

IN TOUCH



'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.'
John 13:8

MARCH 2024

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Reader Emeritus	Rosemary Ball	862294
Retired Clergy	The Reverend John Rogers	07785 977771
Retired Clergy	The Reverend Colin Burke	
Assistant Treasurer	Peter Fosker Oakwing Office, St Dubricius School, Parsons Street, Porlock	c/o 862284
Assistant Treasurer & Gift Aid Co-ordinator	Bill Ball Oakwing Office, St Dubricius School, Parsons Street, Porlock	c/o 862284
Churchwardens- St Dubricius	Wendy Flint	c/o 862284
Choir leader, St Dubricius	Stephen Kingdon	07454271931
Tower Captain	Nicholas Kingdon	c/o 862284 porlocktowercaptain@yahoo.com

CHURCH EMAIL

In recent months the church email has changed to dubricius465@yahoo.com

This is our main account from which all pew sheets, magazines etc. are sent and which we would encourage you to use.

The old email stdubriciuschurch@yahoo.co.uk is however still in operation for continuity and is checked for mail on a regular basis.

DATES FOR DIARIES

Open Door - Between 11-12 every Friday morning we get together for a cup of coffee and a chat – very informal and everyone is most welcome – currently meeting at The Castle due to the cold weather.

Me & U Prayers – the first Friday of every month at 10.30am in St Dubricius Lady Chapel before Open Door – everybody is welcome to come along.

Weekday Morning Prayer – This takes place at 9.00am weekdays at St Dubricius, Porlock or St Mary's, Oare; details each week can be found in the pew sheet.

Selworthy 11am Sunday Services – now taking place at Lynch Chapel but returning to Selworthy Church from Palm Sunday onwards.

St Dubricius Church Spring Clean - Monday 4th March from 10.30 to 12.00. The more the merrier. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of church.

St Dubricius Lent Lunch – 12.30pm, Friday 15th March at the Rectory

Church Giving

If you wish to give a donation via regular giving, please leave your offering in the chest at the back of the church, or give your envelope to Bill Ball. He will then process the donation in the regular giving register and pay it into the bank.

ALTERNATIVELY - This QR code can direct a mobile phone to a web site from which donations to Church funds can be made by card, including gift aiding. If you would like to give in this way, or pay for books/leaflets, open the code reader on your phone, hold your phone so that the code is visible on the screen, you may need to press a button – phone dependent, and provided you have a phone signal, within a few seconds you should be taken to a web site with instructions on how to donate/pay using a Credit or Debit card. Thank you for your donation. (We do not receive your email address, so we will not be able to thank you directly.)



We pray for...

Ivor Ellis, Andrew Spence, Rosemary Cape, Nick Simpson, Aaliyah, Ron & Iris Savery, Martin Spence, Dori & Rob Dawes, Steve Godfrey, Nicola Madeley, Archie (aged 6), Bill Lemmey, Anthony Rose, Jane, Tom Edmunds, Vernon Rush and Pat Farmer



We remember: Annie Kingdon and pray for Stephen, Chloe and all Annie's family.

Letter from Reverend Ann

Dear friends

Often memories can be brought to mind by a smell. Whenever I smell newly cut grass I am reminded of the playing field at my primary school in Sussex and the first cut of the year. The smell would fill our classroom and we would wait impatiently for the longed for permission to go out onto the grass at playtimes. The smell of cinnamon immediately takes me to Christmas but presently, as we approach Easter, it is the smell of spring flowers that is bringing to mind the Easters of days gone by. There is something very special about the scent of daffodils. As soon as I smell them I am transported back to the beautiful displays in my parents' garden each spring. And I am reminded of the almost overwhelming scent of the blooms filling our church after the long weeks of Lent when there are no flowers in the building.



