

# 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 13 April 2025

[www.cofe-in-dawlish.org.uk](http://www.cofe-in-dawlish.org.uk)

## WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

*Revd. Linda Cronin writes:*

What's it all about?

Bunnies, lambs, chicks? – the signs of new life?

Easter eggs? That often don't even say Easter on them?

Oh maybe I'm getting old?



I can recall Easter Eggs that you used to unwrap, and they came in two halves with something in the middle, usually a bag of sweets! Nowadays it seems the sweets are proudly displayed within the packaging and the egg must be smashed to be eaten, with nothing inside it.

Whilst I think it takes away the surprise element of what sweets might be inside the egg, maybe it is a better illustration of the Easter story and the true meaning of Easter?

If we use the analogy of the Easter egg as the tomb, then there shouldn't be anything inside it, because when they went to the tomb on the first Easter morning, it was EMPTY – no Jesus! Well, that was a surprise!! Jesus wasn't in the tomb He was out and about, alive again for all to see!!!

Mary stood outside the tomb weeping. As she wept, she knelt to look into the tomb and saw two angels sitting there, dressed in white, one at the head, the other at the foot of where Jesus' body had been laid.

They said to her, "Woman, why do you weep?" "They took my Master," she said, "and I don't know where they put him."

After she said this, she turned away and saw Jesus standing there. But she didn't recognize him.

Jesus spoke to her, "Woman, why do you weep? Who are you looking for?" She, thinking that he was the gardener, said, "Sir, if you took him, tell me where you put him so I can care for him." Jesus said, "Mary." Turning to face him, she said in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" meaning "Teacher!"

*John 20. 11-16*



In the midst of our Easter Celebrations may we like Mary, recognise Jesus, the risen Lord and Saviour of the world who indeed offers us new life and new hope!

**Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb.  
Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom;**

*May you meet our Saviour Jesus this Easter  
Revd Linda Cronin*

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## ST MARY'S SAYS THANK YOU

This lovely happy smiley photograph shows Valerie Jeffery and Ruth Cann, on behalf of all at St Mary's (Cofton), presenting Margaret Noel with a card, a basket of fruit and a hydrangea for her garden on the occasion of her last leading of a service at St Mary's before retiring from her role as a Licenced Lay Minister (LLM) to our Mission Community.

Margaret says: "St Mary's are such a lovely group of people. I have known Valerie for nearly 60 years and Ruth for 30! We never imagined, when we first met, that we would still be worshipping together at Cofton (and being such good friends) after all these years".



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## ST GREGORY'S EASTER CROSS *Cath Chappell writes:*

The Easter Cross will be taking pride of place again outside St Greg's from the end of Palm Sunday and throughout our Easter celebrations. As in previous years, everyone is welcome to come to the Cross at any time during Holy Week to hang a **red ribbon** to one of the nails on the cross as a way of remembering that Jesus died for each one of us and that in so doing our sins are forgiven. If you haven't a red ribbon to hand, there are plenty by the cross to use so just help yourself to one. Please just tie the ribbon so that the ends hang down loose *i.e. don't tie your ribbon in a bow.* (The photo aside was taken at Easter 2024)

Good Friday of course is not the end of the story – so do come back and visit the cross again on **Easter Day** or the days thereafter to see its transformation! 'Light and Love' will flow from it to help us remember that Jesus is risen and that, despite everything, God loves us all so much and just wants us to know this and be able to love him and each other too. Please spread this message to everyone and encourage as many folks as possible to come and interact with our Cross at St Greg's. *God Bless and Happy Easter, Cath Chappell xxx*



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## SAFEGUARDING — a trainee's experience! *David Quy from St George's writes:*

It is, perhaps, only human nature not to be too enthusiastic about venturing out on a cold Monday evening in March, replete after a satisfying evening meal washed down with a diet tonic water! That is especially true if the incentive is to attend a small gathering to digest the Church of England's BASIC safeguarding course - obligatory for those of us who have certain well-defined responsibilities and duties at our respective churches. Approximately two-and-a-half hours later when we were homeward-bound, I think I speak for everyone in saying that our feelings were completely different - *and much more positive.*

