

# 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 8th September 2024.

## 'ON HOLY GROUND'—CELEBRATING CREATIONTIDE IN THE CHURCH

*Revd Linda Cronin writes:*

It feels like Summer has left us and the Autumn months are about to begin. Mentally I always think of September as the start of a new year and new term – think that has come from years of working in education and having children. If you'll excuse the pun – it's a bit like turning over a new leaf into Autumn! I wonder what September feels like to you? As churches we will be thinking about creation and our place and our stewardship in the world. Through our sermon series and Bible Study groups 'On holy ground'. Alongside this we will be celebrating Harvest around our different churches.

So questions really to ponder..... What does this new season look like to you – where is God in it? Will you join Him? What can you be thankful for in this season as we approach Harvest?

Practicing gratitude can be a game-changer: it has far reaching effects, from improving our mental health to boosting our relationships with others. Living your life with gratitude helps you notice the little wins—like the bus showing up right on time, a stranger holding the door for you, or the sun shining through your window when you wake up in the morning. Each of these small moments strings together to create a web of well-being that, over time, strengthens your ability to notice the good.

Robert Emmons, psychology professor and gratitude researcher at the University of California, Davis, explains that there are two key components of practicing gratitude:

1. We affirm the good things we've received
2. We acknowledge the role other people play in providing our lives with goodness<sup>1</sup>

And as a Christian I would add

3. Giving thanks to God

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

*His love endures forever. Psalm 136*

Yours in Christ,  
Linda



*Celebrating Creationtide in the Church*  
DAWLISH COAST MISSION COMMUNITY

**'ON HOLY GROUND'**  
**SERMON SERIES AND**  
**BIBLE STUDY GROUPS**

WEEK 1 **HOLY GIFT**  
WEEK 2 **HOLY GROUND**  
WEEK 3 **HOLY WATER**  
WEEK 4 **HOLY CREATURES**  
WEEK 5 **HOLY ORDER**  
WEEK 6 **HOLY RESPONSIBILITY**

**HARVEST FESTIVALS**  
**15TH SEPT ST GREG'S 10AM**  
**22ND SEPT ST PAUL'S 10AM**  
**22ND SEPT ST MARY'S 11.15AM**  
**13TH OCT ST GEORGE'S 9.15AM**

*for more info please call 07534 369 035*

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.mindful.org/an-introduction-to-mindful-gratitude/>

## IS PASTORAL CARE AT ST. GREG'S GOING TO THE DOGS?

Will Halse writes:

Leena and I have always regarded our black Labrador, Max, as a gift from God; though in fact he was a gift from Dave and Louise Stephens who live on West Cliff Road.

I met them one February morning on my way down to Celebrate Mondays over five years ago. We had lost our beloved yellow Labrador, Leo, six months earlier, and were looking for a Labrador puppy. Dave invited me to meet his five year old black Labrador called Max – a working dog who was not quite working.

So it was – we met Max, took him for a walk, and then for a drive. And in due course Max adopted me and Leena. From day one he loved his morning runs, and he took me with him. I give him credit for getting me running as I never have before (*I will run my first half marathon on 29<sup>th</sup> September - see Wendy's article on page 3*).



We kept running and through the pandemic I enjoyed extending our runs to make more of the day. And it was during the pandemic that we first added weekly newsletter delivery to our morning exercise. At first, we would only post the letters through front doors – for church members who were not on email. As restrictions eased it became possible to stop occasionally, and knock on the door to say hello, depending on the time of day.

I developed a routine – a weekly doorstep chat with Pat Sharland, and my last newsletter delivery each week to Anne Boulton. She always invited me in and loved to see Max. I learned a lot about her lovely husband, Michael, and some of the history of our Mission Community, which has included wonderful people and exciting ministry. And we always prayed together. I do miss her and the times we shared.

That was really the start of a visiting ministry of which Max has always been an important part. It could be a doorstep chat, an ad hoc visit or a home communion. Max has been a blessing to people all around the town. He has been welcomed in homes and flats and care homes – even by carers fearful of dogs.

And it has grown and spread – this is so important because no one can own any ministry or role in God's kingdom. My prayer is that these precious gifts are shared more and more and continue to grow within the life of our benefice – a little time, a listening ear, a prayer, a helping hand.

With love from Leena and me and Max

Will

Cartoon based on Gospel for 8.9.24

THIS WHOLE  
THING IS JUST  
WEIRD!

WHAT?

FIRST JESUS IS TRYING TO  
HIDE. THEN HE'S CALLING  
SOME WOMAN "A DOG."  
THEN HE'S SPITTING &  
GRABBING SOME GUY'S  
TONGUE. IT'S ALL SO  
LINDIGNIFIED!

JESUS TAKES ON  
OUR WHOLE  
HUMANITY FOR OUR  
SAKES.

I GET THAT, BUT HE  
DOESN'T NEED TO  
LOOK SO UNCOOL  
DOING IT!



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

MARK 7:24-37

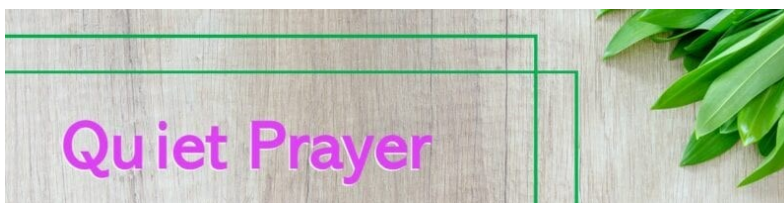
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## AFTERNOON OF QUIET PRAYER

Saturday 28th September

St. George's, Holcombe - 2pm



Rev Helen Bays writes:

We will start with a simple act of worship which will include a short talk to set the scene. We will then spend about an hour in silence, wherever we feel most comfortable - in church or garden, going for a walk or sitting in the church room, where there will be materials for writing or art. At around 3.30pm, we will gather for closing worship before we share tea and cake. **All are welcome.** This is a benefice event, so do come and bring friends from other churches or none. Booking not essential, but it helps preparation to have an idea of numbers, so, if you're able, do get in touch with me. Email: [helen.bays@hotmail.com](mailto:helen.bays@hotmail.com) or text 07391 594867. Thank you!

