

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 6 July 2025

www.cofe-in-dawlish.org.uk

WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIEND(S)?

Rev Patrick Parkes writes:

Any fans of The Beatles will immediately recognise the lyrics from their 1967 album 'Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band'. Written jointly by John and Paul and, unusually, sung by Ringo Starr. However, did you know when used in the singular, that same phrase can be used to describe the working of the third person of the Trinity?

The assistance promised by Jesus to his disciples following his death and resurrection came in the person of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, an event we celebrated this year, on Sunday 8th June.



It is far easier to visualise the image of God as Father in heaven, or Jesus as Son on earth living amongst us as one of us than it is to envisage the Holy Spirit. He is often depicted in art in the form of either a dove or a burning flame, echoing the two visible appearances recorded in scripture at both Christ's baptism and amongst the disciples in the upper room.

Jesus described Him in various ways, as a 'helper', someone just like himself. The term is sometimes translated as 'Comforter' one who offers solace in times of stress, or 'Advocate' one who stands alongside us and acts on our behalf or in our defence.

He brings courage and imbues those who receive Him with: boldness in the face of danger, wisdom in times of confusion, and recollection (especially of Christ's teaching) when our own memory fails us.

His presence in the lives of those early disciples enabled them to face a far from certain future with courage and conviction; to overcome their craven fear of those who had killed their Lord and master and to boldly proclaim a new message of love and reconciliation to a hostile world.

Friendship is a wonderful gift and I trust that you are surrounded by people who love you and look out for you. There will, no doubt, be times in our lives when we will rely on the depth and quality of those friendships, times when they evidence their true worth.

For Christians there is also the consolation of knowing that when we come to an end of ourselves and our strength fails, and even when others cannot provide the support we need, there is always another comforter, just like Jesus, who is there for us, sustaining us and supporting us in our time of need.

My prayer is that you too may know the joy of true friendship and the presence of God the Holy Spirit who fortifies us through life's trials and brings us into 'times of refreshing' from the Lord. (Acts 3:21)

Many will know of Samara's Aid, originally working in Iraq at the time of ISIS and now working in Syria, where much of the work is overseen by the Syrian Director Dr A. On 24th June Samara sent out an email and this is part of it. It is shared for information and for prayer.



"These are very dark days in Syria and we ask for your urgent prayers for protection for our team and projects please. In the early hours of this morning our rural outreach centre and farm project in Syria were attacked. Armed men arrived at the projects, shooting. They forced their way into our shepherd's home at gunpoint, destroyed the contents of the home we built for him including the furniture, doors and everything they could. They beat him viciously in front of his wife and young children then took him outside, forcing him and our guard to kneel in front of their guns in the manner that armed groups like this do when they execute people.

Our shepherd pleaded in front of the barrels of their guns for them not to kill them, explaining that these projects are run by Christians and that this charity is serving the poor and everyone in need, regardless of their faith or any other characteristics. The shepherd himself is a Sunni Muslim who has a beautiful, gentle personality and who has been so faithful over the years. He hoped his words might deter them, but they replied that they were doing this because it is run by Christians, and said they knew everything about it. They spelt out very clearly that it is their intention to kill Dr A, that they plan to hunt him down, that they want his head, and that they will show him no mercy when they find him.

When the shepherd tried to reason with them, trying to stop them from killing our Alawite guard, they beat him more. They damaged our storage spaces searching for something they didn't find, making false accusations. They stole all our sheep and horses.

We don't know why they didn't kill our shepherd and guard because all their behaviour and actions indicated that this was exactly what they were in the process of doing. We thank God for all the prayers you have prayed for our team for protection over the years, recent months and weeks. God has answered by sparing their lives and also in locating and returning some of our sheep and horses. 46 sheep and one horse remain unaccounted for. These armed men threatened our shepherd that if he said anything to the police, they would return and kill his children. Please pray that this family will all be protected, along with the guard, as they are terrified now."

Go to www.samarasaidappeal.org
for more information

A Quiet Day in the Bishop's Garden with St Clare of Assisi

10.30am - 3.30pm on Tuesday 19th August 2025

led by Demelza Henderson



St Clare of Assisi lived a life of poverty, simplicity and prayer in the 13th century, sharing a deep love of God's creation with her contemporary, St Francis. The Bishop of Exeter has kindly offered his garden for this Quiet Day, which will explore aspects of Clare's life through prayer, poetry, music and, of course, her own writings. There will be plenty of silence throughout the day for you to reflect on how Clare's witness might continue to inspire your own Christian life today.

Demelza Henderson leads Quiet Days and longer residential retreats across the UK through her work with the Association for Promoting Retreats. She is also an Oblate of the Society of Our Lady of the Isles, which combines her love of contemplative prayer with her joy in the natural world.

Some practicalities:

- **Location:** Bishop's Palace Garden, Palace Gate, Exeter, EX1 1HY
- **Parking:** There is no parking at the Bishop's Palace; please use a public car park.
- **Refreshments:** The day will start at 10am with tea/coffee. You will be able to use the kitchen to make your own drinks throughout the day, but please bring a packed lunch.
- **Seating:** There are a few benches scattered around the Bishop's garden, but it would be helpful if you could bring your own fold-up chair or a rug if you are able.
- **Toilet facilities** will be available inside the Bishop's Palace.
- **Disabled Facilities** are limited; sadly the gravel paths and lawn are uneven and thus unsuitable for wheelchairs, but there is an accessible toilet inside for those who need it.
- **Cost:** The day will cost £10 to cover expenses, payable in advance to Demelza.
- **Bookings:** All bookings (and any other questions) must be made through Demelza, either by email on QuietDaysinDevon@gmail.com, or by phone on (01395) 272243.



at
St. Greg's

Thursday
17th July
3.30-6pm

It's church, but not as you know it!