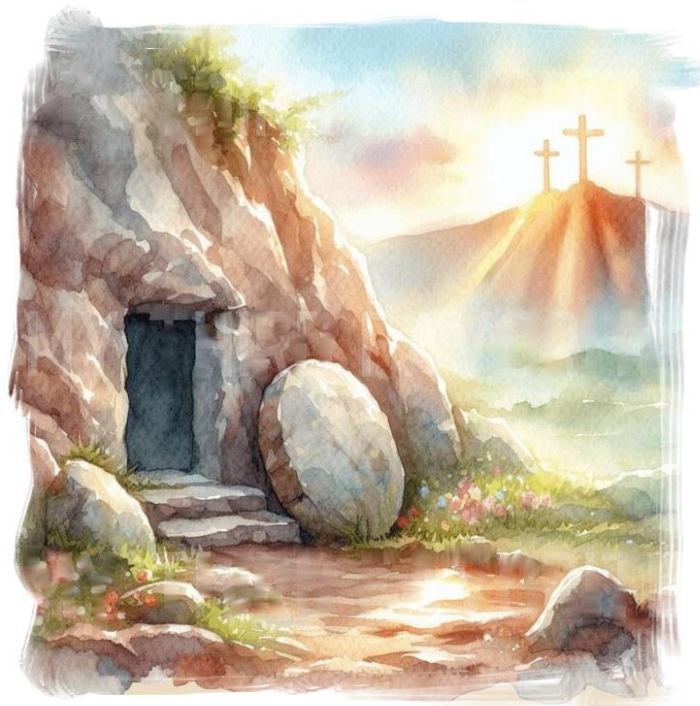
Flowers, though, only grow because a seed or bulb has been buried. There in the darkness a new life is formed and finally bursts forth. The actress Audrey Hepburn once said, "To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow". Every gardener must have hope, otherwise why do any planting at all? The gardeners amongst you will know that you have to have that hope and belief that your plants will grow. At Easter we remember the resurrection of Jesus Christ on the third day after he had been crucified and buried. For the disciples it must have seemed that all their belief and hope had been wasted, but in the darkness of the grave new life was formed and on that first Easter Day that new life burst from the tomb.

For us as Christians there is truth here, that Christ died so that we might have life, new life, life in all its fullness. His death and burial seemed to destroy hope but actually it did the opposite. Every year as our churches are filled with flowers to celebrate Easter we are reminded that "Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime."(Martin Luther).

Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,
Wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.
Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
He that for three days in the grave had lain.
Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.
When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Thy touch can call us back to life again;
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

The Easter message is one of hope, a hope that lasts and brings new life. As we continue through Lent let us look forward in hope to the events of Holy Week and Easter Day. There will be many opportunities to follow in Jesus footsteps and realise again the enormity of his sacrifice. It is a little early yet to say "Happy Easter" but value these days of preparation and contemplation that are given us in Lent and perhaps seek out ways to walk more closely with God?

God bless you all,
Revd Ann



Invitation from the Curate

Life is full of opportunities, and one such opportunity that enriched my spiritual life was the opportunity to take place in the college Easter residential for the Triduum – not a term I'd come across before so a quick explanation. It has Latin roots, meaning three days and so in the Roman Catholic church usual precedes a special feast day, Easter being one of them. In some parts of the Anglican church, these three days are known as the Paschal (Easter) Triduum, traditionally beginning on Maundy Thursday (with a liturgical day beginning at sundown as in the Jewish calendar) and goes through to sundown on Easter Sunday. It was a moving end to Holy Week that I am sure will stay with me which had started with the Palm Sunday procession. We also marked "spy" Wednesday, a reference to the betrayal of Jesus by Judas Iscariot, with a Tenebrae service. The other day that took on a different and special meaning for me was Holy Saturday, in some ways very much an in-between day after the darkness of Good Friday and the light of Easter Morning.



And so to my invitation to join me in keeping Holy Saturday as a day of prayer and preparation spiritually as well as practically for the Sunday services. At 10am there will be a service of morning prayer at St Mary's Oare, there will then be the opportunity to return to Oare Rectory for refreshments and the chance through a number of prayer stations to just spent some reflective time. Then at 6pm you are invited to return to the Oare Rectory for a shortened vigil service around the campfire. Traditionally these can have up to 14 readings, we will have three and some contemplative music. This time together will end with a service of compline, at the end of which you are welcome to stay around the campfire a while or simply to return home.

Our college experience then involved some of us staying up all night, with biblical reading on the hour before joining with others of the community joining us to watch the sunrise then an early morning service with baptism.

I am really looking forward to my first Easter here, experiencing and celebrating in ways you're used to, and hopeful you might join me for something a little different as well.



