



# PARISH PROFILE

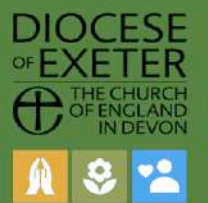
## Holy Trinity and St Peter's Church

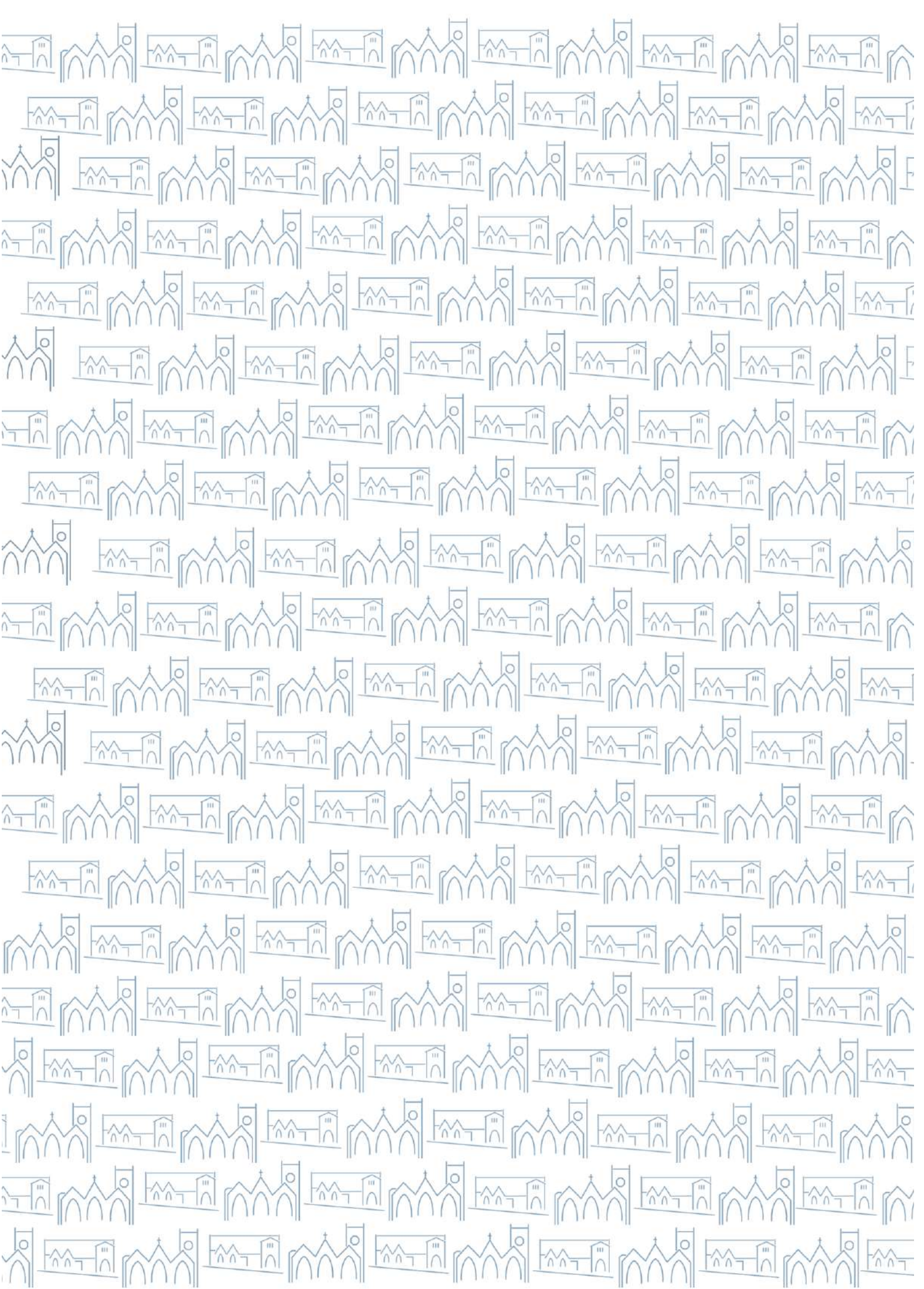
### ILFRACOMBE

#### with St Peter Bittadon



Members of the beautiful North Devon  
Coast & Combe Mission Community





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## A message from Bishop Mike

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age”*      Matthew 28:19-20



Our vision in this diocese is that of Jesus in His Great Commission. We aspire to appoint leaders of our Christian communities who practise the presence of our Lord and enable others to do so; leaders who witness, act and relate in ways which make disciples and enable others to do so; leaders who serve in ways which intrigue, attract and engage the wider community, and enable others to do so. In short – pray, grow and serve!

So we are looking for ministerial leaders who:

- are intentionally missional, helping their Christian community to discern who God is sending them to, *and* who God is sending them,
- are developing missional habits and confidence in the faith for members of their congregations, enabling them to be invitational and ambassadorial,
- invest in their own discipleship and well-being, and that of those in their care,
- cultivate vocations, lay and ordained, actively recruiting for initiatives such as the Foundations course and the Exeter Ordination Pathway,
- place children and young people at the heart of our mission, orienting churches to be ever-more welcoming spaces for young people, using existing resources and networks, but also being pioneering in outlook,
- experiment with ways of being and doing church that engage the unengaged – we encourage ambitious plans such as creating two new worshipping communities in the first three years of a new ministry,

You can expect to find:

- support from senior leaders committed to enabling this mission and ministry,
- an outstanding diocesan team, second to none in terms of training provision and opportunities, comms understanding, finance expertise, buildings experience and care for our ministers,
- opportunities for personal and professional development in alignment with the vision of the Great Commission,
- a warm, relational diocese, where diversity is welcomed and honoured,
- a good-humoured, joyful, energetic culture grateful for the privilege of being called into ministry and supportive of missional experimentation, risk-taking and ‘having a go’,

If you’re still reading then I suspect we might be on the same page and I pray that the Holy Spirit might inform, shape and direct your discernment concerning this post.

*Mike*

# Archdeacon's Foreword

## The Venerable Verena Breed, Archdeacon of Barnstaple



Welcome, and thank you for your interest in this post. It is a wonderful opportunity to serve Holy Trinity and St Peter's Ilfracombe with St Peter's Bittadon in the "Coast to Combe" Mission Community at an exciting time. We are looking for a gifted priest who will lead the churches and the Mission Community forward in unity, service, vision, hope and faith. You will be joining a strong ministry team with a real desire to work together and build on good relationships.

