

Benefice Events E-Letter

Dawlish with Holcombe & Cofton
Sunday 1st May



We have now completed all the annual meetings for the Benefice. Thank you for those who were able to attend and support the legal process which we are required to fulfil each year. Thank you for those who produced reports and all the work completed which took place behind the scenes. I think we all realise we are in a place of recovery from the last two years. For each church in the benefice this may mean something different. Thank you for all those who, during this time, have put

themselves forward to serve on church councils, as we rebuild the governance of our churches and the benefice as a whole.

I confirm that the churchwardens at St Mary's are Valerie Jeffries and Ruth Cann, for St Gregory's, Leena Halse and Richard Sulch. St George's continues to operate with a working group of volunteers fulfilling a number of different functions. I recognise that over the last couple of years that people have made decisions about what they feel able to volunteer for in our churches. As it has been difficult to sustain some of the things that we have done previously, part of our rebuilding will be to recruit new volunteers. The culture in churches is that often people do not respond to calls for volunteering unless they are asked personally, to contribute or take on responsibility. It is now time for that culture to change; I cannot be in each church, asking people personally, to volunteer.

Therefore – if you notice calls for volunteers, for events or specific responsibilities, please consider yourself to

be asked personally! We welcome any and all offers of help, and those who have recently joined us in our churches to be included in our activities. Please see below, or request on behalf of St Gregory's. Without volunteers we are going to struggle with certain aspects of our church life and even our worship together. It takes a great deal of preparation to even prepare an hour's worship on a Sunday morning, with much work from multiple people happening behind the scenes. And this is just the beginning! Thank you for what you do –



this is an opportunity to consider changing your volunteering or being able to give more time where possible. Where support and training is needed, it will be offered.

Blessings,

Dallas

Notices

St Gregory's:

- Volunteers to open St Gregory's in the week (this will be a minimum of two people, as required by our lone working policy). When the church is open, we receive visitors. We are missing out on this happening at the moment.
- Sidespeople - we would welcome more volunteers. If you are already a sidesperson or are willing to help in this way please email Nicola Twibill (nicolatwibill@btinternet.com) or speak to Leena Halse (01626 866054), so the PCC can approve you at the next meeting!
- Cleaning - a small church cleaning team meets on Friday mornings. Please speak to Leena Halse if you can help. Any extra help, even occasional, would be appreciated. The BIG CHURCH CLEAN for the Platinum Jubilee will be on Friday, 20th May from 9:30 am. DON'T MISS OUT.
- On a Sunday morning for Holy Communion we used to have x3 people on the rota to act as sacristan (person that sets up/clears away for the Holy Communion service). We now only have one person available to do this – if you can help with this, please let Dallas/Sabrina know.
- If you can help the Swapshop team (Tuesday mornings, term time) please contact Ceri Lee (07739 936286) or Leena Halse or Cathy Slade. Please get in touch if you can help out on the 17th May and the 14th June.



Services

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| 1 st May | 8am St. Gregory's – Holy Communion
9.30am St. George's – Holy Communion
10.00am St. Gregory's – Greg's @ 10 with Baptisms
11.00am St. Mary's – Morning worship |
| 4 th May | 10am Midweek communion @ St Gregory's |

8th May

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

Dallas Annual Leave

Dallas is away from the 2nd until the 8th May. There will be no Tuesday prayers next week.



Deaf Awareness - CODA at St Gregory's

At Greg's@10 on Sunday we are welcoming Steven and his three sons in baptism. Steven and his wife, Chivonne, are both deaf. You may have noticed their friend, Andy Rice, signing for them in our Easter Sunday service. We will also be welcoming godparents, who are deaf.

To help us give a warm welcome, Andy has offered us a crash course in Deaf Awareness before the service on Sunday morning at 9:10 am. EVERYONE WELCOME!

Deanery Confirmation

Bishop Jackie will be taking a service of Confirmation for the Deanery on Sunday 14th August at 10.30 am at Christow. If anyone is interested in being Confirmed would you please let me know so that we can arrange for Confirmation preparation for any candidates. For those unsure about Confirmation it is for anyone who has been baptised who wish to confirm those baptismal vows whether made on their behalf as a little child, or even later on as an adult. Like baptism in the C of E we only do this once. Often today people have come from different denominational backgrounds. Baptism in any trinitarian church is accepted as Baptism but sometimes people settle into another denomination. In the C of E this is an opportunity for people to confirm their faith within that tradition. If anyone worships with us who has not been Baptised and is interested, please do speak to me to talk about any steps towards this too which you would like to take. For adults who have not been baptised and there is an opportunity for Confirmation this often takes place at the same time by the presiding Bishop, although there is a choice of being baptised in your own church as Confirmation services don't come around as often as they used to. Dallas

A Good Safeguarding Foundation for PCC and DCC members

Thanks and welcome to new PCC and DCC members at St. Mary's, St. George's and St. Gregory's! Safeguarding is a very important part of our church life and focuses especially on how we support and care for the vulnerable as a mission community. It looks at the way we care for each other, particularly children, young people and older people who need care and support.



All PCC and DCC members are now asked to take two Safeguarding courses – Safeguarding Basic Awareness and Safeguarding Foundation. Safeguarding Foundation is a new requirement since January of this year. These courses are available on line on the [National Safeguarding Training Portal](#).

For anyone who would like face to face training, we have arranged a Safeguarding Training morning – Basic Awareness and Foundation at St. Mary's Hall on Saturday, June 11th from 9:30 to 12:30. The course will be delivered by Sue Davies, who is a volunteer trainer within the diocese. Please book a place as soon as possible by calling Will Halse on 01626 866054 or emailing willhalse@yahoo.co.uk. This is so that we have an early idea of numbers.

Thank you again!

Penny Foster, Will Halse and Barbara Rains

Your Safeguarding Reps

Jubilee Celebration at St Gregory's

At the Jubilee Planning meeting on 27th April only 7 people attended. Unless we have more support and volunteer help this event is in jeopardy.



The next meeting is on Monday May 9th at 2:30pm when we need the flower arrangers to attend in order to ascertain the flowers that will need to be ordered, and also anyone willing to volunteer to help set up, steward, and help with refreshments which will be drinks and biscuits for this important event.

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:

Revd. Dallas Ayling: 867386

Margaret Noel: 863148

Will Halse: 866054