

Benefice Events E-Letter

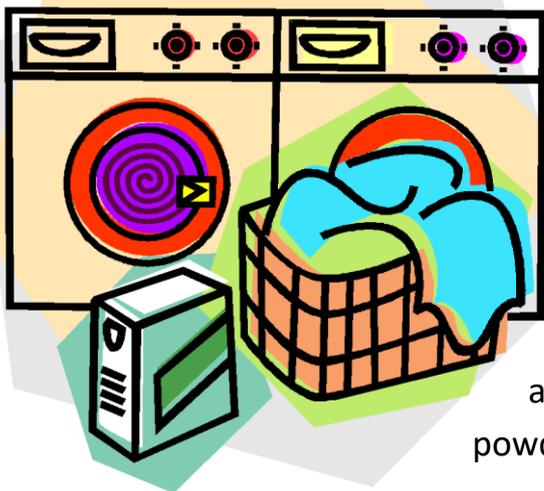
Dawlish with Holcombe, Cofton and Starcross Sunday 14th November

Having prepared for it during the summer, and then launched Swap Shop at St Greg's on the last Tuesday of September, none of us really had any idea how this project would be received or how well used and supported it would be. So far, having had a break for the half term week, we've completed five hour-long weekly sessions. It's still early days but all the signs are good with nothing but positive feedback.

There were ten visitors to the launch session and there's been an average of nine over the following four sessions. Not bad when you consider Swap Shop is in its infancy and also when you realise that we have a mix each week of both new and repeat families.



We've had donations of school uniform from the 'lost property' cupboard at Gatehouse School and those who come to the sessions have understood the concept well, all bringing at least one item for exchange and, in most cases, more like an average of 5/10 items.



We're very grateful to the number of people who came forward as being willing to wash and iron the clothes donations when needed and I'm sure we will be calling on them more often as Swap Shop grows over the coming months. Having said that many of the items brought to Swap Shop for exchange have arrived with us already smelling freshly of washing powder having been recently laundered by those donating.

Already Swap Shop has not only shown itself as being useful in a practical and environmentally friendly way but has also facilitated some good conversations with families we may not otherwise have encountered. It was a real privilege and a confirmation of the project's 'rightness' that even in its first week we were entrusted by one young family with praying for them over a difficult situation they were experiencing.

To avoid any wastage and to encourage repeat visits from those using Swap Shop, in addition to keeping things in season, our stock is being regularly refreshed.

Anything that doesn't move on over a few weeks, or of which we have a surfeit, being bagged up and donated to needy families in Moldova through the CR2EE (Christian Response to Eastern Europe) charity.



Looking towards the rest of the winter and into Spring 2022 we already have enough stock to fit babies and pre-schoolers, but would welcome more donations of good condition clothes and shoes for 5-11 year-old boys and girls.

Lastly, if you have a bit of time on Tuesday mornings from about 8.45am to 10.15am and think you may like to join Leena, Cathy and I in 'staffing' Swap Shop, whether at each session or occasionally, you can be sure of a warm welcome, so please get in touch.

All blessings

Ceri (Lee)

Email: ceriflee@gmail.com

Tel: 07739 936286

PS: If you're going to get in touch please note I'm away on a little holiday until Tuesday 16th November so best leave it until after that date!

Notices

Services & Events

17th November 10am Holy Communion

18th November 2pm & 7pm, Living in Love and Faith Course, St Greg's

Prayer Meetings

Topic: Tuesday prayer meeting



Time: Nov 16, 2021 09:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6591842294?pwd=hakfR92W-WBnpl1CBn5jr6oxpSCzOg>

Meeting ID: 659 184 2294

Passcode: 995468

Reading & Collect for 14th November

Collect

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reading

John 15: 7-13:

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

Coastline Magazine

The next edition of the Benefice E-Mag is planned to be circulated on Weds 1st December.

This means that the absolute latest date for copy will be the Feast of Christ the King - Sunday 21st November. It would be very helpful if any articles of interest or reports of events could be sent before this date as soon as they are ready to prebchris2020@gmail.com.

Contributions are invited for kitchen, garden, wildlife spotting, global church news, Benefice events etc., etc. Also, any seasonal snippets! Text to be in Word and pictures sent separately as jpg. – Chris

Flowers at St Greg's

There is now a flower rota on the notice board, which is slightly different from the previous one so please do check it carefully! I am really hoping that some of you will want to sign up. Alas, we lacked any helpers for harvest. A love of flowers is all that is needed.

