

Benefice Events E-Letter

Dawlish with Holcombe & Cofton Sunday 27th March



As we continue to see the war against Ukraine on our tv screens or reported in the newspapers I am sure that all of us still cannot believe the devastation, which is being caused, the likely number of civilian deaths, and the extraordinary number of people who have had to flee from their homes either to a safer place in Ukraine, or who have left completely. The pain and suffering inflicted can only

be described as evil. It is difficult to know what to say which conveys the depth of feeling, anger and even helplessness that we can experience. It takes us into the heart of the passion of Jesus even though we cannot comprehend what it was like for Jesus to take the whole of the sin of the world upon himself on the Cross. At such times we are to remind ourselves that Jesus has overcome all sin and evil and he holds the victory even though the signs look different to that as we are in what the Bible describes as the last days. How long those last days are we have no idea of course.

This year I hope that you will take the opportunity of exploring Holy Week further by joining in the journey during that week together. Whether or not the war in Ukraine will be resolved I have no idea but even if it is by then there is going to be a time of great sorrow as people find family and friends have been killed and many, many homes destroyed. In Christ we can share in their passion as we share in that of our Lord's during Holy

Week. There is much to be valued in journeying together and one of the blessings of being a Benefice is the opportunity that it gives us to do so in the 3 Churches. But we also have the opportunity to share our pilgrimage on Good Friday with the other member churches of Churches Together in Dawlish and District. Our 3 Churches are members so I hope that you will support the Walk of Witness this year which gives us an opportunity to share with the other churches in the town our faith and to declare that to the people of our town. Most of that walk will happen in silence this year.

This sets us a challenge because I know that some people miss out the Holy Week experience, but this can be an enriching part of our faith, part of the digging deeper in





worship and prayer and in reading the scriptures. I realise that not everyone can attend everything, and I appreciate that not everyone likes everything, but this is where we are challenged about whether we are going to follow our likes or preferences or whether we are going to follow in pilgrimage supporting and encouraging one another by engaging with what is on offer. If you

have not been to anything in Holy Week before do give it ago. You may discover more about God, yourself and others through the experience. That would be my prayer for us all.

If to get to one of the churches you need a lift, or you can offer a lift please let Sabrina know.



April

Monday 11th 7.00pm St. Mary's, Cofton – Stations of the Cross

Tuesday 12th 7.00pm St. George's Holcombe – Meditation

Wednesday 13th 10am St. Gregory's – Holy Communion

Thursday 14th 6.30pm St. Mary's Hall, Dawlish Warren – The Last Supper with HC (bring your own supper)

Good Friday 11am Churches Together in Dawlish and District: Walk of Witness which starts on The Lawn by the bowling green opposite the URC Church.

Good Friday 2pm St. Gregory's – The Last hour

Easter Sunday 8am St. Gregory's – Holy Communion

9.30am St. George's – Holy Communion

10.00am St. Gregory's – Holy Communion

11.00am St. Mary's – Holy Communion

Every blessing,

Dallas

Services next week

27th March 10am Holy Communion
Mothering @ St Gregory's
Sunday 9.30am Holy Communion
 @ St George's Holcombe
 11am Morning Worship
 @St Mary's Cofton

29th March 10am midweek
 Communion @
 St Gregory's

3rd April 10am Greg's @ 10
 at St Gregory's
 9.30am Holy Communion
 @ St George's Holcombe
 11am Morning Worship @St Mary's Cofton



Tuesday 29th March Prayer meeting

Topic: Dallas Ayling's Zoom Meeting

Time: 29th March, 2022 09:00 AM London

Meeting ID: 659 184 2294

Passcode: 995468

Join Zoom Meeting

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

DEC donation

The Disasters Emergency Committee is an umbrella group of UK charities which coordinates and launches collective appeals to raise funds to provide emergency aid and rapid relief to people caught up in disasters and humanitarian crises around the world. A total of £650 was raised and donated for them.

Lent Course

Just a reminder that the in-person Lent course is still ongoing each Wednesday at St Gregory's at 2pm and via Zoom at 7pm each Thursday.