## WENDY AND WILL, BOTH RUNNING FOR ROWCROFT!



Wendy Williams (Joyce Williams' daughter) writes:

Thankyou to the members of the congregation who have sponsored me to raise funds for Rowcroft Hospice as I prepare to run in the **Torbay Half Marathon** on the **29th September**, in aid of this amazing charity. The event is now approaching fast. Fortunately, as a teacher, I have been able to make the most of the summer holidays to 'enjoy' a few runs along our beautiful seafront here in Dawlish. And GREAT NEWS is that Will Halse has now also registered to run the same Half Marathon and, very kindly, has asked that anyone who'd like to support him with sponsorship can do so through my SportsGiving page. Here is the link again.... [SportsGiving - Sponsor Wendy in Ocean Healthcare Torbay Half Marathon 2024](#) Thank you Will, and thank you ALL again, for your continued and much appreciated support.

## WOW! WHAT AN AMAZING TURN-OUT!

Ceri Lee writes: A very big **THANK YOU** to those of you who joined with the 200-300 people who came to or supported in ANY way 'Charli's Afternoon Tea' at Starcross last Saturday. There was a great atmosphere and plenty of scones, jam, cream and cake! The total funds raised in cash, card payments and online, to be shared between Breast Cancer Now and FORCE Cancer Care was an **AMAZING** £5,346. So much good work will be done with this money. **THANK YOU** all once again..... God is good!!



DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES  
**FUN DAY**  
SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER  
WE ARE HELPING TO SAVE OUR CHURCHES  
**ST MARYS COFTON**  
WILL BE OPEN FOR REFRESHMENTS FROM 10AM UNTIL 3PM  
HARVEST CREAM TEAS AT ST MARY'S, COFTON  
**SATURDAY 21 SEPTEMBER**  
CREAM TEAS SERVED FROM 2PM UNTIL 4PM

**MONTHLY SALE**  
St Paul's Church, Starcross  
11am - 1.30pm  
**Saturday 14th Sept**  
**Saturday 5th Oct**

Refreshments - pasties - savouries  
cakes - tea - coffee  
books - bric-a-brac - jigsaws  
children's magazines - raffle

*Do you want to sell some items?  
You can book space on a pew, half or a full one  
No fee but donations welcome if you are successful*

To book, email [claire@goshayes.com](mailto:claire@goshayes.com)

SAT. 28TH SEPT  
**HARVEST**  
**Barn**  
**Dance**  
Start at 7.30pm  
Free entry  
ST MARY'S HALL  
DAWLISH WARREN  
INCLUDES LIGHT SUPPER  
(BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS)  
Sign up sheet at back of  
your church from September

## SERVICES 8th to 21st SEPTEMBER

### Sunday 8th September

- 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

### Tuesday 10th September

- 9am Prayer Meeting on Zoom - see details aside

### Wednesday 11th September

- 10am St Gregory's - Midweek Holy Communion

### Sunday 15th September

- 9.15am St George's – Holy Communion  
9.30am St Paul's – Morning Worship  
10am St Gregory's – Harvest Festival & Baptism  
11.15am St Mary's – Morning Worship  
3pm St Gregory's – Mayor's Civic Service

### Tuesday 17th September

- 9am Prayer Meeting on Zoom - see details aside

### Wednesday 18th September

- 10am St Gregory's - Midweek Holy Communion

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

### SEPTEMBER

- Tuesday 10th** 9.30-11.30am Little Greg's in St Greg's  
2pm Mothers' Union meeting at St Greg's
- Saturday 14th** **DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES DAY**  
10am-4pm with refreshments and bric-a-brac stall, Tower open 2-4pm and Choral Workshop, 2-6pm at St Greg's  
10am-3pm refreshments at St Mary's  
11am-1.30pm Monthly Sale at St Paul's
- Tuesday 17th** 9.30-11.30am Little Greg's in St Greg's  
9-11am Kids' Swap Shop in St Greg's  
12noon CTDD 'Praying for Dawlish' in Dawlish Methodist Church  
12 for 12.30pm Benefice Ladies' Lunch at Amelia's, Cofton Holidays
- Saturday 21st** Basic Safeguarding 10am  
Foundation Safeguarding 11.30am  
Both sessions taking place in St Greg's  
2-4pm Cream Tea for Devon Historic Churches at St Mary's, Cofton  
6.30pm St George's Quiz and Supper in Holcombe Village Hall



### 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](#)

### SPECIAL NOTE:

From **Sunday 1st September** the regular start time of the Sunday morning services at **St George's, Holcombe** and **St Mary's, Cofton** has changed. **St George's** is now at **9.15am**; and **St Mary's** at **11.15am** (preceded by coffee from 10.30am)

Diary Dates

### SAVING OUR CHURCHES

Help us to raise vital funds to save Devon's churches for future generations

Created by Evelyn Armstrong-Love in support of St George's Church, Holcombe and the Devon Historic Churches Trust



DEVON  
**HISTORIC CHURCHES**  
Fun Day

To be part of it, check out our website [www.devonhistoricchurches.co.uk](http://www.devonhistoricchurches.co.uk)

If you can't attend please donate



In aid of the  
**DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST**  
[www.devonhistoricchurches.co.uk](http://www.devonhistoricchurches.co.uk)  
Charity Registration Number 1189807

**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)

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

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