Charity of the Month – **March 2024** **Practical Action**

Right now, the global climate and environmental crisis threatens years of progress against poverty. But at Practical Action, we believe where there's action, there's hope.

Together with communities and our global partners, we're developing unexpected, real-world solutions to create sustainable lives and livelihoods on the frontlines of poverty and climate change. Turning surviving into thriving. Overcoming injustice, especially for women and vulnerable groups. We believe societies and economies can work for the benefit of all. That we can live within the planet's means. That innovation and cooperation can conquer any challenge.

Our Work - We work alongside communities to develop sustainable, locally owned solutions for agriculture, water and waste management, climate resilience and clean energy. We share what works with others, accelerating solutions that bring about big change.

Work that works

We always start small. We gain an understanding of the needs of people trapped in poverty and the systemic factors that keep them there.

- We work with communities and expert partners to develop ingenious solutions to bring about real and lasting change.
- We bring together community members, private companies, local government and policy makers to put the plans into action in collaborative approaches that meets everyone's needs.
- We pilot and refine until we discover solutions that really work. Then we share them with others so they can achieve even more.

We hope you will feel inspired to support this very worthwhile charity.



Benefice Services (& Culbone and Oare) – March 2024

Sunday 3rd March

3rd Sunday of Lent

(P) Exodus 20.1-17, 1 Corinthians 1.18-25, John 2.13-22

St Dubricius	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
St Mary's Luccombe	9.30am	Morning Prayer (BCP)
St Dubricius	10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
Lynch Chapel	11.00am	Matins (BCP)
St Bueno's, Culbone	11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
St Mary's, Oare	3.00pm	Evensong

Sunday 10th March

Mothering Sunday/Lent 4

(P) Numbers 21: 4-9, Ephesians 2: 1-10, John 3: 14-21

St Dubricius	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
St Mary's Luccombe	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
St Dubricius	10.30am	Morning Prayer (CW)
Lynch Chapel	11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
St Mary's, Oare	11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
St. Dubricius.	6.00pm.	Eucharist with anointing and laying on of hands

Sunday 17th March

Passion Sunday

(P) Jeremiah 31: 31-34, Hebrews 5: 5-10, John 12: 20-33

Lynch	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
St Mary's Luccombe	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
St Dubricius	10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
Lynch Chapel	11.00am	Matins (BCP)
St. Mary's, Oare.	11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 24th March

Palm Sunday

St Dubricius	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
St. Mary's, Luccombe.	9.30 am.	Holy Communion (CW)
St Dubricius Church	10.45am	Celebrate with Palm Sunday procession***
All Saints' Selworthy	11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
St Mary's, Oare	11.00am	Morning Prayer (BCP)
Stoke Pero	4.00pm	Holy Communion

Monday 25th March

St Dubricius 8.30pm Compline

Tuesday 26th March

St Dubricius 6.00pm Compline

Wednesday 27th March

St Dubricius 7.00pm Holy Week Reflection of Music & Poetry (*Friends in Harmony*)

Thursday 28th March

St Dubricius 7.00pm

Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion
Stripping of Altar

Friday 29th March

St Mary's, Oare 10.00am
Porlock Methodist Ch. 10.00am
starting Methodist Church 10.30am

Good Friday

Reading of the Passion story
Good Friday service followed by:-
Walk of Witness*

(*ending with hot cross buns at St Dubricius, 11.45am approx.*)

St Bueno's, Culbone 12noon Reading of the Passion story
St Dubricius 2.00pm Meditation

Saturday 30th March

St Mary's, Oare 10.00am
Oare Rectory 6.00pm

Holy Saturday

Morning Prayer
Short Vigil followed by Compline

Sunday 31st March

(W) Acts 10.34-43, 1 Corin 15: 1-11, John 20.1-18

Porlock Weir Beach 6.00am
St Mary's Luccombe 9.30am
St Dubricius 10.30am
All Saints' Selworthy 11.00am
St Mary's, Oare 11.00am
St Bueno's, Culbone 3.00pm

Easter Day

Dawn Service fb breakfast
Holy Communion (CW)
Holy Communion (CW)
Holy Communion (BCP)
Holy Communion (BCP)
Holy Communion (BCP)



