Look back over your life and evaluate it to come to a resolve for your future. Christ says of him that he is Elijah come again (Mt11, v14) and with ***Elijah*** a decisive change had come into the world when he did not hear the voice of God in the elements of wind and fire around him any longer, but in the still small voice within.

***John is calling us*** to hear that voice within us, the voice of conscience, of knowing what is healthy and what is not, what does unite us with the kingdom of god and what does separate us from it. The working of the Divine in the world asks us human beings to join in.

***We are calling to John*** to witness the deed of the altar and to carry it upwards. We offer up the fruits of our soul searching and repenting, our good will and intentions of change for the future. We are asking for the blessing of the light-filled ether which he weaves between the worlds.

When we gather for the baptism of a child beginning their new life on earth we acknowledge the world the soul and body have come from and we ask that s/he may live ***for*** the spirit. St John’s-tide is a time of baptism into the new, which we are asked to give direction, out of the fullness of light and love we have received and are continuously receiving.

With love,



Sabine