We are seeking a priest with a heart for pastoral care and a desire to further mission and ministry; someone whose ministry is centred around the Eucharist and outward focussed. You will be working with a group of parishes seeking to grow in faith and discipleship. We would hope that the right candidate will bring enthusiasm, energy and innovation to this role of Team Rector.

You will be working with a Team Vicar, the Revd Susan Oldham, who has day-to-day responsibility for the parishes of Woolacombe, Morteohoe and Lee.

The successful candidate will get to know people in the Benefice and Mission Community and work with them to find new and exciting ways of making a difference in these parishes, growing new disciples and enabling people to grow in their discipleship. The new Team Rector will grow stronger links with Pip & Jim's, the evangelical presence in the town. There is a desire and the potential to grow lay ministry and foster vocations.

### Living in Mission Communities

Our strategy centres on Mission Communities - parishes working together to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ more effectively in Devon. The phrase Mission Communities sums up what we need to be as a Church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century: **mission-orientated, community-focused, and locally-rooted.**

### Deanery & Diocese

The Benefice and Mission Community lie in the Archdeaconry of Barnstaple, so is under the care of the Bishop of Crediton. The Benefice is part the Shirwell Deanery, where we have recently begun consultations to discern who will serve as the next Rural Dean.

We aim to be a diverse and truly representative diocese, and particularly welcome applications from women and those from black and minority ethnic groups. Not only is Devon a beautiful place to call home, but we believe the Diocese of Exeter is a great community of which to be a part. You can find out more about serving in the Diocese by scanning the QR code here:



You are warmly invited to contact me directly if you would like a confidential conversation about the post.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Diocese.

*Verena Breed*

# WHO WE ARE

- ❖ a warm, non-judgmental, welcoming and caring church.
- ❖ a committed, eclectic, worshipping congregation nourished in prayer and the Eucharist, giving thanks and praise to God.
- ❖ a sociable, hard-working and hands-on community, using our many gifts to support faith, church life and one another. A recent parish audit revealed that our congregation quietly and prayerfully support our church and its officers.
- ❖ a community that loves our neighbours, cares for those unable to attend church, and cherishes the world around us.

A few members of our congregations at Holy Trinity (above) & St Peter's (below) were asked: "What do you love about coming to this Church?"

People  
Music  
Love of God

The beautiful  
warm  
welcome and  
real sense of  
community

Fellowship  
and  
Welcome

*I enjoy the music  
and the sense of  
belonging to a  
beautiful  
environment*

LISTENING  
TO AND  
SINGING  
THE MUSIC

The music is  
glorious and  
the welcome  
always so  
warm

The  
community  
spirit

FRIENDLY  
RESPONSIVE  
SENSE OF  
COMMUNITY

Warm welcome  
Always  
someone to  
listen and care

*Our congregation are very  
welcoming and greet a  
stranger as they would an  
old friend. I feel that we  
all want to serve the  
community.*

*St Peters gives me the  
chance to connect with  
the community and God.  
The sermons are  
important to me and help  
me with daily life.*

*The wonderful welcome  
I received over 30 years ago  
has led me into a love of this  
Church.*

*I find St Peter's peaceful,  
welcoming and homely.  
Love the Anglo Catholic  
service and relaxed  
congregation.*

*What I love most about  
this Church is that it  
is so inclusive and  
non-judgemental.*

# WHO IS RIGHT FOR US?

We are looking for someone who will:

... be an inclusive Team Rector, welcoming people from all backgrounds and life experiences.

... be a visible, approachable and joyful presence in schools & Community, representing our church with integrity and openness.

... lead us forward together, confidently and prayerfully in unity, service, vision hope and faith.

... listen deeply, value collaboration and build strong relationships across all our communities.

... nurture and empower lay ministry, volunteers and clergy teams, with the ability to train a Curate.

... encourage spiritual growth, renewal and creative mission in our changing world.

... honour and build upon our traditions while embracing new forms of worship, outreach and engagement.

... communicate with warmth, clarity and pastoral sensitivity within and beyond our church.

... become integral in a Pastoral Team caring for all and visiting those unable to attend church.

... bring new attributes, surprise and bless us, to the benefit of our Church and the Glory of God.

... enjoy living in a beautiful part of North Devon!

## COULD THIS BE YOU?

Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe with St Peter Bittadon  
Members of the North Devon Coast & Combe Mission Community

# HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

For more than 1,000 years Christians have worshipped on this site, and Holy Trinity continues to offer a warm welcome to Ilfracombe residents and visitors alike.

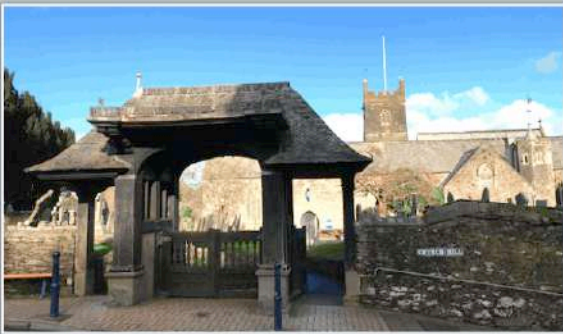
Most of the present-day church was built in the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries, but parts date back to Norman and Saxon times.

The Tower is Ilfracombe's oldest structure, originally a separate building, from 900-1000 AD.

The eight bells are rung regularly and very popular with visiting teams of bellringers.



We are delighted that Holy Trinity Church continues to be a local favourite for ...



Weddings, Baptisms, Confirmations ...



... traditional community services and events such as Nine Lessons & Carols, Civic Services, and our lovely, village-style Summer Fêtes and Christmas Craft Fayres



Atmospheric music event with three full houses!



Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe with St Peter Bittadon  
Members of the North Devon Coast & Combe Mission Community

# HOLY TRINITY CHURCHYARD

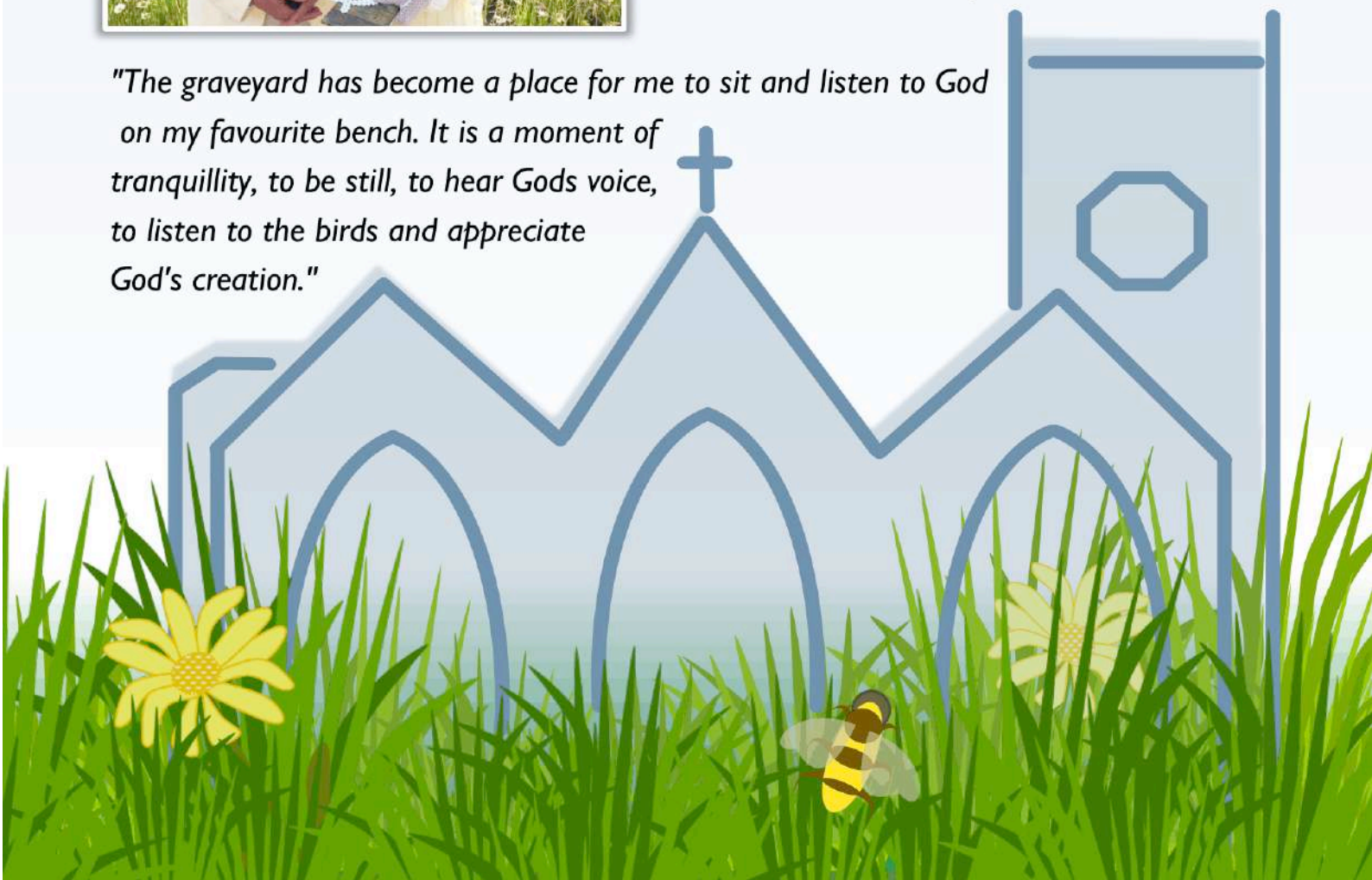
Holy Trinity Church has a large churchyard which offers a fascinating insight into the history of the town, and also has some Commonwealth War Graves.

It is also home to wildflowers, trees, insects, birds and even slow worms, and we are working hard to increase its biodiversity as we work towards our Gold Eco Award. The area is crossed by the Coast to Coast Cycle Path as well as several footpaths. There is a cycle stand next to the main door and always water for dogs. We are a very dog-friendly Church.



Occasionally, we host outdoor events such as a Lichen Day, Nature Explorers and 'Dead Famous', where a local theatre group research, generate script, costume & props to re-enact 10 minutes of the lives of some interesting (even famous) people, at their graveside, for a live audience. This has also raised funds for Graveyard maintenance.

*"The graveyard has become a place for me to sit and listen to God on my favourite bench. It is a moment of tranquillity, to be still, to hear Gods voice, to listen to the birds and appreciate God's creation."*



# ST PETER'S ILFRACOMBE



St Peter's was built in 1903 to provide a church for the increased number of tourists and residents. Born out of the Oxford Movement, it has always sought to serve the community in a variety of practical ways which continue today.

The Anglo Catholic style of worship, with incense and bells, is celebrated at St Peter's each week. St Peter's provides a spiritual centre for those for whom quality teaching, quiet spiritual focus and symbolism are a part of their worship. An evening service of Taizé or Celtic worship is provided, monthly.



The building is sound, with a new roof and refurbished rainwater drainage. New toilets have recently been installed, with a fully accessible facility, making the building even more ideal for a variety of events. A large kitchen completes the venue. As the Church was built without pews, it offers a large open space, with beautiful flooring, so events such as barn dances, quizzes,

Burns nights and music concerts are frequently held here.

Being adjacent to the CofE Junior School, it is often used for School Assemblies, and a group of our members regularly present Church Festivals to pupils, using props, activities and narration.

A substantial 3 Bed detached house, next door to the Church provides good accommodation for a serving Curate.

Above: one of our very popular Barn Dances  
Right: a fabulous, Italian Gospel Choir



# SAINT PETER - BITTADON



St Peter, Bittadon is a very small rural church set in the beautiful countryside with few parishioners and only a handful on the church electoral role. We have limited facilities at St Peter and unfortunately, also limited resources.

As a result of this, our pretty little church is currently in a state of disrepair with the church closed for the foreseeable until major interior repairs are carried out.

We were fortunate enough to obtain a grant to repair the exterior of our church but sadly, as of yet, have not been able to obtain a grant for the interior. With the lack of PCC members, it is hugely difficult for the current church warden and treasurer to complete the lengthy application required for such grant due to her current responsibilities.

With a new and ambitious Vicar, it would be great to have the support and perhaps help in bringing our beautiful little church back to life and reopen for our congregation in the not so distant future. We hope our new Vicar has faith in St Peter, Bittadon.



# THE VICARAGE

WE OFFER A NEW FOUR BEDROOM VICARAGE SET IN A LARGE, LANDSCAPED GARDEN BORDERING A STREAM

The house has a lounge, dining room, kitchen, study and cloakroom, downstairs.



