

Benefice Events E-Letter

Dawlish with Holcombe & Cofton Sunday 6th February

It was lovely to be together for the Benefice service together at St Mary's Hall last Sunday. Many thanks to Margaret, Will and Ceri. We are very blessed to have such a team of Readers. I hope that all those who were there have taken the opportunity to light their candle during this last week.

The candle is a good reminder that we are called to be lights in the world. That may be to a neighbour or even someone

that we do not know – but who may be looking for support. We never know when those moments may happen. It's good to be prepared and think how we might be of help. It is often the little things which people remember. Showing the love of Christ in a mixed-up time and often dark places can be challenging. It's great to light the candle, but even better to be the light.



Looking forward, we are considering the material for our Benefice Lent course this year – please look out for more information about that in future weeks. I hope that we will take the opportunity to meet together, either via Zoom, or face to face, for this.

I hope that the Lent course might help us to once again think about attending home groups – for those who were in one – or to establish new ones. If this is something you might like to consider in the near future, please let me know. This could be a good opportunity for new fellowship across the Benefice.



With blessings,
Dallas

This Sunday is the 70th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's Accession Day

Accession Day marks the anniversary of the reigning monarch taking the throne, which in the case of Her Majesty the Queen is 6 February 1952. It is particularly fitting to celebrate this anniversary in 2022 as it marks the beginning of The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. As The Queen is Supreme Governor of the Church of England and also the head of state, we pray frequently for her work and for her needs.

On Sunday we celebrate and give thanks for our queen, for her wisdom and grace, her faith and trust in Christ Jesus, and the gifts of leadership, love and service that she has given to our country, to the Commonwealth and to the wider world over the 70 years of her reign. Here are words that speak of her commitment to serve after the pattern of Jesus:

I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service... But I shall not have strength to carry out this resolution alone unless you join in it with me, as I now invite you to do: I know that your support will be unfailingly given. God help me to make good my vow, and God bless all of you who are willing to share in it.

Princess Elizabeth, 21 April 1947

And a prayer for our Queen as we celebrate Accession Day:

O LORD our God, you uphold and govern all things by the word of your power: Receive our humble prayers for our Sovereign Lady, Elizabeth, who was on this day, set over us by your grace and providence to be our Queen; and, together with her, bless Charles, Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family; that they, ever trusting in your goodness, protected by your power, and crowned with your gracious and endless favour, may long continue before you in peace and safety, joy and honour, and after death may obtain everlasting life and glory, by the merits and mediation of Christ Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

Services next week

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| 6 th February | 8am Holy Communion @ St Gregory's
10am Greg's @ 10 @ St Gregory's
9.30am HC @St George's Holcombe
11am Morning worship @
St Mary's Cofton |
| 9 th February | 10am Midweek Holy Communion
@ St Gregory's |
| 13 th February | 10am HC @ St Gregory's
9.30am Morning Worship @ St George's Holcombe
11am HC @ St Mary's Cofton |



Tuesday 8th February Prayer meeting

Topic: Dallas Ayling's Zoom Meeting

Time: Feb 8th, 2022 09:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 659 184 2294

Passcode: 995468

Daphne Pugh

Some of you will know Daphne Pugh who was a member of St. Gregory's for a number of years and supported the work of the church as a volunteer in a number of ways Daphne died unexpectedly this week which has been a great shock to those who know her. The funeral will be on the 10th February at 3.30pm at Exeter Crem followed by refreshments at the Strand Centre, Dawlish.

St Gregory's PCC Members

Over the last two years it has been difficult to recruit new members of the PCC and we are now running with less members than we would hope to have. Governance of the church is important and representation of church members on the PCC is really important. Each member has the opportunity to take on not only the responsibility of the governance but are there to inspire and support the direction of the church by seeking God's vision. At the PCC meeting in January we suspended the rule of having one years off the PCC before re-election, for this year, to allow us a bit of flexibility in accepting those who would be willing to serve another term. The situation is that this year at the Annual Meeting we will be looking for the following:

3-year term = 4 people

2-year term = 2 people

1 year term = 3 people



We are also looking for a new Churchwarden. We would ask every church member to consider standing for the PCC or to encourage others to do so.

Please contact either one of the Churchwardens or the church office for more information about joining the PCC.

Churches Together in Dawlish and District

We are looking for a Chair to lead CTDD. Tim took on the Chair and because of Covid led CTDD for two years. The pattern is to appoint a lay person every other year so we are looking for that person. We have a very good and strong CTDD but to sustain that we need to appoint a Chair. Please consider whether God is asking you to take on this responsibility. **If you want to know more about it, please speak to Dallas.**



Newsletter

If anyone across the three Benefice churches has or would like information, news or events to be included in the weekly Benefice newsletter – please do send it to Sabrina at the church office: st.gregs@btinternet.com

Church Administration

Sabrina will be on annual leave on Thursday 10th February. She will be in the office as usual on Tuesday and regularly checking the office email: st.gregs@btinternet.com



Samara's Aid appeal for Syria

A huge Thank You to all who contribute money and gifts for the "dignity bags" for Syrian children. Thanks to the generosity across all three churches, I am sending off not one but three bags; 6-7yr old boy; 5-6 yr old boy and 4-5yr old girl. There will be a fuller accounting in the next Coastline. There is a container leaving for Syria in the middle of the month. The parcel with the 3 bags inside has arrived safely at the church in Brighton, from where it will be packed into the container.



St Gregory's Electoral Roll

If you are new to St Gregory's church and would like to join the electoral roll, please contact Graham Reynolds on 01626 772249.

He will get an application form to you. Please do contact Graham for further information if needed.

Foundations in Christian Ministry course

Please see the attachments with this email for more information on the Foundations in Christian Ministry course. If this is something you might be interested in, please talk to Richard Orr, who is participating in the course this year.

Men's Breakfast

The first men's breakfast of the new year will be on Monday, February 7th - 9am at the Mount Pleasant in Dawlish Warren. Please phone or email Ray Williams by Friday 4th February to book a place (01626 888807 or bevray@outlook.com).



Afternoon of Quiet Prayer at St George's

Saturday 26th February, 2-4pm.

This is an opportunity to spend some time in stillness as we prepare for Lent. There will be opening worship with a talk, about an hour to spend quietly on our own and then a short act of worship to close, before refreshments and fellowship. Everyone is welcome. For more details or to register interest, please contact Helen Bays spiritualdirections264@gmail.com or 07391-594867

The Christian Resources Exhibition

The Christian Resources Exhibition is coming to Westpoint on the 23rd and 24th February. Tickets are available on line in advance at £4 or if you book a group £3. There will be many different stalls and resources to look at. Here is the link: <https://creonline.co.uk/>

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