*There will be lots going on throughout the afternoon,
including:*

- Refreshments on arrival
- Plenty of FUN with 'crafty' activities for adults and children to do together
- A celebration time with stories, songs and prayers
 - A hot meal before going home

We'd love to welcome YOU!

Messy Church values are about being Christ-centred, for all ages, based on creativity, hospitality and celebration.



NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME
Garden Open For Charity



2 Middlewood

Cockwood, Exeter, EX6 8RN

Sales table for Ukraine
via CR2EE

Saturday 5 July

Sunday 6 July

1 - 5pm

Adults £6 Children free

Pay at the gate or to pre-book tickets
scan the QR code or visit ngs.org.uk



DOGS WELCOME



PLANTS FOR SALE



TEAS



DO YOU FANCY A DAY OUT?

Join Dawlish Community Transport on our Tuesday Trips

Door to Door Transport

Picking you up/returning you to/from your home

JULY 2025:

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|--------|
| 1 st | Brixham | £19.00 |
| 8 th | Ashburton/Dartmoor | £15.50 |
| 15 th | Cockington Court, Torquay | £15.50 |
| 22 nd | Sidmouth/Donkey Sanctuary | £15.50 |
| 29 th | Dartmouth | £15.50 |

AUGUST 2025:

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|--------|
| 5 th | Otter Nurseries | £15.50 |
| 12 th | Buckfast Abbey/Butterfly Farm | £15.50 |
| 19 th | Mystery Trip | £19.50 |
| 26 th | Trago Mills | £12.50 |

SEPTEMBER 2025:

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------|
| 2 nd | Totnes | £15.50 |
| 9 th | IKEA/Dunelm | £12.50 |
| 16 th | St Marychurch/Babbacombe | £12.50 |
| 23 rd | Topsham/Dart's Farm | £12.50 |
| 30 th | Tavistock | £21.00 |

'BINGO & BUS'

Wednesday's 2nd JULY, 6th AUGUST, 3rd SEPTEMBER 2025

Arriving for 7:30pm/leaves down from 8:00pm at Ashcombe Village Hall

Vehicle available for Dawlish passengers who can benefit from Community Transport support (FREE for a limited time) - book in advance/limited spaces
Pick-up time confirmed on day of travel

For more information or to book please
Call the office on: 01626 888890
Barton Hill Car Park, Dawlish, Devon, EX7 9QH
www.dawlish-mobility.co.uk



Find us on



ST. GREGORY'S CHURCH COFFEE MORNING



**Come with friends
or to meet
new ones!**

**CUPPAS
& CAKES**

Promoting the St Greg's
200th Anniversary Celebration
and Flower Festival
in September 2025



Saturday 19th July

10am -12.30pm

Coffee, Tea and Cakes (to eat-in or takeaway)

PLUS: Bric-a-Brac Stall; Raffle; Kids' Craft Activities

SERVICES & EVENTS – 6th to 19th July 2025



Sunday 6th July — Trinity 3

- 8am St Gregory's—Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am 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 9th July

- 10am St Gregory's - Midweek Holy Communion

Sunday 13th July —Trinity 4 — Sea Sunday

- 9.30am St George's – Morning Worship
9.30am St Paul's – Holy Communion
10am St Gregory's – Holy Communion
11am St Mary's – Sea Sunday service,
on Cockwood Village Green

Wednesday 16th July

- 10am St Gregory's - Midweek Holy Communion

Thursday 17th July

- 3.30-6pm St Gregory's - Messy Church (*see page 3*)

DIARY DATES IN JULY

Monday 7th Mens' Breakfast at St Greg's, 9am

Tuesday 8th Little Greg's at St Greg's, 9.30-11.30am
Mothers' Union at St Greg's, 2pm

Wednesday 9th Drop-In at St George's, Holcombe, 2-4pm (*every 1st Wednesday of the month*)

Thursday 10th Pudding Club in Upper Narthex at St Greg's, 2.30pm. Talking about, and listening to some of, our favourite pieces of music.

Saturday 12th Mens' Breakfast at Hope Church, 8.30am

South West Awake! Join with other Christians in Dawlish in joining a chain of prayer happening along the length of the South West Coast Path, 10.30-11am.

CTDD Planning Meeting in the Strand Chapel, 11.15am.

Monthly Sale at St Paul's, Starcross, 11am-1.30pm

'HMS Pinafore' & buffet supper (Dawlish Choral Society),
7.30pm in St. Gregory's

Tuesday 15th Kids' Swap Shop at St Greg's, 9-11am

Little Greg's at St Greg's, 9.30-11.30am

Ladies' Lunch at Amelia's, Cofton Holidays, 12.30pm.

Saturday 19th Coffee Morning at St Greg's, 10am-12.30pm (*see page 3*)

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 (Rector): 01626 927281 or email: revdlinda@icloud.com

Revd Patrick Parkes (Minister at Starcross) : 01626 685709 epp@sky.com

Steve Cronin (LLM): 07817 678774; **Will Halse (LLM):** 01626 866054; **Ceri Lee (LLM):** 07739 936286.

Safeguarding Officer at St Greg's: Tess Hickson 07376 658440

Information and contact details for Safeguarding Officers in the other churches can be found on our website [here](#)



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.

The Lady Chapel at St Greg's is available for quiet prayer from 9.30am, before the 10am Sunday service.



This is for ANYONE who would like to join those praying for the ensuing service and those taking any part in it.

FOLLOW THESE LINKS

St Greg's [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)
St George's [Facebook](#)
St Mary's [Facebook](#)
St Paul's [Facebook](#)