A large parking area is provided at the front of the house along with a garage.



St Peters Church and the Schools are all within 20 mins walking distance.



Upstairs we have four bedrooms, one ensuite, and a large family bathroom.

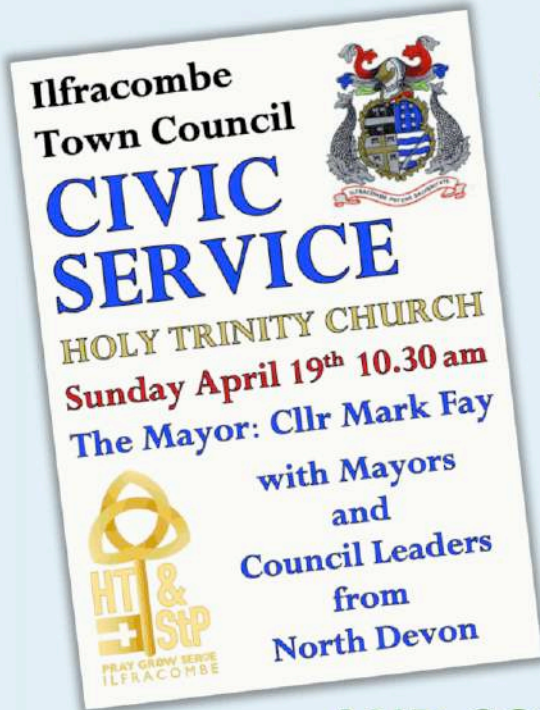


A short walk from Holy Trinity and High St. with Medical Centre & Pharmacy next door.



Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe with St Peter Bittadon Members of the North Devon Coast & Combe Mission Community

# EVENTS @ HT & StP



AT HOLY TRINITY & ST PETER'S WE'RE BIG ON EVENTS! LIKE SATELLITES OF OUR CORE WORSHIP ALL INVOLVE GENEROSITY



## AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Many are fundraisers too, some for charities and others, to supplement Church funds.

Our annual Summer Fêtes and Christmas Craft Fayres offer local crafters and good causes free stalls to sell their wares. So, all our events are multifaceted, and they all Glorify God.



Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe with St Peter Bittadon Members of the North Devon Coast & Combe Mission Community

# EVENTS @ HT & StP

## FUNDRAISING FOR ...

**PUT A SOCK IN IT**

**ON THE DOORSTEP CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

With the cost-of-living crisis it will be a tough cold Christmas for many people of all ages **SUPPORTING THIS LOCAL CHARITY WE WELCOME YOUR GENEROUS GIFTS OF NEW SOCKS GLOVES SCARF OR HAT** which you can drop in large gift bags provided

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH: 9.00 am - 10.30 am**  
**ST PETER'S CHURCH: 10.30 am - 12.00 noon**

Your kind donations can be made before, during or after these services, thank you.

HT & StP  
 PRAY GROW SERVE ILFRACOMBE

Sunday 2 Nov '25

**Harvest Appeal**

SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL ... foodbank

Sunday Oct 8<sup>th</sup>

**WE CAN DO IT!**

Please bring your gifts of canned foods to Holy Trinity: 8 am - 11 am

OR

St Peter's: 10 am - Noon

...where you will find clearly labelled containers.

Obviously, food must be in date and preferably ring-pull cans thank you.

HT & StP  
 PRAY GROW SERVE ILFRACOMBE

**Foodie Fundraiser**

Sat 8 March Holy Trinity Church 11am-2pm

Coffee ...  
 Tea ...  
 Cake ...  
 Soup ...

**IN AID OF Children's Hospice South West**

children's hospice SOUTH WEST DOGS VERY WELCOME

HT & StP  
 PRAY GROW SERVE ILFRACOMBE

# local, national & international CHARITIES

We are fundraising for **PROSTATE CANCER UK**

HT & StP  
 PRAY GROW SERVE ILFRACOMBE

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April - 12 noon till 2pm

**CHARITY LUNCH**

**Holy Trinity Church**

Enjoy **HOMEMADE Soups & Savouries Cakes & Tea/coffee** DOGS WELCOME

We are delighted to be joined by members of the North Devon Prostate Cancer Support Group who are lunching with us after a country walk

If you would like to walk with them, they will leave Bicklecombe Car Park at 10.30 for the Tarka Trail, to the reservoirs and back to Holy Trinity Church

**HT & StP**  
 PRAY GROW SERVE ILFRACOMBE

**Saturday 27 Sept 10am - 12pm**

**Holy Trinity Church**

DOGS VERY WELCOME FREE TREATS

Just drop in

**WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING**

MACMILLAN 2025 CANCER SUPPORT

Cake and Book Stalls

BREW, CHEW AND DONATE TOO

7.30pm

Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> March St. Peter's Church Highfield Rd Ilfracombe

**Compassion** in Jesus' name

**Presents** NO CHARGE!

**Music from a Sacred Space**

This is going to be a stunning evening of music, wine & cheese, refreshments and amazing opportunity to hear about the phenomenal work of Compassion UK

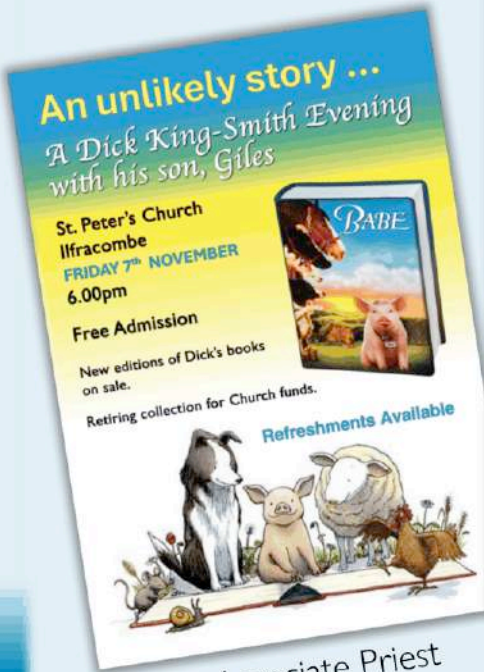
Music written and accompanied by Rachel Chaplin, performed by outstanding vocalist Evi Dobner, inspired by the poetry of the Psalms and Biblical narratives.

