

# Benefice Events E-Letter

## Dawlish with Holcombe, Cofton and Starcross

25<sup>th</sup> April 2021

At the Deanery Synod meeting this week I had the opportunity to interview our Archdeacon, the Venerable Andrew Beane. The Archdeacon very kindly shared some of his faith story and interests. I also asked him a question about the challenges that he saw that parishes faced at this time. One of the things that he addressed was how he thought that we should manage the next few months in response to the unlocking. His advice is that we take our time and re-focus. His view is that clergy need to have time to rest particularly over the summer months and should aim to start those things which we will want to do from September. He would like parishes to not just fall back into those things and ways they have done things in the past, but to consider whether they are part of the future ministry of the church, and even to think about refreshing them if they are to continue to be part of the life of the church. The Archdeacon is aware of the dangers of expectations that everything will return to 'normal' when we are uncertain still what 'normal' is going to look like and that clergy will have no recovery time.

In my report to the Benefice for 2020, I asked the following questions:

“In the context in which we find ourselves this is an opportunity to re-evaluate and think about what our role is as the Church in the future. What have we learned this year? What have we discovered is important to us? How does that inform the future in the context which I have set out?”

These questions are in line with the Archdeacon's hopes of what parishes will think about, so I hope to hear from you. Do send an email or drop me a line, if you are not on email. If you want to help shape the future of our parishes then this is an opportunity to make a contribution towards that discussion.

A document has been issued by the Church of England asking parishes to consider how they care for their clergy as part of developing a Covenant of Wellbeing for clergy. The other part of that is clergy are asked to think about how they care for themselves too. The request is being made that Church Councils, or a convened group of people, meet to discuss the questions asked in the document and to relay their responses to the Lay Chair of Deanery Synod. The timescale is short. It is expected that Churchwardens and PCC secretaries will receive an email with the information required very soon.



Here some questions from the document: “What do you expect of your ordained ministers? How realistic and reasonable are these expectations, and have you discussed them with

your ministers?" "How do your clergy know you care and are concerned for them? Do you know how this is received?"

With respect to worship there are some things that we do need to consider fairly urgently and that is how we continue the telephone service as well as having our four churches open for Sunday worship taking into account that we have two priests less than we had 16 months ago. There is no real slack in the system. I do of course appreciate that whilst we are stuck with social distancing as it is we have two churches in which we cannot accommodate our usual congregations. We have sought advice and are waiting for a



response, and the cost implications, of the equipment needed to relay the service via the telephone from St. Greg's.

The other alternative is to move the telephone service to a Sunday evening to take the pressure off the morning, or it could be a mixture of those possibilities. I would like to make it clear that the view of the Staff Team is that we think it is important that we can continue to contribute to the telephone service. Once again please do contact me with your thoughts.

As a first step since we re-opened our churches, we are proposing to bring back the 8 am service at St. Greg's, on the first Sunday of the month. We will begin on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

Please think and pray and I hope to hear from you. Prayer should always be our starting before we make decisions.

Every blessing,

Dallas

## **Notices**

Dallas Ayling is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

**Topic:** Tuesday Prayers

**Time:** Apr 27, 2021 09:00 AM London

**Join Zoom Meeting**

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

**Meeting ID:** 659 184 2294

**Passcode:** 995468

St. Paul's APCM May 6<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30 pm (Zoom – details as above)

## **Morning Prayer**

There is an open invitation to all from across our Churches to join in Morning Prayer via Zoom on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 9.00am.

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

**Time:** Apr 28, 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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## **Volunteers**

If anyone feels able to assist with volunteering with services at St Gregory's now they are up and running again, we are on the look out for anyone that would be happy to help with intercessions or with running the laptop at St Gregory's. If you can help, please contact Sabrina at the Church office.

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## **Christian Aid week – 10th - 16th May**

Churches in Dawlish have traditionally supported Christian Aid through Lent lunches proceeds and in Christian Aid Week through envelope collections and events. Clearly 2021 is different and CTDD forum has agreed that 'the traditional giving via the envelope scheme was impracticable under COVID restrictions.' Churches are encouraged to consider how they might support Christian Aid this year. The Christian Aid website [www.christian.org.uk](http://www.christian.org.uk) has details of multiple free resources including: envelopes, posters, worship and prayer resources, sponsorship, forms & quizzes. These can be ordered through me or by churches directly. Donations to Christian Aid can be made by individuals and churches via their website or through me. Alan Smith: 01626 439983 / [revdalansmith@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:revdalansmith@yahoo.co.uk)

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## **St Paul's**

Please find below the link for this Sunday's online service:

[https://youtu.be/9ob\\_cPCjYxE](https://youtu.be/9ob_cPCjYxE)

**10am: 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.