



What a celebration In April

Alleluia, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, ALLELULIA! Humanity's worst evil defeated and the promise that goodness and beauty will flower.



AND THEN, TRIPLE GOLD – 150 + 1

In 1867 the vicar of Dawlish was one John Rashdall and his diary has this entry for April 12th:

"Formally opened Holcombe Chapel School with Holy Communion and Sermon". We have celebrated 150 years of worship in our building by our building project HAP, Holcombe Accessibility Project. We are a year late for the formal celebration but on Thursday April 12th, we

CELEBRATE!! "TO GOD BE THE GLORY!"

Let's see the church full to overflowing for the Celebration Songs of Praise at 6.15

as we welcome guests and the Bishop dedicates the renewed Church Rooms. It will help if you sign the list at the back of church, but it is not essential. Any friends or neighbours who might be interested? Just add "+1" or "+2" etc. As the Bishop of Exeter, the Rt Revd Robert Atwell will be with us, at **5 pm** there will be "**Garden Service**" during which he will consecrate the extension to the Garden of Remembrance. During this we will remember the names of those whom we love but see no longer by reading out names. Please let Chris know by Sunday 8th at the latest if you wish to include the name of a loved one. Between the two services there will be a light afternoon tea, so please let Chris know, for catering purposes, by Sunday 8th, if you will be attending the Garden service and wish to stay for tea. If you can offer small cakes or luxury type biscuits, please talk to Margaret Behenna. For the **Garden Service** please gather in Church from 4.45.

For the **Songs of Praise**, please be seated in Church before 6.15. Please car share if possible or use friends' drives so that the Village Hall car park does not get too full. Our thanks to the Hall Committee for its use.

Dates to note in April

Sunday 15th – Chris is away and the service will be Holy Communion by Extension

Sunday 29th – **Benefice service for all 4 churches and we are the hosts as it will be in Holcombe Village Hall.** There will be a said Communion Service, the only one in the 4 churches in St George's at **8.30 am**, and it will be according to the Book of Common Prayer.

Then there will be a light breakfast served, cereal, toast, croissants etc. Are there a couple of gentleman or ladies who would like to be breakfast chefs and enjoying using our new kitchen?! Please see Chris.

10.00 – **Songs of Praise** type service in the Hall with visiting speaker, Barry Dugmore, who is the Diocesan Missioner. Let's give a real Holcombe welcome to our sister churches as they join us.

Sunday 5th May – Chris is away again as will be quite a few of the congregation, courtesy of Kings' Tours! It is Rogation Sunday but this year we will not be walking around the village. However, Ann Leigh will be leading a Morning Prayer/ Family Worship type service suitable for Rogation, environment, the planet etc.

Forget Me Nots meets at St Mary's Hall at 2.30 on Wednesday 28th April

Messy Church doesn't meet in April as the Messy Community will contribute to the Celebration Songs of Praise in a small but important way.

Tea Service – will not meet in April and May as there is an invitation to the tea at the Celebration and on Wednesday 16th May at 4 pm in the Church Rooms, there is a Messy Vintage Wedding Celebration Tea Party for the **Messy Community** and **Tea Service** attendees. If you have any queries or would like to come, please speak to Chris or Margaret Behenna.

Ladies' Lunch has not happened recently due to our busy-ness, and the weather and roadworks on the Exeter Road have not helped. It is hoped this will happen again at the end of Spring – watch this space.

Single Use Plastic and Biodegradability – please talk to Pennie Galloway before providing any cleaning materials etc.. We want to tread more lightly on the planet God has given us. For instance, Messy Church has obtained biodegradable glitter! It will take time but let us try to do what we can.