Please sign up on EventBrite! Or contact pipandjmageneral@gmail.com

Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe with St Peter Bittadon Members of the North Devon Coast & Combe Mission Community

# EVENTS @ HT & StP

## CHURCH FUNDRAISING



An Associate Priest



Musical Director's wife and Chorister's Mum



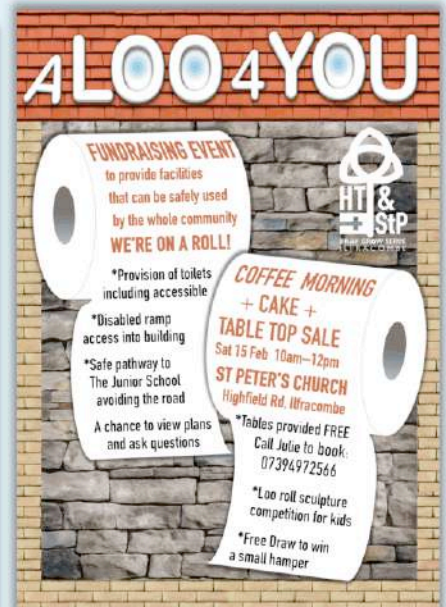
Local band - friends of the Church

### ...by various means

By popular request

We hold a regular stall selling homemade bakes and serving cups of good coffee

Through absolute necessity!



Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe with St Peter Bittadon Members of the North Devon Coast & Combe Mission Community

# EVENTS @ HT & StP

## CARING FOR GOD'S EARTH

**CHURCHES COUNT ON NATURE 2024**

HTI & StP  
Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe

This Biodiversity Survey is supported by ENVIRONMENTAL CHARITIES: A Rocha UK, Caring for God's Acre, and The Church of England

Sat 8 June drop in between 2 & 4.30 pm

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCHYARD ... EXPLORE**  
photograph plants, lichens, minibeasts, birds ...  
**TEA, CAKES, SQUASH & BISCUITS served at 4pm**

Everyone welcome - children must be accompanied by a parent or carer

For more information email: [suecooke15@gmail.com](mailto:suecooke15@gmail.com)

**FREE EVENT**

**BRINGING HOLY TRINITY CHURCHYARD TO LIFE**

HTI & StP  
Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe

We're so lucky to have this tranquil space for the community. A favourite for dog-walkers, cyclists ... a convenient route for locals ... or to sit and ponder in this calm environment. It's also home to a huge range of plant and animal life, so we're planning to improve natural habitats, whilst allowing access to graves for loved ones and historical research.

Please get in touch if you'd like to lend a hand weeding, growing flowers, strimming, etc  
email: [suecooke15@gmail.com](mailto:suecooke15@gmail.com)

You are invited to

Plant a snowdrop for the SNOWDROP MEMORIAL PATH at Holy Trinity Church in memory of a loved one on Saturday 26 October any time between 10am and 12 noon

Snowdrop bulbs will be provided but please feel free to bring your own. Tea, Coffee & Biscuits will be served

HTI & StP  
Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe

DIOCESE OF EXETER  
THE SOUTH DEVON & TORQUAY DIOCESE

UK **A ROCHA**

SILVER AWARD WINNER 2024

**ECO CHURCH**

[ecochurch.arocha.org.uk](http://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk)

**Holy Trinity Churchyard 11am - 1pm Sat 17 Jan**

Join us in a discovery of these exquisite and unique organisms

**Lichen it? WE ARE!!**

Hot Soup and a roll will be served in the Church after our foray into the beautiful medieval churchyard, and followed by a Q&A session with visiting Lichenologists.

THIS IS A FREE EVENT but donations towards refreshments will be welcome. Please book by Thursday 15 Jan as places will be limited. Email: [suecooke15@gmail.com](mailto:suecooke15@gmail.com)

North Devon Coast National Landscape

Finding Nature's Footprints

Please bring a hand lens if you have one

**SATURDAY 22 APRIL**  
**ST PETER'S CHURCH HIGHFIELD**

£3 pp on the door 7.30pm

**EARTH DAY QUIZ NIGHT**

Teams of 6-ish Bee there!

BAR - SNACKS - RAFFLE - PRIZES - FUN

RAISING MONEY TO SUPPORT THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT SURROUNDING HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

**NATURE RANGERS**

HTI & StP  
Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe

Tuesday 9th August 11am - 1pm  
Holy Trinity Churchyard

For Children aged 6-8 with a parent or carer

Explore trees, flowers, bugs and butterflies living in this beautiful churchyard AND make a bug hotel and seed bomb to take home.

NATURE RANGERS includes lunch for children and Tea & coffee for Parents/Carers.

Places are limited - to book email: [suecooke15@gmail.com](mailto:suecooke15@gmail.com)

**FREE EVENT**



Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe with St Peter Bittadon Members of the North Devon Coast & Combe Mission Community

# EVENTS @ HT & StP

WITH A VARIETY OF WORSHIP

**Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 6pm**  
**Holy Trinity Ilfracombe**

**HT & StP NINE LESSONS & CAROLS**

Please start at 5.30pm  
 Mince Pie & Mulled Wine  
 With a non-alcoholic alternative

**HT & StP**  
 PRAY GROW SERVE  
 ILFRACOMBE

**WILD CHURCH**

**North Devon Pilgrimage**  
 Saturday 24 May

Special whole day Pilgrimage Walk from Mortehoe to Ilfracombe (around 9 miles)  
 Meet: Mortehoe Church 9am, ending at Ilfracombe Harbour around 4pm.  
 Children & dogs welcome

Visiting historic churches and sacred sites with stops for contemplation.  
 Please bring a picnic. Drinks available from Pub & Tea Shop.  
 For more details Email [suecools15@gmail.com](mailto:suecools15@gmail.com)  
 Everyone is responsible for their own safety

**PLEASE BRING FRIENDS**

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**  
 Cook Islands 2025

**11am**  
**Fri 7 March**  
**St Peter's Church**  
 Highfield Road, Ilfracombe

*I made you wonderful*

EVERYONE WELCOME  
 The Service will be followed by refreshments

**HT & StP**  
 PRAY GROW SERVE  
 ILFRACOMBE

**Children's TAKE-PART NATIVITY**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 3.30 for 4pm**  
**St Peter's Church (Highfield Rd)**  
 Costumes and props available  
**JOIN IN OR JUST WATCH**  
 Tea, squash, biscuits  
**NO CHARGE - ALL WELCOME**  
 (children to be accompanied by an adult)  
 Parking in Oxford Grove Car Park  
 (please note parking charges)

