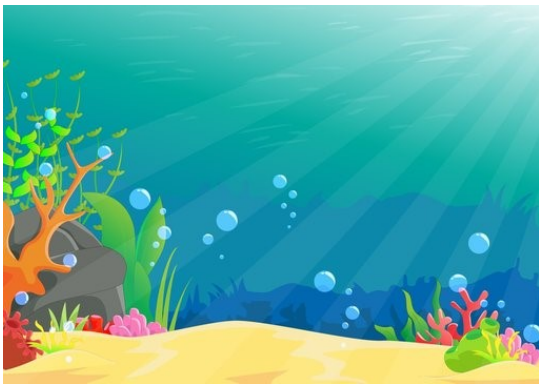


Benefice E-Newsletter
Dawlish with Holcombe and Cofton
29th October 2023

... a time of 'mists and mellow fruitfulness'
... a time marked by the carpet of leaves ...
... a time for the completion of the harvest

And more importantly, a time when we stop to show how thankful we are for the bounty that the earth provides - and to thank God for all that he gives to us. Special services in our churches mark this occasion where symbols of the harvest are displayed.



But it also should be a time for us all to stop and reflect on the worldwide damage that is happening to the earth brought about by our careless disregard. These thoughts were passing through my mind as I prepared a platter of fish representing the harvest of the sea to be placed on the altar during the harvest service.

It took me back to years when I lived and worked in Canada and in particular what I learned from the indigenous people with whom I spent some time. This group of people had been living in Canada for thousands of years prior to the arrival of the Europeans. The land was thriving and it was also providing the people with everything that they needed to survive, food, clothing, their homes and tools. What were they doing that we have not been doing? One of the great chiefs once stated, "We share this land with all living things."

The First Nations' culture is based on the respect for nature in all its forms. They recognised that they must take only what they needed and gave thanks to each tree they cut down to provide a canoe, to each deer that they killed for its meat for food, skin for clothing and bones for tools. Each Fall the salmon would return from the sea in large numbers to the river of their birth and swim up to the spawning grounds. The Coast Salish people would net some of the fish, which they smoked and dried to provide food for the winter months. The first fish caught was taken with great ceremony to the village, where thanks would be given to it. It was cooked and the whole village would taste a sliver of the salmon. Once that was done all the bones were collected and as the villagers lined the river bank the bones were gently returned to the river with prayers requesting that the salmon return the following year. As I collected the platter after the service and looked at the two whole



mackerel and one sea bream nestling there on a bed of seaweed, I made a decision. High tide was at two o'clock and as the waves were gently lapping against the seawall I let them slide into the sea. As I watched them glistening in the sunlight slowly gliding to the bottom of the sea, I prayed there would be a good harvest from the sea in the coming year.

Ann Say



Services

29th October

10.30am St Gregory's – Benefice Service with Bishop Jackie

No other services in the Benefice on this day

1st November

10am St Gregory's – Midweek Holy Communion

5th November

8am St Gregory's – Holy Communion

9.30am St George's – Holy Communion

10am St Gregory's – Greg's @ 10

11am St Mary's – Holy Communion



Tuesday Prayer Meeting on Zoom

Please do join us on Tuesday at 9am for a half hour of prayer. We meet on Zoom.

Just click on this [link](#) or go to <https://zoom.us/join> and enter: Meeting ID: 575 020 5964 and Passcode: 850653.

New Rector

The candidates, who had applied to be our new Rector, visited the Benefice on Tuesday 17th. They were shown the churches, surrounding areas, St. Mary's hall and the vicarage. Volunteers from all the churches showed them around the Benefice, drove some of them and offered lunch. Thank you!

The interviews were held at St. Greg's the following day. Two very busy days! We will have to wait for the announcement in the near future. Please keep praying.