Sunday 7th April

(W) Acts 4: 32-35, 1 John 1: 1 – 2:2, John 20: 19-end

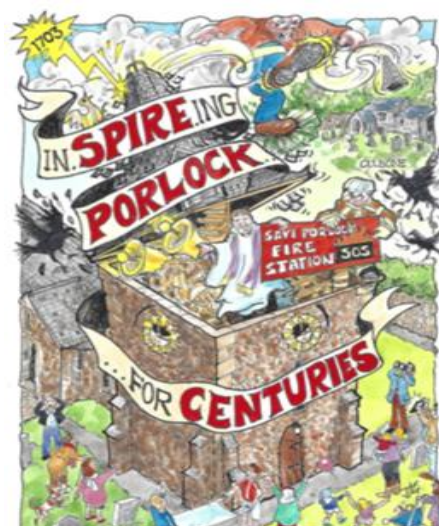
St Dubricius 8.00am
St Mary's Luccombe 9.30am
St Dubricius 10.30am
All Saints' Selworthy 11.00am
St Bueno's, Culbone 11.00am
St Mary's, Oare 3.00pm

Easter 2

Holy Communion (BCP)
Morning Prayer (BCP)
Holy Communion (CW)
Matins (BCP)
Holy Communion (BCP)
Evensong

Porlock InSpired update 29 Feb 2024

This time last year we were telling you about how we were in the process of applying to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) for a grant to help us repair the church spire. There were a set of questions to answer in the Expression of Interest and it stretched our skills on being concise, memories of school days! There were tight word counts allowed for each answer; too many, and the last ones disappear!



Well we did it, our Expression of Interest was submitted on 25th Feb 2023. The NLHF liked our proposal and we were given a whole year to submit a 1st round application. Thank you for helping us to get to the next level of the application. Plenty of time? well that 12 months has gone by so quickly, there have been changes to the project teams and we have lost a couple of valuable members. The last six months has been quite intense, a new survey of the church building was done in September which identified that the roof also needed repairing.

This has put the cost up from our original estimate to well over a million and a half pounds and meant that we really have to justify the request for grant funding. The funds raised so far through your generosity has enabled us to commission the necessary surveys and we have engaged consultants to help and advise us on our application and supporting documents.

We were told that we had a very interesting project and we hope to achieve success by following the advice from our engagement officer at the Heritage Lottery. We are planning heritage themed activities with other local groups and schools guided by the results of our public consultation held at our exhibition last June. The activities will be inter-generational and we trust interesting, so as to meet the needs of all ages. The project is not only about saving the heritage of the church but also of the broader environment.

Our application was submitted on 28th February and we shall not know the outcome until the end of June or even later, it will be a nail-biting wait. This is a long term project and should we get a positive response then there is another 2 year's work in which to apply for the 2nd round of the application. In the meanwhile, there are a number of documents to prepare in readiness for the

next stage as that 2 years could whizz by. There is no guarantee that we will be successful in our application as there may well be competition for funding from a more deserving cause. Thank you for your support and continued prayers, we will post an update when we know the outcome.



A Sonnet for Palm Sunday *by Malcolm Guite*

*Now to the gate of my Jerusalem,
The seething holy city of my heart,
The saviour comes. But will I welcome him?
Oh crowds of easy feelings make a start;
They raise their hands, get caught up in the singing,
And think the battle won. Too soon they'll find
The challenge, the reversal he is bringing
Changes their tune. I know what lies behind
The surface flourish that so quickly fades;
Self-interest, and fearful guardedness,
The hardness of the heart, its barricades,
And at the core, the dreadful emptiness
Of a perverted temple. Jesus come
Break my resistance and make me your home.*



<i>Methodist Minister</i>	Rev'd Andy Day	
Church Wardens All Saints Selworthy	Jonathan Blake	
PCC Secretary All Saints, Selworthy	Stephanie Blake	
Churchwarden St Mary's Luccombe	Rosemary Gande eddiegande@gmail.com	862832
Administrator	Rachel Kingdon dubricius465@yahoo.com (Church postal address) Oakwing Office, St Dubricius First School, Parsons Street, Porlock, Minehead. TA24 8QJ	862284