

# DAWLISH COAST MISSION COMMUNITY

A newsletter brought to you every fortnight throughout the year with information from the churches of St Gregory's (Dawlish); St George's (Holcombe); St Mary's (Cofton) and St Paul's (Starcross).

Issue date: Sunday 2nd February 2025

[www.cofe-in-dawlish.org.uk](http://www.cofe-in-dawlish.org.uk)

## IN A HOUSE NEAR YOU! Steve Cronin, LLM, writes:

Last week Linda spoke at the communion service at St Gregs' (26 th January). Her theme was the Nazareth Manifesto - Luke 4 vs 14-21 - which says (New International Version):

*Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him. He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:*

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."*

*Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."*



Jesus had come back from being tempted in the desert following his baptism, full of the Holy Spirit he spoke in Nazareth and announced his mission.

- To preach good news to the poor. ■ Announce pardon to the prisoners.
- Recovery of sight to the blind. ■ Set the oppressed free. ■ Proclaim the year of the Lord's favour

That's still our mission in Dawlish. We might not think we see many prisoners and oppressed people as we walk down The Strand, but Linda also shared some statistics about our Parish:

- Of 12,239 Parishes, Dawlish ranks 3997, (if 1 is the most deprived Parish in the country).
  - Child Poverty, affects 13%. ■ Pensioner Poverty, affects 12%.
  - Working Age Poverty, 11%. ■ 16.9% Adults 16 – 70 have no qualifications.
    - 10.4% live in Social Housing. ■ 31.5% Older Population

Linda didn't name Dawlish when she gave the statistics, and many were surprised when she later revealed they related to where we live. How do you feel about this?

When Linda asked the congregation what they would do if they lived in a place like this, people suggested that they might: ■ Volunteer. ■ Pray. ■ Talk to the Council.

I believe this is an opportunity for us as a Parish, along with the other churches in the town, to join in with Jesus with the Nazareth Manifesto. Jesus said: *"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."* Are we willing to join in His mission as we go, to the shops, go to work, as we talk to our neighbours over the garden fence? Are we wanting to make disciples as we walk together with the people who face these challenges, many of them will be in our churches this Sunday.

A manifesto of change – can we be part of the story of that change?

## FAREWELL AND THANK YOU TO BISHOP JACKIE

Bishop Jackie was thanked for all she has done as Bishop of Crediton in her farewell service at Exeter Cathedral on Saturday 18th January. Bishop Jackie retired at the end of the month after more than six years as one of Devon's bishops and more than 30 years in ordained ministry.

The cathedral was packed with people for the Choral Eucharist service at which Bishop Jackie presided and preached.



The Bishop of Exeter, the Rt. Rev'd Mike Harrison, said he had first encountered Bishop Jackie at meetings of the Church of England's College of Bishops, where she had spoken "in an informed and wise and passionate way, and always with great integrity."

Bishop Jackie was the Acting Bishop of Exeter for more than a year, until Bishop Mike was enthroned in November 2024. He thanked her for enabling him a "smooth transition" to his new role and highlighted her work in the areas of wellbeing, ecumenism and social justice.

The Dean of Women in Ministry, the Rev'd Prebendary Samantha Stayte, said she was grateful to Bishop Jackie for her work to increase the number of women clergy in Devon and her campaign for equality and inclusion in the Church.



**Carbon Cutters**  
Action on Climate in Teignbridge

### Carbon Cutters Lite

Helping you to work out the most effective action you can take on climate change.

Scott Williams, Town Councillor and one of the organisers of Turn the Tide, member of

### **Action on Climate in Teignbridge**

Has kindly offered to facilitate a

90 minute session

3pm Sunday 23rd February.

Venue TBC, but will be in Dawlish

To enquire, express interest or sign up please contact the

Eco Champion, Chris Curd, 07771842334

prebchris2020@gmail.com

Bishop Jackie said after the service "It has been the privilege of my life being Bishop of Crediton. I've worked with brilliant people across the county of Devon and the Diocese of Exeter. At our best in this diocese we exemplify what it is to be a broad church, to be a place where many people of all kinds and persuasions can find shelter and welcome."

To read the full news story go to the **Diocese of Exeter website**.

To view more photos go to the **Diocese of Exeter Facebook page**.

### HOLY SPIRIT LED PRAYER MINISTRY TRAINING

SPRING HARVEST

SATURDAY 15TH FEBRUARY

10am-1pm

DEVON NR AXMINSTER  
Weycroft Hall

Each session will be delivered by the Spring Harvest Prayer Ministry Leadership team.

Tickets are FREE - we would welcome a donation towards refreshments.  
Book your place at [eevents.uk/sh2025/prayer](https://eevents.uk/sh2025/prayer)



## DO YOU HAVE A PLACE AT THE TABLE?

*Rev Patrick Parkes,  
Minister of St Paul's Starcross, writes:*

In trying to capture the idea of One God in three persons, the famous Russian iconographer (Andrei Rublev) painted what appears to be a very human depiction of the Trinity, sat around a table, enjoying one another's company. The image is meant to depict them living together in perfect love and harmony, in eternal fellowship with one another.

