

Benefice E-Newsletter

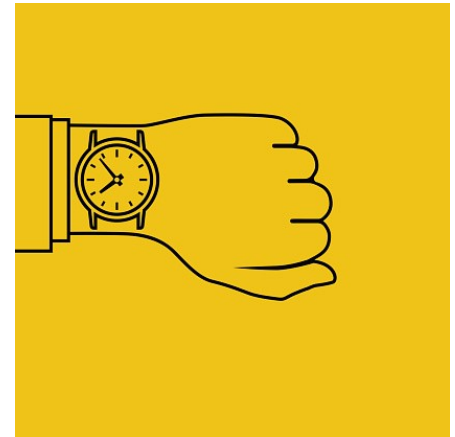
16th July 2023

Dawlish with Holcombe and Cofton

Helen, in last week's letter showed us a sign she had spotted outside a French church, which reminded us of the importance of 'taking time' to do the things - 'we put off until later' i.e., quality time for ourselves to take stock of life. Not something we do; we always seem to make the excuse that we are too busy.

Taking stock and taking time to reflect are two things I have been doing in abundance these past weeks. I have spent a lot of time on the bus to Exeter and had plenty of time to think and reflect on how quickly one's life can be changed by a medical incident.

That, and wondering where the next set of road works were to hold everyone up!



Sitting in a hospital ward watching an amazing medical team deal with some very sick, disturbed and frightened patients (Barry being one of them) enabled me to realise just how lucky we really are to have our NHS even if it is limping along now. Although all the staff I saw worked at a gallop, going from one patient to another, caring for their needs, whilst still finding time to speak to me and show me immense kindness and support.

But what has come through to me more than anything these past weeks is just how important the power of prayer is and how vital your friends are. It seemed that just as I was feeling low, I would get a card in the post letting me know someone was thinking of me and my family. A phone call would come at just the right moment from a friend and on the few Sundays I have been able to get to church I have been overwhelmed with support. And a big thank you, to the person, and they know who they are, who would give me a big hug just as I was feeling very low. We should take time to appreciate our friends. As the saying goes 'a friend in need is a friend indeed.'





However, the strongest feeling has been the sense of people's prayers. They have kept me going and more than compensated for the number of times of late I have challenged God and questioned his decisions. But we have a God of broad shoulders, deep love and understanding, and immensely forgiving of us poor humans and a loyal friend. Thank you to all my friends across the Benefice and for all the prayers, phone calls, and cards I have received. And I would encourage you to read Helen's letter again and take the time for yourself to reflect and thank God for the good things in your life, because you never know what will happen. And if you are thinking of a friend or relative who might be having a bit of a bad time, ring them up, chat to them, let them know you are there, you might be just the lift they need. And I can never stress just how important prayer is for our friends and families. Friendship and prayer go to together.

Love and Blessings,
Margaret



Services

16th July

9.30am St George's – Holy Communion
10am St Gregory's – Greg's @ 10 with Baptism
11am St Mary's – Morning Worship
6.30pm - Benefice Telephone Service

19th July

10am St Gregory's – mid week Holy Communion

23rd July

9.30am St George's – Morning Worship
10am St Gregory's – Holy Communion
11am St Mary's – Holy Communion

Tuesday Prayer Meeting on Zoom

Join us on Zoom for a half hour of prayer at 9am on Tuesday.

Just click on the below link or

go to <https://zoom.us/join> and enter:

Meeting ID: 575 020 5964 and Passcode: 850653:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5750205964?pwd=UHRtQ0tISctDbTVOY1U3S2oyeEhEUT09>



Will Halse



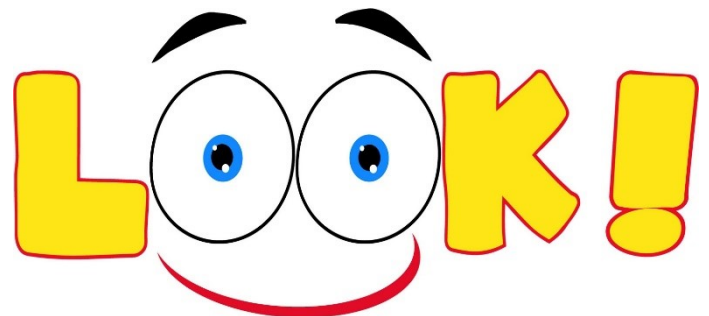
Evening Telephone Service on Sunday, July 16th at 6:30pm

Our monthly evening telephone service will be on the third Sunday as usual, at 6:30 pm. We will be using the service for Trinity season, which is being sent out with this Newsletter. Please contact Will Halse on 07974 755926 if you need a printed copy. To join the service just dial 0330 088 1927 and then enter the access code 2132492. Or you can connect on line at <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/willhalse>.

