

Holcombe*In the HOLiDAY COaST Mission Community in the Anglican Diocese of Exeter***Tuesday at Ten – Pause for Prayer**

1st March as well as being St David's Day is the first day of Lent. The colours in the church change to purple and by tradition there are no flowers in the church building, except on the memorial shelf behind the font. You will know that, in the Church of England, each Sunday of the year has its own "collect" or "prayer for the day" and I print below the collects for Ash Wednesday, which are in one sense the theme prayers for the first few weeks of Lent. There are two from which we can choose.

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness: through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. (the 1662 Prayer Book collect is very similar)

Holy God, our lives are laid open before you: rescue us from the chaos of sin and through the death of your Son bring us healing and make us whole in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer Book Services in March and April – please note the different dates.

Tues 14th March 10.30; Sun 19th March 8.00; Tues 4th April 10.30; Sun 16th April, 8.00 (Easter Day)

It's Mother's Day! This is for EVERYONE! Come and Celebrate The Love of God, Love of Others
Mothing Sunday 26th March Holcombe Village Hall,

10.30 posy making, refreshments, children's corner

11.00 Service begins (**Times are British Summer Time!!**)  Come anytime up to 11.00

Quite a few people are away that weekend so it would be wonderful if as many as possible could support this service, invite friends and neighbours. Invitations have gone out in the Holcombe magazine.

Prayer Cards – in the pews there are some laminated prayer cards – there are enough for one for every household, although paper ones may be taken in addition. On one side is a prayer for St George's for 2017, incorporating HAP and our 150th Anniversary. On the other, a prayer which Bishop Sarah shared with the Deanery in February. Please take one. Why not say both these prayers every day during Lent?


HAP – the building project. By the end of the month we should have the actual faculty document.

Please pray for the builders' quotes and the subsequent grant applications.

Keep calm and read a book – the book box is back – why not read a Christian book during Lent? Help yourself and return to the box and add any suitable you would like to share. (with your name inside.)

Welcome Pack – we are sure that more people must have moved into the district than we have been told.

We would like to put a small welcome pack through the door of all new residents, so **please** let Willi Armes (866267) know of any **SOLD** or **LET** boards that go up. **Please monitor your street!**

 **Lent Lunches** Monday 6th March, Dawlish Methodist; Mondays 13th, 20th, 27th March, Strand Centre, Dawlish. Monday 3rd April, Dawlish Methodist. All at 12 noon. Different churches in Dawlish will be providing the lunch in these venues.

Holiday Coast Churches Lent Course 2017 **Wednesdays 2.30 pm @ St Gregory's, Dawlish** (8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th March, 5th April) **Thursdays 7.30 pm @ St Paul's, Starcross** (9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th March, 6th April) **Led by the Revd Dallas Ayling** **Come and join us as we look at Healing in the Bible** **Naaman – the pain of pride; The Woman who didn't give up; Do you want to be healed?; The man who got more than he bargained for; Call the elders.**

We will look at the Bible together and join in groups for sharing thoughts with help from questions

If you can bring some cake to share, that would be fantastic! **Everyone is welcome, congregation**

member or not. *"If you have not been part of a group before, please give this a try."* **Chris & Dallas.**

Mission Action Plan. We have provided copies of the Annual and Financial Reports for people to take. The Mission Action Plan is displayed in the porch and the Church Room.

If you haven't joined the [Parish Giving Scheme](#), please would you seriously consider doing so? It really does cut down on a lot of work and is so much more efficient. See Derek King or Chris.

The next St George's [Ladies' Lunch](#) is Thursday 27th April, 12 noon. Amelia's at Cofton Country Park.

Church Cleaning. We have a bit of a challenge with this as due to illness etc the number of cleaners is depleted. 😞 At the moment people take a month at a time. Is there another way of doing it? Is there anyone else who could be roped in who enjoys having the church here? Pennie and Chris would be very grateful for your prayers and reflections on this. The annual spring clean has been postponed due to HAP.

Organists and Musicians. You may have heard that one of our organists, Ian Bartlett has been appointed as organist and choir master at St Gregory's. You will be very pleased to hear that this does not mean that we are going to lose him! He will still play for some of our special services, weddings etc, Messy Church and at least once a month on a Sunday for us – we are part of the same parish after all – and will still be working on our rota ensuring we have cover. He is also due to have hip surgery and we pray for God's blessing on that for him. So he will be out of commission for some weeks. We are very grateful to Fred Comber who can cover most of April for us over and above what he would normally do. However, sometimes things like this prod you to think about different ways of doing things and if there is anyone out there who can play any sort of instrument, or if you know anyone who would like to offer an instrument, please let Chris or Ian know. It's always good to know of different possibilities.

Email from Samara Levy dated 22 Feb 17



Dear friends, I'm so thrilled to share with you the amazing news that Samara's Aid Appeal is now a registered charity in England and Wales in it's own right, number 1171707. Many of you will know that we have been applying for registered charity status, and we are so pleased to have reached this goal. For nearly two years we have been working through the amazing team at Feed The Hungry who have made our work possible by letting us work under their charity umbrella. They have been the most tremendous support and I really don't know what we would have done without them.

When I first started working through Feed The Hungry neither they nor I could have imagined how far we would have come in such a short space of time. At that time, I had sent 10 lorries and containers of aid to the Middle East. It felt like a lot at the time, but on Saturday, one of our partners loaded container of medical aid for Syria for us. This was consignment number 70!! We also have another 4-6 consignments lined up to be loaded in various locations over the coming weeks.

We also have hospitals in Syria and are in the process of converting the empty containers once we have distributed the aid they were carrying, into modular hospital providing urgently needed medical care in Syria. We have lots of plans over the coming months and look forward to sharing them with you over the next weeks and months. For now, we are continuing as usual so there is no need to do anything differently. We are following the same processes for giving and donating until we have a new infrastructure set up for this. There is an updated giving form which acknowledges our new status which you can download from the giving page of our website, but we are still using the same bank accounts until further notice ... Thanks so much to everyone who has supported us over the last two and a half years. We are really excited about the future and all the possibilities that lie ahead. Love Samara



Knitting – we are still collecting squares to sew into blankets for Samara's Aid – 6” sides please and double knitting or equivalent in garter, rib, moss stitch or similar. We hope to be able to collect for the **next appeal in June**, so when you spring clean your cupboards and wardrobes, please save items that are suitable.



No, your eyes do not deceive you, I know it's Lent and these are crib figures, but we are replacing our rather tired looking and breakable crib figures with knitted ones. There is a need for knitters to knit some! Chris has the pattern and the list of items needed. If we start now we should be in time for next December!