This being our first session, our training started at the BASIC level and covered a plethora of safeguarding topics across the age ranges, reminding us that - potentially - anyone can be affected by such issues. Through a series of scenarios - cast from an iPad onto a television screen - we learnt to recognise, respond, record and refer matters and concerns to the appropriate person, usually our safeguarding officer. We were given a number of scenarios and had to select our answers from a series of multiple-choice questions. We were told that we had acquitted ourselves admirably, achieving 100%!

It was really good to spend the evening with a group of friends and fellow Christians, just like being in a house group in fact, with everyone feeling able to express their opinions openly and in complete confidence. We should like to thank Tess for inviting us to her home for such a beneficial and thought-provoking evening and for the warmth of her hospitality (tea or coffee and chocolate digestives) and for her unobtrusive and helpful guidance. After an evening well spent, the journey home was undoubtedly a much more positive and satisfying experience for us all.

*(Editor's Note: What a lovely piece of news this is! Thanks for writing, David. More like this, from anyone, gratefully received)*

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## EASTER GARDEN TRAIL

*Cath Chappell writes:*

Thank you to everyone who has kindly volunteered to create and display an Easter Garden for our Easter Garden Trail. I do hope that you'll find you've at least one near to where you live and perhaps next year you may consider making one yourself, so we have an even longer trail of Gardens to spot and enjoy.

Gardens will be on display at the following addresses from Good Friday until approx. 1 week after Easter Day. All will be visible from the pavement or roadside.



2 Lea Mount Drive Dawlish  
27 Regent Street Dawlish  
97 Kingsdown Crescent Dawlish  
39 Old Town Street Dawlish  
16C Longlands Dawlish  
25 Meadow Rise Dawlish  
4 Pinewood Close Dawlish

71 Carnac Drive Dawlish  
12 Shorland Close Dawlish  
Highfield, Secmaton Lane Dawlish  
The Conifers Secmaton Lane Dawlish  
9 Swallows Acre Dawlish  
2 Middlewood Cofton

*Happy Easter Garden spotting everyone! Cath x*

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## ADVANCE NOTICE: ST. GREGORY'S APCM *Nicola Twibill, PCC Secretary writes:*

The annual APCM will be taking place on Sunday 11th May after the morning service. Each year we elect 4 new PCC members to serve for 3 years and 2 wardens who will serve for 1 year. Nominations need to be submitted before the meeting with a proposer and seconder for each candidate. Forms will be available in the Narthex after Easter. These cannot be done electronically!

In the meantime perhaps you could think about whether this is a way you could serve the church. Meetings are held once every other month and thanks to modern technology reports can be circulated before to cut down on the meeting times. We therefore usually finish within 1½ hours.

It is your chance to have a say on what happens at St Gregory's, being involved in major and minor decisions running the building and events, how money is spent and which projects are tackled first. No previous knowledge of committees, business or finance is required. The only qualification you need is to be on the electoral roll, which is a reminder that if you haven't already handed in your renewal form get it done.

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## TURN OUTDOOR SPACE INTO A GARDEN SINK (a mini "rain forest"?)

*Preb. Chris Curd writes, with a seasonal encouragement from the new Climate Hub of Teignbridge District Council. <https://climatehub.teignbridge.gov.uk/>*

Ever wondered what your outdoor space can do for the climate and local wildlife? Try these top tips.