The remaining dates are: 30th March and the 6th April. The Zoom lent course will be running on Dallas's usual Zoom account. Dates left to join are 24th, 31st March and 7th April at 7pm.

Morning Prayer

If you are self-isolating and can't get to church, you are welcome to dip into this for just one session. The daily prayer app can be downloaded onto a smart phone, or there are red Daily Prayer books available. But if you can't access any of these, it doesn't matter, just have a Bible handy!

Topic: Morning Prayer on Zoom

Time: Mar 31, 2022 09:00 AM London

Meeting ID: 219 889 0557

Passcode: 5y1GPu

Join Zoom Meeting

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



Mothering Sunday at St Gregory's

We will be celebrating Mothering Sunday at our 10am Holy Communion service on Sunday 27th March – but we felt that this might not be the most suitable service to invite our baptism families to join, so instead we have another way to invite everyone to celebrate.

Dallas, Georgie and I would like to invite everyone to help decorate our prayer gate at any time over the Mothering Sunday weekend, with a colourful ribbon with either a single flower tied to the ribbon and then

subsequently the gate or to add a single flower to our floral wreath that will hang on the gate too. It's our hope that these ribbons and flowers will be a simple yet beautiful way to

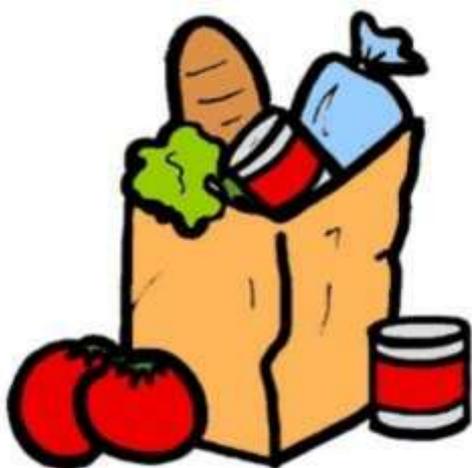
thank God for all those who have done and still do, the 'mum like' things in our lives. We hope that everyone will get involved in this and please spread the word to others who may like to join in with this and celebrate Mothering Sunday together with us in this way.

St Gregory's Churchyard Tidy Group

Churchyard tidy group will begin on the last Saturday of the month beginning from the 26th March, 9.30am. All welcome! New volunteers are always welcome and very much appreciated.



A notice for St Greg's - supporting Strand Church



Since the beginning of the pandemic as you will know I have been working with Helping Dawlish on behalf of the church. One aspect of our work has been to provide food for those who were left struggling through the pandemic. We have delivered this through ROC (Redeeming our Communities) in partnership with the other organisations, who are part of Helping Dawlish. The Dawlish Food Larder has evolved over time but its purpose is to continue to support those who are in need of food and continues to be delivered through various partnerships. We have been, and continue to be grateful, for those individuals who support us by putting food in the baskets in the local shops, or have given financially to help us buy in, what is needed including our use of an organisation called Fareshare.

When we are able to, we support the Strand Centre to help them in their provision of meals to people too. We have been asked by Mary May, who is a volunteer at the Strand Centre, if we as a church could respond to supporting the Strand Centre. As a response to our series on the Generosity of God, the Standing Committee have agreed to hold a collection specifically for tins of soup, which the centre can either pass on to customers or use in their own provision of meals. This collection will take place on **Mothering Sunday**, an easy day to remember. Please consider bringing a can of soup or two which will then be given to the Centre.



Many thanks,
Dallas.

Donations to the Ukraine via Dawlish Funeralcare

Just to let you know that Dawlish Funeralcare will be accepting donations for the Moldovan people to help Ukrainian refugees into their country via CR2EE. We do ask where possible that people deliver donations to Dawlish Funeralcare after the 28th March as this will coincide best with when deliveries can be made to their local warehouse.

