

# Benefice Events E-Letter

## Dawlish with Holcombe, Cofton and Starcross

### Trinity 7 – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July

I have just finished a Diocesan Webinar looking at the implications for the church as the Government removes most of the restrictions which have been in place over the last 15 months. We are still awaiting the actual guidelines from the Church of England as they are still being negotiated with the Government, but the principle is that social distancing is no longer required and much of church life can return to something near normal as from Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July.

Those attending St. Gregory's and St. George's will no longer be required to book in on Wednesdays.

We need to remember that we are still in a pandemic and that we should remain cautious and keep in place all good practice. Our base line however must be that taking personal responsibility for our own safety requires us to consider the impact our actions will have on others. It really must be that we are to "love our neighbour". Therefore, although social distancing will no longer be directed by the Government there are those who may wish to be able to attend church whilst at the same time wanting to keep some space from others. Last week I asked people to contact me if they would prefer to keep some form of social distancing to help me make a decision about how we facilitate that. As no one has been in contact and having had discussions with St. George's DCC and the Churchwardens of St. Gregory's the following has been decided.

- For St. George's if you wish to sit in a pew on your own please indicate to the stewards who will help you to find a space.
- For St. Gregory's the side aisles will be kept for those who wish to sit in a pew on their own.
- In St. Mary's and St. Paul's there is usually enough room to facilitate those who wish to keep some form of social distancing but you may of course now sit closer together if you wish.

At the webinar there was a great deal of concern expressed about face coverings. It is appreciated that for some people face coverings for medical reasons can be difficult, but we are asking that wherever possible face coverings are still used in our church buildings particularly as singing is going to be restored. The plan is to have the two church choirs back in September.

Hymn books can now be used again but please be responsible for your own hymn book and after use place it in the box provided so that no one else needs to touch it and it will be

quarantined for 48 hours. Please can I ask that each church has a box ready to receive hymn books after use.

It may be helpful to know that our churches are no longer required to be cleaned between services which are held close together, although it is still recommended if there has been a significant number of people in the church and there is no time to quarantine.

We are also now able to gather for refreshments so each church can make arrangements to restore that although if the weather is good, it is recommended that we gather outside as the safest thing to do.

Please continue to sanitize your hands as you have been doing on entry and exit to the church and on receiving Holy Communion.

There are other decisions to be considered in due course, but this is about taking small steps, giving each other time and space to do so, and to rebuild confidence.

We will be in the process of working through risk assessments in the next couple of weeks but please remember that the Government is expecting each one of us to take personal responsibility with an expectation that we will be willing to make good decisions and continue to take our learning of good practice into the future.

If you wish to discuss any of this with me please do contact me.

With every blessing,

Dallas

## **Notices**

### **Funeral of Doris Moran**

Doris's funeral will be held at St. George's on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July at 1.30 pm.

### **Funeral of Diana Davenport**

Diana Davenport's funeral will be at St. Gregory's on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> July at 2.30 pm. As Diana was a member of the church choir it would be appreciated to have support from St. Gregory's Church family.

### **St. George's Church**

We don't often think about sharing good news but well done to St. George's who have now made the payment to complete their share of the Common Fund for 2020. That is excellent news, and we give thanks to God for his provision and rejoice together.

## **St. Mary's Church**

The church organ which had to be taken out of the church because of problems with dry rot has now been restored and returned to the church. Another good news story for St. Mary's.

## **St. Paul's Church**

An announcement will be made this week regarding the new interim post with Kenton which is good news.

## **St. Gregory's Church**

Will Halse has very kindly taken on the Safeguarding Parish Rep for the parish with the support of Paul Jones and Sabrina Andrews. Any safeguarding issues should be referred to Will. We give thanks for the Safeguarding team which is good news.



### **Morning Prayer**

### **Tuesday prayers**

Dallas Ayling is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

**Topic:** Dallas Ayling's Zoom Meeting

**Time:** Jul 20, 2021 09:00 AM London

### **Join Zoom Meeting**

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

**Meeting ID:** 659 184 2294

**Passcode:** 995468

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### **Morning Prayer on Zoom**

### **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 9.00am**

This will be the last Zoom Morning Prayer until mid-September, when the situation will be reviewed. If you have any thoughts or comments, please let Chris know.

**Topic:** Christine Curd's Zoom Meeting

**Time:** Jul 21, 2021 09:00 AM London

### **Join Zoom Meeting**

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

**Meeting ID:** 219 889 0557

**Passcode:** 5y1GPu

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## **Services at St Gregory's**

**25<sup>th</sup> July**

10am – Holy Communion

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## **Refreshments after church on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July:**

We are hoping to serve refreshments after church on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July but outside by the west door.

In future weeks, Graham Reynolds would like to re-instate his “coffee rota” of volunteers to serve coffee after the Sunday service. If you would like to carry on as a volunteer please let Graham know. We would welcome new helpers on the rota to spread the load.

Many thanks

Mike Moulds

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## **Thank You**

Thanks to the generosity of those who supported Cliff and Chris' open garden last Saturday, we have been able to send £75 to each of Winston's Wish, the charity for bereaved children, and The Children's Liver Disease Foundation. After this was published on FB, Dallas posted this reply:

Thank you for your support. As my granddaughter gets older she is very glad to have the support of CLDF through which she is meeting other teenagers who have the same rare condition or others who have lifelong liver conditions. The charity provides information to health professionals as to what to look out for in babies, information and support for parents and siblings, and support to youngsters who have liver disease as they learn more about it for themselves.

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## **Summer Prayer Day – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

This has unfortunately had to be postponed. More information to come soon.

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## St Paul's

A few words from St Paul's:

Music and Meditation for this week is taken from Eddie Askew's book 'Disguises of Love', based on the bible verses from 1 Peter 2:4-10. It is available to watch on YouTube (link below) or on St Paul's and St Mary's Facebook pages from Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July.

<https://youtu.be/e97KsOpNXMs>

Following the announcement of the lifting of Covid restrictions, at St Paul's we will be continuing with regular cleaning and sanitisation, and will encourage the use of face coverings and social distancing in our services. In the short term we will continue our services in church with all of the services on PowerPoint (including music) but from Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July we will be able to sing along with masks on. We hope to have the music group planning sometime in the next few weeks.

We have several social and fundraising events planned, our next events are:

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July (12-6pm) - providing refreshments at Starcross fun day

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August - monthly bric-a-brac sale with cakes, plants and refreshments

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August - Cream tea, 2-4pm

### **6.30pm: Telephone conference call service.**

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

The service sheet is being sent as a separate attachment.

**Dial in number: 0330 606 0403**

**And then input the access code 727830**

We are aware of concerns over the implications of self-isolation for parishioners: if at any time you are worried or anxious, we would strongly encourage you to ring any of the clergy team:

**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](mailto: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.