1. **Move over No-Mow-May!** - Let areas of your garden grow long this summer to create amazing habitats for wildlife. Longer grass equals longer roots, which can increase soil carbon storage.
2. **Make space for nature** – Create valuable habitats for small creatures including insects by making deadwood piles, dead hedges, and leaf piles.
3. **Go Peat-Free** – Capture carbon and garden nutrients by making your own compost. Make sure that any bought compost is peat free. (*Damaged peat bogs release greenhouse gasses.* CC)
4. **Use Mulch** – Did you know that many native plants referred to as "weeds" are vitally important for our wildlife! Disturbing the soil to dig out weeds will release buried carbon stores, so if removal is necessary, use mulch to suppress them.
5. **Grow your own** – Cut your shopping bill and connect with nature by growing your own fruit and veg this year. If you are stuck for space, why not try vertical growing?

***And....don't get rid of moss!!!*** More about this another time, but for now—half a square meter of moss can absorb a kilogram of carbon dioxide a year. It is also an important habitat! CC

For more tips and inspiration, check out the [Wildlife Trust's guide](#).



## SERVICES & EVENTS – 13th to 26th April

### Sunday 13th April – Palm Sunday

9.30am St George's – Morning Worship  
9.30am St Paul's – Holy Communion  
10am St Gregory's – Holy Communion  
11.15am St Mary's – Holy Communion

### Wednesday 16th April

10am St Gregory's - Holy Communion

### Maundy Thursday 17th April

6.30pm St Mary's Hall, Dawlish Warren -  
CTDD Service and Supper  
6.30pm St Paul's - Agapé Service and Meal

### Good Friday 18th April

10am St Gregory's - The Way of the Cross,  
a reflective reading of the Passion  
11am The Lawn, Dawlish - CTDD Good Friday Flash Mob  
2pm St George's - Quiet Reflection  
3-5pm St Gregory's - Messy Church  
7pm 'The Shack' CTDD Film Evening at Dawlish Methodist Church

### Sunday 20th April — Easter Day

6am Meet at the Dawlish Viaduct - CTDD Sunrise Service,  
followed by breakfast at the Strand Centre  
9.30am St George's – Holy Communion  
9.30am St Paul's – Holy Communion  
10am St Gregory's – Holy Communion  
11.15am St Mary's – Holy Communion  
6pm Telephone Service—*dial 01200 480091 to join*

### Wednesday 23rd April

10am St Gregory's - Midweek Holy Communion

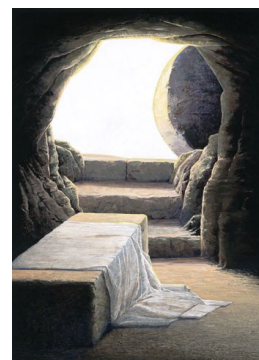


### TUESDAY PRAYER MEETING ON ZOOM

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.



## APRIL - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY (Also see page 4)

**Tuesday 15th Kids' Swap Shop** in St Gregory's, 9-11am

**Wednesday 16th Charity Easter Fete**, 11am - 4pm,  
at Claremont Manor Care Home, Dawlish

**Tuesday 22nd Little Greg's** at St Greg's, 9.30-11.30am  
**Ladies' Lunch** at Amelia's, Cofton Holidays, 12.30pm  
**Julian Group** in St Greg's, 2pm

**Saturday 26th Celebrate St George's - Open Day** (with displays etc) from 10am-4pm,  
part of St George's 80th Anniversary Weekend at St George's, Holcombe  
**Visiting Bellringers** at St Greg's, 2-3pm

**Sunday 27th Benefice Service** at St George's, Holcombe, 10.30am. Followed by a finger buffet  
in Holcombe Village Hall. **Please sign the list**, available in each church, **by 20th  
April**, if you are planning to come.

**Tuesday 29th Flower Festival Planning Meeting** in St Gregory's, 7pm

## LOOKING INTO MAY

**Friday 16th Afternoon of Quiet Prayer** in St George's, Holcombe, 2-4pm

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](mailto:revdlinda@icloud.com)

**Revd Patrick Parkes (Minister at Starcross)** : 01626 685709 [epp@sky.com](mailto: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 [tessh@btinternet.com](mailto:tessh@btinternet.com)*

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

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