The most striking feature is that the canvas is painted in such a way that there appears to be a space at the front of the table for a further guest. The purpose of the Icon is to draw the observer into the scene, to invite them to be a part of the drama, if you will, a participant in the event. In fact, it might be said that it is only in the company of God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit that we can hope to begin to understand the divine mystery of the Trinity.



There is a Scottish saying, *'better felt than telt.'* This is certainly true when it comes to knowing God. Experiencing God is easier than explaining Him. It is as we encounter His love for us, through the Father sending His Son into the world and the coming of His Spirit into our lives to reveal Him to us, that we truly come to know Him.

Instead of grappling intellectually with the concept of Trinity, it is far easier to simply come to the table and experience the triune God, and all that His love, joy and peace can offer. Christ's prayer to the Father in John 17, captures this notion as Jesus prays to his heavenly father *'that they'* (his disciples and followers) *'may be one as We are one, I in them and You in Me'*. (v 22-23).

There is an implicit invitation to join the company of God. To take our place at the table, to be guests at his supper and to enjoy the divine presence. The invitation is to everyone, whether we take it up or not is a matter of individual choice. There is a place at the table for you, all you have to do is simply show up!

*Editor's Note:*

*Rev Patrick first wrote this piece ahead of Trinity Sunday in 2024 but, unfortunately, there was no room to print it in the Newsletter that week. I kept it for use when space allowed, hence its inclusion this time!*

### Dawlish Coast Mission Community



### **"Seasons of our Lives"**

**an afternoon of quiet prayer  
at St George's Church, Holcombe  
on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2-4pm**

**2pm Opening worship and reflection  
followed by an hour or so on our own in the stillness  
3.30pm Closing worship  
followed by tea and cake**

**All are welcome!**

**For information, phone Helen Bays 01626-863098**

**Text 07391-594867 [helen.bays@hotmail.com](mailto:helen.bays@hotmail.com)**

## SERVICES – 2nd to 15th FEBRUARY

### Sunday 2nd February – Presentation of Christ

8am St Gregory's—Holy Communion (BCP)  
9.15am St George's – Holy Communion  
9.30am St Paul's – Morning Worship  
10am St Gregory's – Greg's@10  
11.15am St Mary's – Morning Worship

### Wednesday 5th February

10am St Gregory's - Midweek Holy Communion

### Sunday 9th February — 4th Sunday before Lent

9.15am St George's – Morning Worship  
9.30am St Paul's – Parish Communion  
10am St Gregory's – Holy Communion  
11.15am St Mary's – Holy Communion

### Wednesday 12th February

10am St Gregory's - Midweek Holy Communion



### TUESDAY PRAYER MEETING ON ZOOM

All welcome to a half hour of prayer online on Tuesdays at 9am.

Just click on [this link](#) or

go to <https://zoom.us/join> and enter:

Meeting ID: 575 020 5964

and Passcode: 850653.



### FOLLOW THESE LINKS



to find us on

**FACEBOOK or INSTAGRAM**

St Greg's [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)

St George's [Facebook](#)

St Mary's [Facebook](#)

St Paul's [Facebook](#)



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY coming up soon ....

### FEBRUARY

- Monday 3rd** Men's Breakfast at St Greg's, 9am
- Tuesday 4th** Kids' Swap Shop, 9-11am, St Greg's  
Little Greg's, 9.30-11.30am (Upper Narthex)
- Wednesday 5th** Drop In to the Church Room, 2-4pm, St. George's Holcombe
- Thursday 6th** Pudding Club, 2.30pm, St Greg's (Upper Narthex) -  
including a talk from Rev Alan Smith on a subject of his choice
- Saturday 8th** CTDD Planning Meeting, 11am, St Greg's (Upper Narthex)  
'Seasons of our Lives', an afternoon of quiet prayer, 2-4pm,  
at St George's, Holcombe (*for more details see page 3*)  
Monthly Sale, 11am-1.30pm in St. Paul's, Starcross
- Tuesday 11th** Little Greg's, 9.30-11.30am (Upper Narthex)

**If you would like any support, or someone to talk to,  
or you know of someone else who does,  
please contact one of the following:**

**Revd Linda Cronin (Day off - Monday):** 01626 927281 or email: [revdlinda@icloud.com](mailto:revdlinda@icloud.com)

**Will Halse:** 01626 866054; **Margaret Noel:** 01626 863148;

**Ceri Lee:** 07739 936286; **Steve Cronin:** 07817 678774.

*Safeguarding Officer at St Greg's: Tess Hickson 07932 560804 [tessh@btinternet.com](mailto:tessh@btinternet.com)  
Information regarding safeguarding issues together with contact details for  
Safeguarding Officers in the other churches can be found on our website [here](#)*