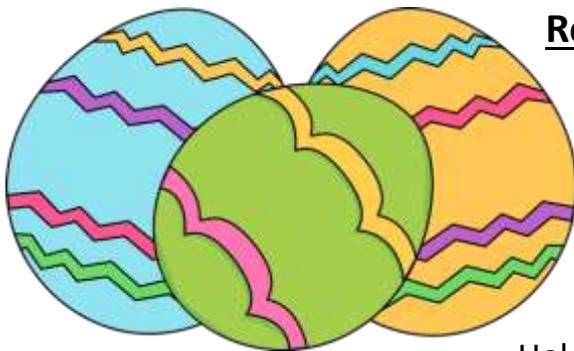


Homes for Refugees

The Diocesan website has also circulated the below link:

[Diocese of Exeter - Homes for Ukraine \(Expression of Interest\) \(google.com\)](https://www.dioceseofexeter.org.uk/press-releases/diocesan-website-has-circulated-the-below-link)

If you might like to reflect on what it would mean to give a home to refugees, please take a look on the Sanctuary Foundation website: <https://www.sanctuaryfoundation.org.uk/>



Real Easter Eggs

Real Easter Eggs have arrived and will be in church for collection before the service this Sunday. If you have ordered any, please come prepared with cash.
Thanks!

Helen Bays

Julian Group at St Gregory's

Just a reminder that the Julian Group will be meeting next Tuesday (29th March) at St Gregory's at 2.30pm.

Janice Smith

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations at St Gregory's

The PCC are very keen that St. Gregory's should contribute and be open for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. We have some ideas but will need some help with them and also we will need some stewards to keep the church open, as we do for the Christmas Tree Festival.

There will be a meeting at **St. Greg's on Monday 4th April at 2.30pm**. This is a short-term volunteering opportunity and I hope that as many as possible will want to be involved. To give you a flavour of what we are thinking about it includes a mini flower festival, so are looking for some flower arrangers. We are also looking to put on a display of the life of St. Gregory's over the last 70 years. We will need help gathering information and working out how to display it.



Scams and Frauds

Ever been caught? Or worried about the risks? Police officer Ellen Holah is coming to speak to the Mothers' Union on Tuesday 5th April in the Riverside Centre (end of Brook St) 2pm for a 2.15pm start.

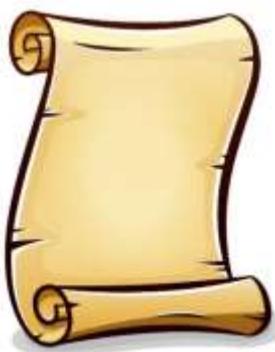
Visitors will be very welcome to attend.

St Gregory's APCM reports

Reports for the APCM are to be emailed to Nicola Twibill by Sunday 10th April. Reports will be emailed out to PCC members to save on printing costs and paper. If anyone does not have an email account and would like a copy of the reports we can organise that from the church office. Please contact Nicola Twibill or Sabrina in the church office if you need more information.



St Gregory's electoral roll



At our Annual Parochial Church meeting on April 25th there has to be a brief report on our Electoral Roll, which should be as accurate as possible. Please kindly check that your name is included on the Roll which is now displayed in the Lower Narthex. If you're not yet included but would like to join, please contact Graham Reynolds on 01626 772249. The final version has to be displayed no later than April 9th. Many thanks for your help.

St Gregory's Green Team

St Gregory's Green Team would like to work with the flower planting we have outside the church to do what we can to encourage wildlife and help nature.

Is there anyone who would like to work with the raised bed on the north side of the church? There is an Easter Garden incorporated in this which will stay, and it could be developed into a prayer stone garden, or at least part of it. We saw that some painted stones have already been left.

There is also the small planted area around the stone cross near the south wall.

Following the visit of Ecologists who volunteer with the A Rocha Eco Church scheme this week, there are ideas of how these areas could be managed and anyone who would like to help in this way would have the full support of the local green team and the Eco Champion to plan what goes in. There are several ideas such as a sensory area, biblical herbs, sedums and stonecrops which the insects love, as well as other planting – the lower maintenance the better.

This could suit a family or young people looking for voluntary work for something like the DoE aware, as well as friends or couples. If you are interested or have any ideas, please contact Leena Halse – tel. 01626 866054.

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