**Celtic & TAIZE**

**HT & StP**  
 PRAY GROW SERVE  
 ILFRACOMBE

**COME & SING EVENING SONG**

Stanford Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in Bb - Psalm 150  
 Balfour-Gardiner Evening Hymn - Carter responses in Eb

**6PM SUNDAY 31 MAY**  
**Holy Trinity Church Ilfracombe**

**DO YOU FANCY JOINING IN?**  
 ...don't miss this wonderful opportunity to blend your voice with the choir to make sweet music in this choral celebration...  
 Then round it off with tea & cake!  
**NO CHARGE - ALL WELCOME**  
**REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED**

**2 REHEARSALS:**  
 Friday 29 May 5.30-7pm  
 Sunday 31 May 4pm prior to service  
 All at Holy Trinity Church Ilfracombe

It would be useful to know numbers so  
 Please email Musical Director

**HT & StP**  
 PRAY GROW SERVE  
 ILFRACOMBE

**& EASTER 2026**  
 Mon 30<sup>th</sup>, Tues 31<sup>st</sup> March, Wed 1<sup>st</sup> April 7pm  
 Eucharist with short address St Peter's

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
 7pm: St Peter's Eucharist of The Last Supper with foot washing followed by Watching with Christ Vigil until midnight

**GOOD FRIDAY**  
 9am: Ecumenical WALK OF WITNESS War memorial to Capstone  
 12 noon: Litany and Veneration of the Cross - Holy Trinity  
 7pm: Stainer's Crucifixion Holy Trinity Choir *et al* St Peter ad Vincula, CM

**HOLY SATURDAY**  
 7.30pm: Wild Church Dusk Walk The Calrn, Ilfracombe

6am: St Peter's Lighting of the First Fire and Pascal Candle Vigil and First Mass followed by *Kir Royale* and bacon butties  
 8am: Holy Trinity Eucharist  
 9.15am: Holy Trinity Sung Eucharist followed by *Kir Royale*  
 11am: St Peter's Sung Mass followed by *Kir Royale*

**ON YOUR MARK'S**  
 A Reading of The Shortest Gospel on the Longest Day  
**21<sup>st</sup> June 7-9pm**  
 The Vicarage Garden  
 St Brannock's Rd  
 Ilfracombe

**ST. MARK**

Enjoy Mark's Gospel by four readers with one interval and further opportunity for discussion at the end of the evening.  
 Please bring a chair or blanket and your own refreshments

**NO CHARGE - EVERYONE WELCOME**  
 More info: [fran.ilfracombe@yahoo.com](mailto:fran.ilfracombe@yahoo.com)

*Harmony Gospel Singers*

YOUR CHURCH PRESENTS

**Gospel LIVE CONCERT**  
*Singing for peace*  
 YOUR SPECIAL SATURDAY EVENT

**SATURDAY - 26 APRIL, 7PM**  
**LICENSED BAR**  
 ST. PETER'S CHURCH,  
 HIGHFIELD RD,  
 ILFRACOMBE

HARMONY GOSPEL SINGERS FROM ITALY

Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe with St Peter Bittadon Members of the North Devon Coast & Combe Mission Community

# GEOGRAPHY & COMMUNITY

The slogan 'Curious Coastal Charm' is a good reflection of Ilfracombe and an invitation to explore our town and its surroundings.

The South West Coast Path includes the cliff top walk from Ilfracombe, through Lee Bay to Woolacombe, the finest section, with sunsets over the sea. The picturesque, working Harbour, adjacent to an area of outstanding natural beauty, is a hive of activity, with a Watersports Centre, a lifeboat and small fishing fleet. Pleasure craft will take you sea-



fishing or a scenic trip along the coastline, and there is a seasonal ferry to Lundy Island.



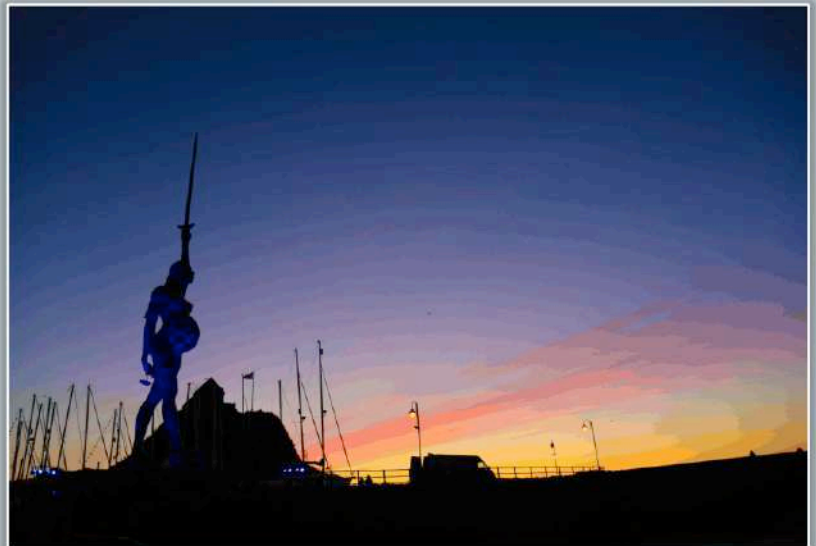
Damien Hirst's statue, Verity (below) stands 67 ft high on the Harbour, and is a great tourist attraction. Ilfracombe is a seasonal town and many businesses rely heavily on tourism.

We do though have two major employers, both providing quality well-paid employment:

TDK-Lambda has their English headquarters in the Town, a major producer of power supplies.

Cytiva employ several hundred people and manufacture high quality filters, largely for the medical industry.

Our High Street maintains several independent retailers, and our butcher was recently voted the best in England. However, like most other Towns, many shops have closed, and some only open for the summer season. We also have a Coop, Lidl and Tesco.



Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe with St Peter Bittadon  
Members of the North Devon Coast & Combe Mission Community

# GEOGRAPHY & COMMUNITY

Our population increases substantially during the summer months but at the end of the season the locals are always pleased to reclaim their Town.

Ilfracombe has a strong volunteering community. There is a Rotary Club, Round Table, Lions Club, and many uniformed youth groups. 'Ilfracombe in Bloom' keep the Town tidy and provide wonderful floral displays in summer.

The Round Table organise a Beer Festival in May and other volunteers organise an



Art Trail, a Sea Shanty Festival, 'All Things Morris', a Carnival and the Sea Ilfracombe Maritime Festival in August: [www.seailfracombe.co.uk](http://www.seailfracombe.co.uk) Christmas 'Lighting the Lights' has massive support from locals and visitors (Left) and it all begins just below Holy Trinity Church.