We are also hoping for a volunteer to do a poppy arrangement for Remembrance Sunday this year - please do get in touch if you can help. There is a box of poppies in the flower cupboard and plenty of pittosporum in the rectory garden.

Georgie Moore

Lunch at Amelia's

The next Lunch at Amelia's for Ladies from Cofton and Holcombe will be on Tuesday 16th Nov, gathering from 12 noon, and that as before we need to give them roughly the correct number. Could those who want to attend let Chris Curd know on 07771842334; prebchris2020@gmail.com by the afternoon of Sunday 14th.

Expecting the Unexpected

**An afternoon of Quiet Prayer in preparation for Advent
at St George's Church on Saturday 20th November**

2-4pm

Open to our whole Mission Community

For further details or to register interest, please contact Helen Bays
spiritualdirections264@gmail.com or 01626-863098

Christmas Tree Festival

Forms are available from St Greg's or please email the Church office for an electronic copy. This year it will be from the 7th – 11th December at St Gregory's, opening with the Community Carol Service on Tuesday evening at 6pm. The Mayor and Archdeacon of Exeter will be in attendance. All welcome to come along.

What Next

Thank you to everyone who attended this meeting. We appreciate everyone's thoughts and the valuable conversations that we shared together. This is the beginning of a process. We will be able to share more with you very soon.

St Paul's

Shoebboxes for Moldova

St Paul's will be supporting cr2ee again this year with Shoebboxes for Moldova. Any shoeboxes need to be ready before the end of November and can be brought into St Paul's. More information is available on Facebook page: Shoebox Hampers for Moldova.

Diary Dates

Thursday 25th November. 7.30pm, Concert at St Paul's: Luke Jackson, supported by Greg Hancock. £14 on the door, £12 in advance: wegottickets.com

December diary dates to follow.

Benefice Eco Champion and Parish Eco Reps

Chris Curd has responded to my request to be the Eco Champion for the Benefice. I think that it is so important that we really begin to engage with how we can shrink our carbon footprint. There are some aspects which are going to be very challenging particularly when it comes to expensive heating systems but like COP26 we need to begin the process of planning now for the future. Chris's role will be to research and gather information for us, particularly from the Church of England, both nationally and locally, and to help us to keep the subject on the agenda of our Church Councils in a responsive way. If you have an interest too, please do get in touch with Chris. It would be helpful to identify those from each church who would be willing to work with Chris on this and perhaps be eco reps in each church for all or part of the process. We are finding our way with this and thinking how this process might work across the Benefice.

If you are interested in being an eco rep, in helping in any way, or if you have any queries, please contact Chris - 07771842334; prebchris2020@gmail.com

Dallas

ZOOM MORNING PRAYER STARTS - only this time on THURSDAYS AT 9.00 am

This week it will be Morning Prayer for the period from All Saints to Advent. The service is available on a phone via the CE Daily Prayer App, or if you need to borrow a red Daily Prayer book from one of the Churches, please ask. Chris Curd will be leading this, which will give 3 opportunities to pray during the week, Tuesday and Thursday by Zoom and Wednesday mid week communion at St Greg's.

Topic: Morning Prayer Zoom Meeting

Time: Nov 18, 2021 09:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2198890557?pwd=Y3FmUmFqdDVpNW1ETVUrZ2RoS2MxUT09>

Meeting ID: 219 889 0557

Passcode: 5y1GPu

6.30pm: Telephone conference call service.

Join us for a short service together using any phone line. All you do is dial the number and when asked put in the access code.

Dial in number: 0330 606 0403

And then input the access code 727830

The clergy team may be contacted on:

Dallas Ayling: 01626 867386

Tim Collins: 01626 862383

Please be aware that Dallas and Tim may be the initial point of contact but you may then be contacted by another member of the Clergy team. If you would like to be added to St Gregory's Church Directory, you will need to contact the Parish Administrator:

st.gregs@btinternet.com

If you are added to the Church Directory, this will (with your permission) allow us to contact you via phone or email. **We are praying for you and we are here for you.** If you would like someone to pray for you via phone Please contact the Clergy directly.