

Benefice Events E-Letter

Dawlish with Holcombe & Cofton
Sunday 19th December



This is our final newsletter of the year!

May you have a joyful Christmas and blessings for the New Year.

You may notice that Starcross is now missing from the heading. Although they are legally still part of the Benefice, they are on a new journey partnering with Kenton and Mamhead under the leadership of Revd. Patrick Parkes. Patrick was licensed on Tuesday. Please pray

for Patrick and the churches in this new adventure.

I also want to acknowledge my sincere thanks to Tim and to Mary. Tim has been an excellent colleague and he will be greatly missed by the Team, and I know by our church communities. Tim has been very willing to respond to all aspects of ministry and a great support. When you take on a curate it is always part of the deal that you know they will move on but the time for that to happen has gone very quickly. Being part of a team allows us to learn from each other and we have valued very much the role that Tim has had in that over the last three years. When moving on from being a curate to leading your own church there is the excitement that the time has come to do that



and then there is the realisation of the responsibility and, as they say, "the buck stops here!" So, we will be sad to see Tim go but also rejoice that he is ready to take on a new ministry.



Mary has been a great support to the music group at St. Gregory's and I know that they will miss her on keyboard and clarinet. Mary has helped to sustain the music group through the challenges of the pandemic and contributed to the fun and humour which is shared in the group. Thank you, Mary, for the gifts which you have shared with us in leading worship.

We hope that you will both settle into your new surroundings when you move in January.

Please do join us at St. Mary's Hall where we will celebrate the New Year and say farewell to Tim and Mary on January 2nd from 2-5 pm. Bring your own picnic tea.

As I write this, and we begin 2022 we are once again living in uncertainty, but we live in the real hope of the promises of our Lord Jesus Christ in all that he offers us.



We begin the New Year with changes in the Benefice and Staff Team. When I came here, we had 4 churches staffed by myself, 3 part time Associate Priests, 1 part time Curate and the Readers. As from January we will have 3 churches staffed by myself and the Readers. I am very grateful to the team I have and to our PtO clergy who are a constant source of support and encouragement. However, there will be challenges ahead, as we consider how we sustain worship, pastoral support, and the other demands which are numerous.

Isaiah 40:31 comes to mind, "but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Well that is the vision we are given!

With every blessing
Dallas



CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND

Christmas Services & Events

19th December 10am – Greg's @ 10 @ St Gregory's
6.30pm – Carol Service @ St Gregory's
9.30am, HC @ St George's, Holcombe
4pm – Carol Service @
St George's, Holcombe
4pm – Carol Service @
St Mary's, Cofton



21st December 4.30pm Longest Night Service
@ St Mary's Church



24th December:

4pm Crib Service @ St Gregory's
11pm HC Service @ St Gregory's
4pm Crib Service @ St George's, Holcombe
6pm HC Service @ St George's, Holcombe
4pm Christingle @ St Mary's, Cofton
11pm Service @ St Mary's, Cofton

25th December 10am Informal HC Service
@ St Gregory's
10.30am
@ St Mary's, Cofton

26th December 10am Said Service
@ St Gregory's
10am Telephone Service

2nd January 8am @ St Gregory's
10am Greg's @ 10
@ St Gregory's
9.30am HC @ St George's, Holcombe
11am HC @ St Mary's, Cofton



Telephone Service

There will be no telephone service on Sunday 19th December.

Tuesday prayers

Dallas Ayling is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Prayer time on Tuesdays

Time: Dec 21st, 2021 09:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6591842294?pwd=hakfR92W-WBnpI1CBn5jr6oxpSCzOg>

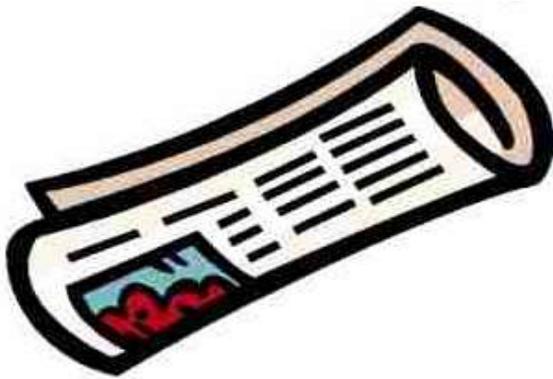
Meeting ID: 659 184 2294

Passcode: 995468

Please note that there will be no Tuesday prayers on the 28th December or 4th January.

Zoom Morning Prayer

This has now finished for the year. Please see the newsletter for 9th January for future plans.



Newsletter

Newsletter

The first newsletter of 2022 will be on 9th January 2022.

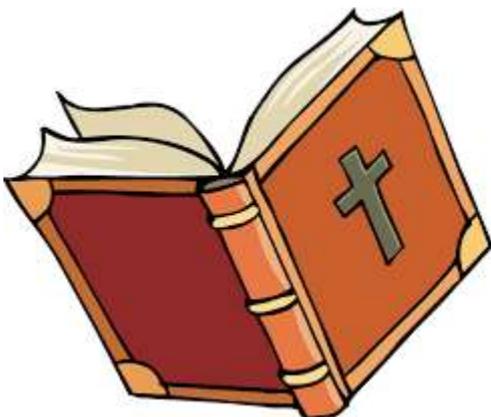
Wednesday HC services at St Gregory's

Just a reminder that there will be no Wednesday HC at St. Greg's on the 29th December.

Christmas Break

Dallas will be on her Christmas break from the 3rd until the 7th January.

Reading & Collect for 19th December



Collect

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Reading Luke 1.39-45

Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.' And why

has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

Covid Response



Please note that it is once again compulsory for face coverings to be worn in church except for those who are unable to for health reasons, and for leading worship, the intercessions and reading.

Social distancing is not mandatory, but we would ask that you do try and keep some form of distancing. If you would prefer more space

please indicate to the sidespeople who are on duty.

Please continue to sanitise hands.

Ventilation is really important. Generally, particularly at this time of year we like to close our church doors but please leave them open. Put on extra clothing and move away from the doors to where it might be warmer.

Decorating St Gregory's

"WANTED" - Help to decorate St Gregory's for Christmas. Enthusiasm not experience needed! Monday 20th December from 9.30 onwards. Coffee and mince pie reward
Tel: Georgie 865486

St. Gregory's

Whilst it is appreciated that generally it is a good way of exchanging Christmas cards between church members we are asking you not to leave Christmas cards for people in the church again this year.

Thanks from Orchard Manor School

School enjoyed taking part in the Christmas Tree Festival and were thrilled to have won the people's vote for best tree. They loved their visit to St Greg's and also, decorating their tree. They had made all the decorations from recycled materials.



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

Daily Hope

With the ending
of the Benefice

phone service, it may be helpful to have a reminder of the existence of the free phone line, Daily Hope. A lot more has been added to it and there are options for listening to Carols, to Morning and Evening Prayer, to Pam Rhodes

talking about different Carols, and there is also a daily reflection for Advent, changing every day. Two other additions are calming words to listen to in bed to help with a good night's sleep, and an option for listening to chair exercises. It is an excellent resource and means that there is a service on the phone not only on Sundays but every day of the week.

Dallas may be contacted on:

Dallas Ayling: 01626 867386

Please be aware that Dallas may be the initial point of contact but you may then be contacted by another member of the staff 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. If you would like someone to pray for you via phone, please contact the Clergy directly.