

Benefice E-Newsletter
Dawlish with Holcombe and Cofton
7th January 2024

Happy New Year to Everyone

What a year we have just been through!

I personally am looking forward to a rest at least for January 2024, after 2 weeks with Covid just before Christmas at the end of last year.



Exciting times are ahead, so please pray for our whole community as we launch into another year in the life of St Greg's and our Benefice as a whole. I suspect that some things will stay the same, but I can almost sense that there are things that will change, such is the nature of progress.



2023 will be remembered for many reasons, but foremost in my mind is that Dallas decided to retire in February, and so we were propelled into the hard work associated with the 'Vacancy' process. Our Benefice Churchwardens worked to tight schedules with Archdeacon Andrew Beane to make it possible to achieve interviews in October and the appointment of our new Team Rector Revd. Linda Cronin.

On a personal note - my first grandson Forest was two in October and he gives me great joy whenever I see him. God truly blesses us with little happy moments which seem to last forever.

Much has happened during this Vacancy year but it has been a joy for me to see how everyone, Clergy, Lay-Ministers, Sides-people, Choir, Music Group, Office Staff and of course you the Congregation, have responded to the challenges and in all cases exceeded my expectations.

What a reward and pleasure it has been to see a church community working for one another and as a consequence, achieving a unity which you should all be proud of. The Vacancy has been very hard work for a few, but has, I feel, been a success for all of us. Thank you.





Please keep Revd. Linda and her husband Steve in your prayers, especially through January & February, as they prepare to move into Shillingate Close which will be their new Rectory and home.

I hope that you are all aware that Linda will be licensed by Bishop Jackie **at St Greg's on Thursday**

15th February at 7.30pm, so please support this important event for Linda and Bishop Jackie, if you are able to.

It is then planned that Linda will officiate through February into early March as follows:

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| <u>St Greg's</u> - 18 th February | Gregs@10 and a Telephone Service at 6.30pm |
| 21 st February | Mid-week 10am Holy Communion |
| 3 rd March | 8am Holy Communion. |

St Mary's - 25th February 11am Holy Communion.

St George's - 3rd March 9.30am Holy Communion.

You can see that Linda and her clergy team are going to be busy right from the start!!



Whatever your innermost thoughts and hopes for the future might be, it is very important that we should all welcome Revd. Linda, and husband Steve, with open arms into what we all hope and pray will be a very fruitful and happy ministry in our Benefice.

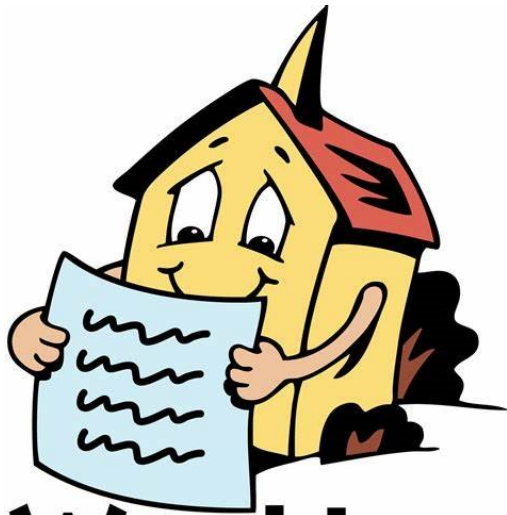
Some form of continuity, in the face of change, is I think very important. Therefore, I am personally looking forward to supporting Linda as a churchwarden and will once again, later this year, offer my services to Bishop Jackie at the next Exeter Diocese Visitation Event.

Thank you for all your prayers and help, and friendship, since I became a churchwarden at St Greg's. It is nice to be part of a BIG family.

As Buzz Lightyear would say: "To Infinity and Beyond"

Richard Sulch





Worship Schedule

7th January 2024

8am St Gregory's – BCP Holy Communion
9.30am St George's – Holy Communion
10am St Gregory's – Greg's 10
11am – St Mary's – Morning Worship

10th January 2024

10am St Gregory's – Midweek Holy Communion: a celebration of the Baptism of Christ

14th January 2024

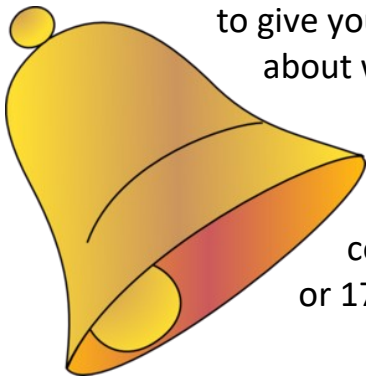
9.30am St George's – Morning Worship
10am St Gregory's – Holy Communion
11am St Mary's – Holy Communion

Tuesday prayer meeting on Zoom

Welcome to a half hour of prayer on Tuesdays at 9 am. Just click on this [link](https://zoom.us/join) or go to <https://zoom.us/join> and enter: Meeting ID: 575 020 5964 and Passcode: 850653.

Bellringing Taster events

St Gregory's Bellringers will be holding two 'taster' events before their practices in January to give you an opportunity to meet some of the ringers, find out a bit more about what bellringing involves and have a first go at ringing a bell.



So, if you have ever wondered what goes on upstairs, or perhaps have rung in the past and are thinking of giving it another go, do come along to the church from 6.30 to 7.30 pm on Wednesday 10th or 17th January. We look forward to meeting you.

Julian Quiet Prayer Meetings

We are moving from the last to the 3rd Tuesday of each month, so will meet on Tuesday 16th January at 2.30pm in the upper narthex of St Gregory's.

A prayer and short reading is followed by a period of silence before a further prayer, lasting around 30 minutes in all and will be followed by refreshments and a time of fellowship.

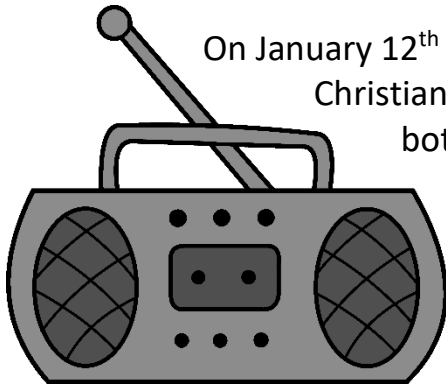
New people are always welcome!

Helen Bays

Funeral of Dot Spring – Friday 19th January

The funeral of Dot Spring will be on Friday 19th January – if you have any reminiscences or memories of Dot, please do share them with Margaret Noel, who will be leading this funeral.

Lord's Prayer Event on January 12th



On January 12th at 12 noon, Premier Christian Radio is uniting with United Christian Broadcasters (UCB) to call the nation to prayer. In the morning both stations will broadcast reflections and worship culminating in a joint call to pray the Lord's Prayer together at 12 noon. There is extraordinary power when God's people unite in prayer and together, we want to see something ignited that will transform lives across the nation. Together may we be instruments of God's grace.

Kevin Bennett (Premier Christian Radio) and David L'Herroux (UCB)

Love in Christ
Will

Ladies Lunch at Amelia's Cofton

There will be a Ladies Lunch at Amelia's Cofton on 16th January 12 for 12.30 - all welcome.



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