The Cinema on the High St and Theatre on The Seafront offer a wide variety of entertainment.



The Town has many good pubs, cafes and restaurants, some seasonal but many remain open all year round. We have a full size swimming pool, open all year with a fitness studio, and there are Gyms and Pilates studios in town. Further sports facilities include a Rugby Club, Football Club, a Gig Rowing Club, Yacht Club and a Golf Club, which boasts 'views of the sea from every tee!' Tennis courts are available at our beautiful 'green flagged' Bicclescombe Park, a short walk from the Vicarage.

We may be biased but we love it here and it is a great place to raise a family, with so many outdoor activities including the wonderful surfing beaches of Woolacombe, Croyde and Saunton, which attract visitors all year round, as do Cycling and Walking.



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# WORSHIP @ HT & StP

As we all know, Worship can take many forms but our organised, regular worship at St Peter's & Holy Trinity include Sunday Services (below) plus a variety of different styles, times, days, venues...

**Morning Prayer:** Mondays – Saturdays 8.30am Holy Trinity

**Home Groups:** Weekly in leaders' homes and Holy Trinity

**Mission Community Morning Prayer:** Weekly, various churches

**Julian Prayer:** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday each month, 3pm Lady Chapel, Holy Trinity

**Celtic or Taizé:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday each month, 7pm St Peter's

**Wild Church:** 4 times a year, Sundays from 2pm, various locations

**Evensong:** 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays, 6pm Holy Trinity

**Brunch Club:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month, 10am, local cafés

**Pilgrimage Walks:** Periodic, various locations

## SUNDAYS

**Holy Trinity:** 8:00am **Holy Communion** (said traditional language)

9:15am **Sung Eucharist** (with choir)

**St Peter's:** 11:00am **Sung Mass**

# ECUMENICAL INVOLVEMENT AND COMMUNITY WORSHIP

- Hosting the Community Act of Remembrance & Service
- Boats-in-the-Harbour service
- Hosting Civic Services
- RNLI Lifeboat Services
- Holy Trinity Choir represents HT&StP at various concerts & events by invitation
- Hosting joint Schools Concerts
- **COMMUNITY WALK OF WITNESS**

On Good Friday morning townsfolk are drawn to the community War Memorial at Holy Trinity Church to begin our annual pilgrimage.



Carrying the Cross, alongside others from ALL local Churches, in this united act of faith.



Stopping periodically for worship before raising the Cross high above the town.



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# MUSIC @ HT&StP

Music is a joyful and much valued part of the life of our churches.

We are blessed with many talented musicians who have contributed to an increasingly high level of musicianship. The choir numbers 10–20 singers every Sunday, most of whom contribute to other areas of Church life.

Holy Trinity has a decades long choral reputation, a robed choir which was, until July 2016, all male. We are now a mixed choir, with singers from many other parts of North Devon, and a local public school, joining us to form an augmented choir on special occasions.

St Peter's, like Holy Trinity has a very modern digital organ as well as a grand piano. Hymns at St Peter's include well known traditional hymns as well as more modern ones composed within the last 40 years, and Celtic songs too. A group of musicians play for the monthly Celtic/Taizé services at St Peter's, which can comprise any or all of piano, recorder, flute, clarinet, violin, guitars.

At Holy Trinity we have a gifted and inspirational Director of Music, ably supported by an excellent organist.

The choir rehearses weekly, providing a variety of introits, anthems and Mass settings each Sunday, as well as supporting the hymn singing of the congregation. Increasing numbers of invitations to sing further afield are accepted, leading to a rising number of people attending our occasional Evensongs, Festival of Remembrance, Nine Lessons & Carols, plus Easter and Christmas mornings. Our choir is happy to sing in both churches.

Our MD is also a composer. His recent Requiem Aeternam was premiered to great critical acclaim last year and we will be singing it again in May at the Appledore Christian Music Festival. He composed a beautiful Ave Verum dedicated to our former Rector for his final service.

We are truly blessed!

# MISSION COMMUNITY

The Coast & Combe Mission Community comprises 9 Churches. In addition to the 3 already mentioned, there are the **Coastal Parishes** of St Sabinus, Woolacombe, St Mary Magdalene, Mortehoe and St Matthew & St Wardrede's, Lee, plus the **Combe to Combe Benefice** is made up of St Phillip & St James, Ilfracombe, St Peter ad Vincular, Combe Martin and St Peter's, Berryarbour.

The whole area has a varied demographic, ranging from the affluent parts of Ilfracombe and surrounding villages, to the opposite end of the spectrum with parts of Ilfracombe ranking amongst the highest levels of social deprivation in the country.

Recently, the area has attracted families from London and other centres of population as remote workers who wish to take advantage of the beautiful coastal surroundings and excellent opportunities offered by our schools and arts-rich community.

In recent years we have also welcomed some asylum seekers and refugees, as well as care workers from around the world.

Our Junior School has recently been awarded School of Sanctuary status in recognition of its work with these children.

## School links

Our churches are well represented on the governing bodies of the Junior School and the Academy. We welcome the children from the schools to both buildings for RE lessons, assemblies, services and even exams (during a building project at the school).

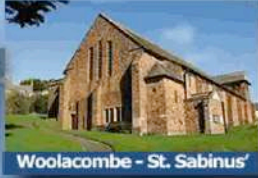
The Junior School children experience a rich programme of visits each year in which they learn about key festivals of the church year in an interactive manner. St Peter's Church is ideally placed for this as it is adjacent to the school.

There is a Christian Schools' worker at the Academy funded by the town's churches and an after school 'safe space' (Delta) is also offered.

Both of our Ilfracombe Churches are open daily and provide a well-used opportunity for private prayer.

