

2018

Happy New Year to everyone

**The Epiphany Prayer** Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord.

We pray those whose loved ones have come to their journey's end in 2017.

Peter Rudd, faithful churchwarden at this church for many years in the 1990's, passed from this life on Christmas Day. We hold Jean in our love and prayers. Peter and Jean have lived in Starcross for some time and when Peter became unable to drive, they worshipped at St Paul's, very near to their house. The funeral will be in St Paul's on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> at 11.00. I believe it is followed by interment in the churchyard there. There will be quite a few from the Holcombe congregation who will not be able to attend as they will be traveling back with the Kings' Tour on that day, so it would be good if as many of us as possible who are around could attend. If you do not know their address to send a card, please ask Chris.



Diary dates for this month and looking ahead.

**Tuesday morning services** will be at 10.30 at St Bernard's Cottage, second cottage below the church, by kind invitation of Graham and Gill on 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please check for details about 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Bible Studies** – please check with Jane Pearce on 774844

Holcombe Lunch

**Christian Unity** – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> is the annual week of prayer for Christian Unity. This year the pulpit exchange is taking place again. **On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January, the plan is that Chris will lead the service as usual, but we welcome as preacher Fr Mark Skelton from St Agatha's.** If you haven't met Mark, then I am sure you will enjoy doing so. The following Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup>, Chris is not going anywhere this year, as it should be our first Sunday back in church – see below.

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January, 6.30 pm, St Mary's Hall, Dawlish Warren, Churches Together in Dawlish and District have a united service,** praying especially for our unity.

**Ladies Lunch** – Thursday January 25<sup>th</sup> at Amelia's, Cofton Country, 12 noon. Please ask if you haven't been before and would like to come. Other dates will follow when Chris has her diary sorted!!

**Forget-me-nots** – Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2.30 pm at St Mary's Hall, DW, and all last Wednesdays until June. Look then for more information!

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February 9.30** – "Candlemas" – this will be a "candles and crib" type service with the baptism of Noah Theobald. This service will not include Holy Communion. **Try to wear something flame coloured!!**

**Mission Community Council** meets on Weds 7<sup>th</sup> Feb, 7 pm, St Paul's Starcross

Lent

Ash Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February, we will join with St Greg's for their service at 10.00 No service on Tues 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Lent Groups** – On Wednesday afternoons in Lent I am very glad to say that Helen Bays (my predecessor if you have become part of the family in the last 5 years!) has accepted Dallas' invitation to offer a series on Christian Spirituality. I am sure this will be excellent so if you are free on Weds afternoons, please put the dates in you diary, and if you are not free normally, could you be?!

More information about Lent nearer the time.

**WW1 commemoration – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Feb, 12 noon – Reginald Bright**

**Weds 28<sup>th</sup> February– at Forget-me-nots** (see above), we welcome **Sally Farrant**, from the Diocesan Office for Social Responsibility. During the afternoon Sally will be delivering a **"Dementia Friends"** session which she assures me will be suitable for a "mixed" group. All interested are welcome to attend, and remember that this is a Mission Community group, with helpers and attendees from our four churches.

**Mothing Sunday – 11<sup>th</sup> March** – there will be a special service to which you might want to invite friends and family, but we have not yet decided the format. Put the date in your diary.

**Church AGM – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March, after the service.**



**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018; early evening - “CELEBRATION”**

**The Rt Revd Robert Attwell, Bishop of Exeter, is coming to dedicate the new building and consecrate the extension to the Garden of Remembrance.** The Church Council will consider the order and type of events when it meets at the beginning of February

### **Annual Service of Remembering and Hope**

For obvious reasons we were not able to hold this service in the Church at All Saints/All Souls and this winter have decided to do something different. When the Bishop comes on 10<sup>th</sup> April he will consecrate the extension of the Garden of Remembrance. On that occasion, we will invite those whom we would normally invite to the service of Remembering and Hope. The exact form of service has not yet been decided



**HAP – The Project!!** We are now turning our attention to fitting out the new building.

Would anyone like to donate a free standing, stainless steel toilet roll holder, similar to this?



**Cleaning Party** – The church is very dusty!! This will take place sometime in the weeks beginning



15<sup>th</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan. If you are not on email and would like to be kept informed, please see Pennie Galloway or Chris. This is a call for “All hands on deck”, even if you do not normally help with the cleaning! We also need to have an accurate inventory of all our possessions, so everything needs to be listed as it is put in its permanent home, whether in the church or in the Church Rooms. We would rather have too many people for the jobs than too many jobs for the people!

And it could be just as much fun as when we finally cleared the church back in October!

**When will we go back? Very probably Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January.**

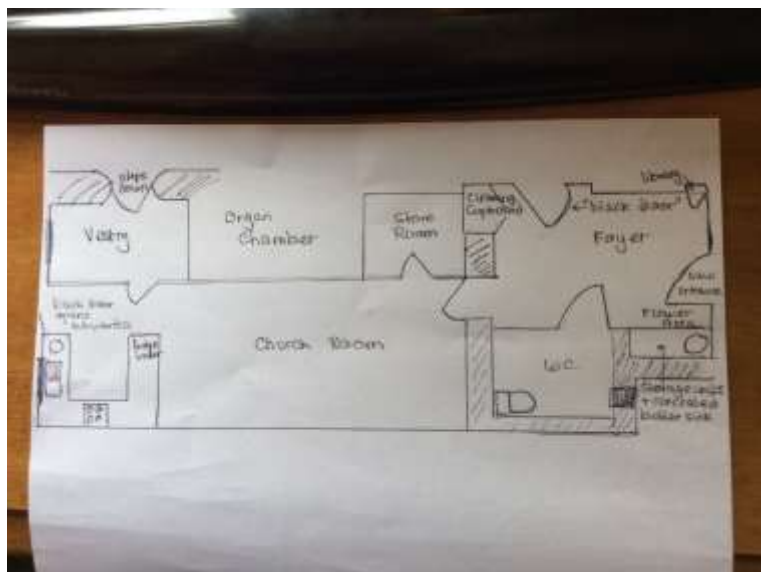
**What will we find?** The kitchen will be fitted and usable with most things put away in it. The new small vestry and store room will not be fitted out and we may not have any chairs to sit on in the new Room. We will have no cupboards fitted as the carpenter is not allowed on site until the builders hand the site back to us. What we will probably do is put up the tables in the Church Room and put the boxes of items that we need on the tables. So coffee can be made but we will need to bring it back into the church if we want to sit down! There will be a temporary hanging rail in the storeroom for the choir robes etc. while we decide the best layout for the bespoke storage in that room.

In other words, the project will not be finished and in its final glory, but it will still look lovely!

I provide below a sketch which shows the layout. Nothing will be in the same place, except the back door!!



Foyer – the new front door and the site of the “flower area”



The Church Room – kitchen not yet fitted.



**And last but not least.** Samara is asking for prayer for wisdom and safety for projects in areas in Syria recently freed from IS: for both “banana box” distribution and medical projects. The people are desperate and it is gruelling for the distributors.