Parish Profile

The Benefice Parish Profile may [be viewed here](#). Please send any comments and feedback to Leena Halse as soon as possible:

mlhalse@yahoo.co.uk



St Gregory's PCC meeting

St Gregory's PCC meeting will be held at church on 18th July at 7.30pm.

Section 11 meeting

All members of the Benefice PCCs are invited to attend the Section 11 meeting which will be held at

St Gregory's church at 7pm on the 24th July. This will be when the Parish Profile is adopted (we hope!) so please do come along if you are able to.

Benefice Service

Sunday 30th July, 10.30, at St Mary's Hall, Dawlish Warren. Ample parking and no 22-bus route. If the weather is clement, the service will be held outside, so please come prepared for this. If it is too hot, cold, windy or wet we will be inside! The service will be followed by tea and coffee, and then by a bring and share lunch.



The service will follow a Lammas theme, giving thanks for our daily bread and the first fruits of the harvest, and we will be thinking about food. As well as your contribution to the Bring and Share (and we hope as many people as possible will join in with this), please bring a contribution for the local food banks as follows. It could be a joint one with a friend.

Please bring a simple store cupboard item which is a grain or made from a grain, such as pasta etc. These gifts will be offered in the service along with the Lammas Loaf. If you forget, or are unable for very good reasons to do this, please come anyway!

Lastly, I would love to hear from anyone who is willing to bake a home-made loaf; not an intricate harvest loaf but a reasonably sized loaf of bread to be the Lammas Loaf.

Many thanks
Chris Curd

Morning prayer and coffee morning at St Mary's

St Mary's Cofton will be running regular morning prayer and coffee mornings July-August. All welcome!

Welcome to Cofton St Mary

CHURCH OPEN

July & August Monday to Friday 10am - 3pm

Morning Prayer every Tuesday at 9.30am followed by Coffee Morning - ALL WELCOME

Praying Together for Dawlish

This is the first in a series of 'real world' monthly prayer meetings for CTDD & ROC Dawlish. Please save the dates and do come along. It would be great for as many local Christians as possible to come along and support these meetings.

For more information, please get in touch with Rev. Alan Smith:
revdalansmith@yahoo.co.uk

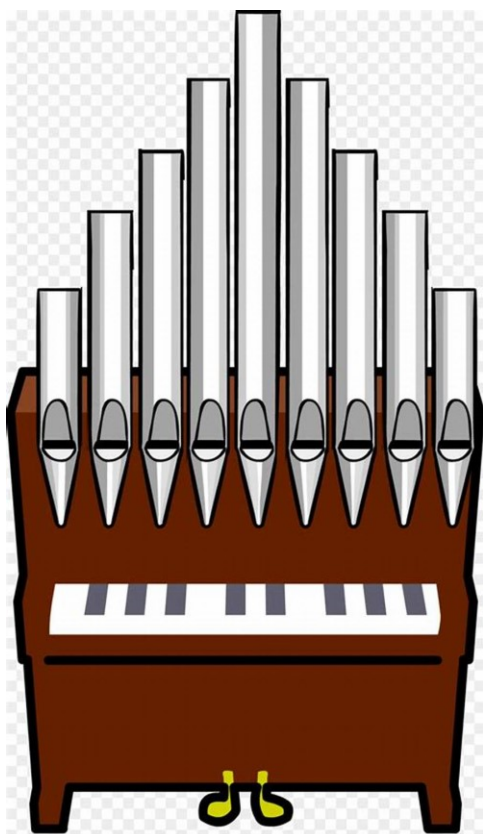
Let's gather!

Praying Together for Dawlish

12 noon Tuesday 18th July at
Dawlish Methodist Church

A new pattern of monthly 'real world' prayer meetings for CTDD & ROC Dawlish. All local Christians are welcome to attend and participate. Please do come along to these prayer gatherings.

Next meeting will be at 12 noon 15th August at St Gregory's church, Dawlish



St Peter's Organ Recital

There will be a lunchtime Organ Recital at St Peter's Church, Shaldon – Ian Bartlett will be playing at 12 noon on Wednesday 26th July. Entry is free. Please do come along and support this event.

Open Garden event

Chris and Cliff would welcome offers of baking to sell for charity at the Open Garden.

Please contact Chris on 07771842334.

Also, if anyone would like to help on the day as there are still some gaps in the rota!



Food Production and
Wildlife Garden
Open for Charity



**2 Middlewood,
Cockwood,
EX6 8RN**

**Saturday 22nd July
11 am to 5pm
Sunday 23rd July
1 pm to 5 pm**



£5 adults, children free
Well behaved dogs on short leads.
Teas, Limited Parking on road
Close to no 2 Bus route

If you would like any support, or someone to talk to, or you are aware of someone else who would appreciate contact please ring one of the following:

Margaret Noel: 01626 863148

Will Halse: 01626 866054

Ceri Lee: 07739 936286