Samara's Aid We are collecting again. Flyers available at the back of church. Take some for friends and neighbours. We hope to pack the week beginning Sunday 22nd April. **Please DO NOT bring anything to church until after the Celebration on 12th April!!** There is also a list at the back of the church to make up a **baby care pack** for a new-born. I know we are busy still with equipping and sorting out

the Church Rooms, but it seems important to me that we continue with this. Much of the aid from this Spring Appeal will go to Syria, although some may go to refugees in Jordan and Lebanon. Getting lorries into the Iraqi Kurdish area presents challenges at the moment. The warehouses in Syria are in desert areas and get filthy from the sand. So, counter intuitive it may seem, but we will need to line the boxes inside so that items do not get dirty before they are distributed. So any plastic such as comes from a dry cleaners or any else suitable will be welcomed, folded up tightly.

Taking time to care - 9th April at 7 pm @ St. Gregs.

Dallas, our Rector, has sent round a note about caring for the vulnerable in our midst. This is an excerpt from it. "I am sure like me you have been shocked at the recent news of those charities which have been implicated in not ensuring they are protecting those who are vulnerable. There is also at present an investigation taking place regarding historic sexual abuse within the Church of England. We now recognise that there are people who find ways of taking advantage to behave inappropriately with children and vulnerable adults. In the Church we are called to love one another and to make sure that we care for all in our communities. ... but we are now in a time where more has needed to be done to challenge and change the culture and we are required to learn what that means for us. ... certain levels of awareness training have been introduced. The first, basic level of awareness is called C0."

Those who are asked to do CO training include: Verger (funerals and weddings), Server, Welcomer, Refreshment helper, Sidesperson, DCC member, Churchwarden, Choir member, Organist, Music Group member, Pastoral visitor, Caretakers (cleaners), Messy Church adults, Leaders of any other groups.

It is possible to do this on-line but on 9th April, Alison Miles, Churchwarden at Starcross, is putting on a session as above which will last about an hour. There is no need to book, just turn up, and if you are not sure whether or not you are in one of the above groups, don't worry, come anyway. I, Chris, have just done the training for licensed ministers which is called C3 and I found it very good and helpful. I know Alison's presentation will be done very well. Any queries, please see Barbara Rains, our Safeguarding Rep.

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will take effect in the UK from 25 May 2018.

The law on this is changing and, in the Church, we need to comply with obtaining consent. Just applying to be on the electoral roll does not give consent to the Church to use that information to contact you. Liz Hawarth, our new DCC Secretary, is doing a lot of work on this, so it would be of great help to us, when you receive a form over the next few weeks, if you complete and return it. If you hold any data, including contact details, with respect to any role you fulfil within or on behalf of the church, please talk to Liz. Thank you.



Sunday 11th November 2018. The centenary of the Armistice. We are proposing to host an appropriate memorial display. Something considered, which will take time to prepare, is the creation of poppy swags to go around the church, outside if the weather is not too inclement, and if enough are created, perhaps other key points in the village could join in. Obviously, we would need to get knitting! I hope that Janet can very kindly find room for the pattern in the Holcombe magazine. There are also copies of the pattern at the back of church in the **knitting basket** which also accepts squares for blankets! Poppies could be made in other different ways, if you have any ideas! We are talking to the Residents' Association about working together on this but there are no firm plans as yet.

And Finally!

Do you remember that there was a **survey about our experience of worshipping up at the Hall?** Only 10 surveys were returned – not sure what that means! For interest I reproduce the answers as submitted except for a couple of spellings!! I don't think there are any surprises.

What have you enjoyed about meeting in the Hall? 1) The welcome and the worship 2) How we have all come together to make it "work" 3) Not having to walk down the hill 4) Nothing! 4) Informality 5) Informality Yes 7) ---- 8) My perception is more people have felt able/comfortable to join us 9) More people staying for coffee 10) getting to know one another better, an easier way to encourage newcomers too.

What have you missed while we have been meeting in the Hall?

- 3) Nothing 2) Not kneeling to receive the sacrament 3) Somewhere to put things during the service; no hymn number board! 4) The friendliness of it! 5) The organ 6) The church atmosphere and building
- 6) The Church atmosphere 8) I missed my table in the church, and coffee table and the chat
- 9) ---- 10) St George's "atmosphere", a building that is prayerful and welcoming in a special way. An altar rail to kneel at for communion.