

Benefice Events E-Letter

Dawlish with Holcombe, Cofton and Starcross

2nd May 2021 – Easter 5

Some of you may have seen the Panorama program on racism in the Church of England. Last Thursday the C of E published another report, one of a number over the years, recognizing that there is a problem to be addressed in the church, but there appears to have been little action. **Here is the response from the Archbishops.**

Archbishops' statement in response to Anti-Racism Taskforce Report Thursday 22 April 2021

Racism is a sin. Of this, we have no doubt. Anything which diminishes the value and beauty of each individual person, made in the image of God, is sinful. There is no place for it in the world, and we are determined to make sure there is no room for it in the Church. But it is here. We have seen, time and time again, people being bullied, overlooked, undermined and excluded from the life of the Church, from the family of God. It breaks our hearts, and we are truly sorry.

We welcome this report from the Anti-Racism Taskforce, which we commissioned last year to help us understand what progress we might have made towards tackling racism in the Church of England. Having scrutinised reports and recommendations from the last 35 years, the Taskforce have identified many things which must change; things which have been called for before and have not been done. We hope we will be the generation to halt this cycle of inaction. We pray for the wisdom, courage and grace to be leaders who will bring real change. Today, we receive all these recommendations and welcome the Taskforce's challenge. We commit to work with colleagues to implement five of their recommendations immediately:

1. Work with General Synod to encourage them to co-opt ten ethnic minority candidates, of which five will be clergy and five lay people, to serve as members of the General Synod for the 2021- 2026 Quinquennium. As co-optees, they would serve with full participation and voting rights.
2. Invite ethnic minority clergy observers to attend House of Bishops as participant observers for three-year periods until such time as there are six bishops from ethnic minorities able to sit as members of the House. The process should mirror that used for election of women as participant observers in 2013.
3. Establish a Racial Justice Commission, which we have written to invite the Reverend Dr Joel Edwards to chair. Further details on its composition and work will be made available when finalised. This group will direct their attention to the working

practices of the Church of England with regard to racial justice, and will hold the two of us to account for our leadership in this regard.

4. 4. Work with Archbishops Council to create a Racial Justice Directorate within the National Church Institutions of the Church of England, for a five-year period, to implement the recommendations of the Taskforce and the Commission.
5. 5. Work with Archbishops Council to replace the Committee for Minority Ethnic Concerns (CMEAC) with a new standing committee of the Archbishops' Council to oversee the work of the Racial Justice Directorate. We welcome the prayers, goodwill and cooperation of everyone willing to work with us to make this happen, by the Grace of God.

The Most Reverend & Right Honourable Justin Welby Archbishop of Canterbury
The Most Reverend & Right Honourable Stephen Cottrell Archbishop of York

We can add our voice to this by praying for effective change.

With blessings,
Dallas

Notices

Dallas Ayling is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Tuesday Prayers

Time: May 4, 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 annual meeting

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

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 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

Clergy Wellbeing

Our national church leaders would like to encourage greater awareness of issues of clergy care and wellbeing across the whole church. They are particularly keen to encourage us, as local churches, to give time and thought to how best to care for our clergy. Congregations and clergy working together to support one another in partnership is the way the Bible teaches us to serve, as fellow disciples.

This initiative has come to us via diocesan and deanery synods. To help us to do this we encourage everyone in our churches to pray faithfully for Dallas, and Tim and Mary. We are planning four meetings (two by Zoom and two by phone conference) to consider some notes and questions from the diocese. Follow [this link](#) to see them. You are warmly invited to attend, to listen, to share thoughts and also to pray.

Times and dates are as follows:

Zoom meetings on Mondays, 10th and 17th May at 7.30pm:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87902405897?pwd=ODBiYk9oM1JzUzhna2ZkbURkVGVNdz09>

Meeting ID: 879 0240 5897 Passcode: r2sxxX

OR Telephone Conference Meetings on Wednesdays, 12th and 19th May at 7:30 pm
Dial in number 0330 606 0403, Access Code 727830

Please phone or email me if you have any questions.

Will Halse 01626 866054 willhalse@yahoo.co.uk

Polling Stations

St. Gregory's Church and St. Mary's Hall will both be used as Polling Stations on May 6th.

Newsletters - Website

Just a reminder that if you ever misplace or accidentally delete the weekly newsletter, you can find it, along with the weekly sermon and telephone service here on the website:

<https://www.cofe-in-dawlish.org.uk/enewsletter/>

Ascension Day – Thursday 13th May

There will be a service of Holy Communion at 10am at St. Greg's. **No booking required.**

We celebrate Ascension Day 40 days after the resurrection which means that it is always on a Thursday. Ascension Day is a really important day. The ascension of Jesus is a fundamental part of our understanding of who Jesus is, that he came from the Father and returns to the Father and based on biblical accounts forms part of our historical credal statements.

St Paul's

It has been a few weeks now since we started online Zoom prayer meetings, and we would like to encourage others to join us on Thursday evenings, 6.30pm for around 20-25 minutes. It is an opportunity for everyone to pray for something or someone in need of prayer - just saying a word or a name to pray for, a quiet and gentle time using the minimum of words.

It begins with a reading and meditation to bring us into an awareness of our part in God's Kingdom, something we do together and share as a fellowship, coming into God's presence and the flow of His prayer for us.

If you've thought about joining one of the prayer times and haven't yet done so, why not give it a try this Thursday, no need to worry about what to say, it's simply a time to pray together, for people and situations needing prayer.

Email Nick, starcrossoasis@gmail.com to let him know you would like to join and he will send the Zoom link for the prayer meeting sometime on Thursday, then click on the link just before 6.30pm to join the group.

(Please note the following Thursday (6th May) there will be no prayer group as it will be St Paul's APCM, link for this is from Alison, milesalison32@gmail.com if you have not already received.

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

<https://youtu.be/diBUmQ4IgKY>

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

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.