Thank you, Leena

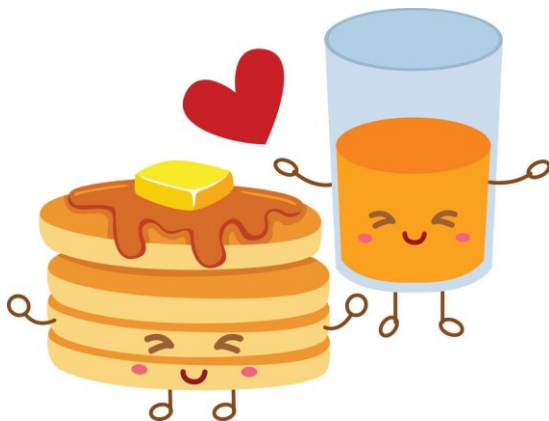
Advance Notice - Service of Remembering and Hope - Sunday 5th November



Last year a service was held at St Mary's, Cofton. This year, there will be a Service of Remembering and Hope held at St George's Holcombe on Sunday 5th November at 3pm, followed by tea and cake.

An invitation is extended to any across the Benefice who may like to attend. If you wish to have the name of a

loved one read out in the service, please contact Prebendary Chris Curd on 07771842334 or prebchris2020@gmail.com



Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast will be at the Mount Pleasant at 9am on Monday 6th November. If you're a man that enjoys breakfast and would like to go along, please contact Ray Williams to book:

bevray@outlook.com

Standing Committee – St Gregory’s

St Gregory’s Standing Committee will meet on Wednesday 8th November at 7.30pm.



Advance Notice - Coffee and Sale Morning for Ukraine

Organised by Liubov Nazarok and Chris Curd. This will be Saturday morning, 11th November, at Cockwood Village Hall, 10am-2pm.



Proceeds 50/50 to Christian Response to Eastern Europe who are sending lorries of aid to Ukraine; and to humanitarian work carried out by a friend of Liubov. Liubov, from Kyiv, lived with Cliff and Chris Curd for nearly a year and is now in a flat in Dawlish with a friend. She works in Cofton and Cockwood.

Needed - offers of help, baking (both for consumption on the day and for sale), craft items, anything that could be a stocking filler, anything good quality that could sell (kitchenware, toiletries, children's toys etc etc), tree decorations etc. Also, as good as new clothing and shoes. If the latter do not sell, they can be taken out to Ukraine by CR2EE. Please contact Chris - 07771842334; prebchris2020@gmail.com

Advance Notice - Coffee Morning in the Upper Narthex, St Gregory’s

This will be on November 25th, 10.30am-12.30 - £3 entry. There will be unlimited tea, coffee and squash with chocolate biscuits, cake or mince pies. Lots of fun and fellowship. All proceeds from this event will be divided between Flying Leaps charity and St Gregory’s Organ Fund. We hope to see you there.



Christmas Advent Calendars

If you would like to order a Real Advent Calendar for November delivery, please contact Alex Pugh: alex_pugh@sky.com no later than the 5th November. Alex will be at the Benefice service to collect orders in person.

The following options are available:

- 1) Real Advent Calendar including 24-page Christmas story activity book & 25 chocolates
£4.50
- 2) Christmas Blessings Bar
£3.00
- 3) Host of Angel Tree Decorations including 6 chocolate angels, sticker set and activity poster
£5.00
- 4) Meaningful Chocolate Orange with Christingle features
£3.50

It is also possible to order an Advent calendar (or something else from the list above) to donate to the food larder.

Christmas Shoeboxes

These can be taken to Dawlish Funeralcare as soon as they have been completed. If you require a spare shoebox, contact Sabrina at the Church office (she has some spare!)

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

UKRAINE & MOLDOVA Christmas Shoebox Collection Point



Your filled shoebox should be wrapped in Christmas paper and marked as:

ADULT (Male or female)
BOY (0-12 or over 12)
or
GIRL (0-12 or over 12)

DEADLINE:
24th November

A few ideas for items you could put in your shoebox:

For all (adults and children):

Hats; Gloves; Underwear; Toothpaste; Hairbrush; Chocolates; Calculator; Torch; Pencils; Socks; Sweets; Soft toy; Shampoo; Biscuits.

For girls:

Beads; Jewellery; Tights; Friendship bracelets; Glowsticks; Hair clips and slides; Lip gloss; Purse;

(For older girls: Hand cream; Perfume; Lipstick).

For boys:

Lego bricks; Toy cars; Wallet; Torch; Glow sticks; Magnifying Glass; *(For older boys: Aftershave; Coffee; Mini tools).*



PLEASE BE GENEROUS
'Quality over quantity'