# COASTAL PARISHES

## Woolacombe, Morteohoe & Lee



Woolacombe - St. Sabinus'



Morteohoe - St. Mary's



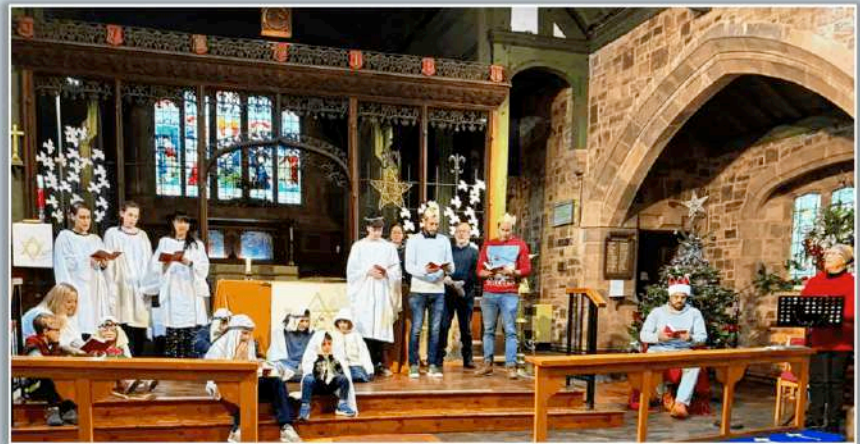
Lee - St. Matthew's

### Coastal Parishes North Devon

The Church of England in  
Woolacombe, Morteohoe, and Lee

To me a team rector is a colleague who is wise, kind and approachable. I would hope that whoever is chosen would be someone who is willing to build a relationship between the clergy of the Mission Community and beyond. I would hope too that while I would have autonomy in my Benefice, we can discuss and work together at times too, bearing in mind that the Team Rector has oversight of all the parishes in the Mission Community.

*Rev. Susan Oldham*



### Woolacombe: St Sabinus.

A multi-use building with a moderate congregation of mainly older members. Despite this we run a very successful community coffee morning which is attended by an increasing number of people. Following the event we hold an informal

mid-week Communion service which has been drawing in attendees from the coffee morning and is growing in attendance.

We work hard to manage the building and finances, but this is rewarded by the fellowship and sense of purpose as a church in this place.

Woolacombe

Above: Nativity Story Left: Good Friday



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# COASTAL PARISHES

## Woolacombe, Morteohoe & Lee

### Morteohoe - St Mary's

A beautiful 800 year old church much loved by the community, but run by a few wonderful people. Though services are attended by sometimes only 6/8 people on a winters evening, the church has been recently decorated, (due to a gift by a grateful parishioner), updated with WiFi, and lovingly cared for.

The small, faithful congregation work extremely hard to maintain the building and worship and have been rewarded by an increase in funds and more interest in couples wanting to be married there. The church also has a community coffee morning which is well attended despite the small amount of permanent residents in the village.



Above: Morteohoe Harvest with Rev Susan Oldham and LLM Sally Molligoda  
Below: Lee Mothering Sunday

### Lee - St Matthew and St Wardrede's

Again, a jewel of a building tucked into the pale grey slate cliff. The church is decorated with stencils and beautifully painted. Although small it has a faithful and committed small congregation. A traditional communion service is held most Sundays at 8.45 in order to accommodate Team Vicar hurtling from one church to another on a Sunday morning.



There are good relations with the community who gather to sing for festivals and work to support the church too. Not surprisingly the church is popular with wedding couples. Again, finances are in good order.

# OVERVIEW OF FINANCES

In common with most churches, we rely on voluntary giving for the majority of our income. This has dipped recently due to some of our previously generous donors moving away. This has impacted our spending power and meant some difficult economies have been made. However, we always manage to pay our 'Common Fund' in full. We are also encouraging our regular congregation to use the Parish Giving Scheme, and promoting Gift Aid. We have contactless giving devices in both churches.

The upkeep of the Church buildings is an enormous burden on our finances. However, we have recently raised funds primarily from a legacy and from grant funding to install accessible toilets and access ramp at St Peter's Church. This work is due to complete in mid-May 2026 and we are already seeing more enquiries from community groups to hire the building as well as continuing with our own social and fundraising events in a far more attractive venue.

Holy Trinity Church is on the Heritage at Risk Register and needs substantial and expensive repairs and conservation work. The PCC has been able to fund the significant professional fees over recent years to the point that we now have the relevant permissions in place for the work. An application to the Heritage Lottery Fund was unsuccessful in 2025 but we have recently established a Project team to take this forward. We intend to reapply to National Lottery Heritage Fund and to other grant providers.

We have a good regular tenant in the Montessori Kindergarten who use the lower room at Trinity Rooms which contributes to our finances. We aim to promote further bookings for the upper room which is currently under-used.

We have an active Events Team who run regular fundraising events including craft fairs, concerts, the Burns supper, barn dances and other smaller events throughout the year. We also have a stall at the monthly farmers market in the town.

Please see Further Information on the following page

# FURTHER INFORMATION

## The Team at HT&StP

We are very fortunate to have the services of 3 Associate Retired Priests to support us during our vacancy: Rev Keith Wyre, Rev Martin Walker and Rev Giles King-Smith.

There are 2 Church Wardens, a PCC of 15 including a Standing Committee of 5.

We are also blessed with 2 dedicated LLMs.

Electoral Roll: HT = 71 and StP = 26



LLM: Theresa Powell



LLM: Jenni Coats

We have no paid positions at HT&StP, though the Musical Director and Organist each receive an honorarium from a Music Trust. All other work is carried out by volunteers from within the church.

## Communications at HT&StP (in a nutshell)

Apart from a warm welcome, good publicity, signage and notices, we have a popular Church WhatsApp group, a weekly Newsletter with Readings, a monthly illustrated newsletter, a monthly Mission Community magazine, and an active Facebook page.

Unfortunately, as our website was obsolete, we have had it closed down. Meanwhile, we are endeavouring to keep ACNY updated, in its stead.

**To contact us** please email CW Rod Donovan: [rodney.donovan@gmail.com](mailto:rodney.donovan@gmail.com)  
or Church Admin Team: [htspcc@outlook.com](mailto:htspcc@outlook.com)

## Useful Links

- North Devon Tourism: <https://www.visitnorthdevon.co.uk>
- Visit Ilfracombe: <https://www.visitilfracombe.co.uk>
- One Ilfracombe (Community Partnership): <https://www.oneilfracombe.org.uk>
- North Devon District Council: <https://www.northdevon.gov.uk>
- Devon County Council: <https://www.devon.gov.uk>
- North Devon (E07000043) - ONS

## Financial Information for Holy Trinity & St Peter's Ilfracombe

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Income and gains/losses on investment assets	£105,546.00	£123,044.00	£94,065.00	£153,130.00
Expenditure	£118,634.00	£88,135.00	£165,284.00	£143,313.00
Net expenditure/income	-£13,088.00	£34,909.00	-£71,219.00	£9,817.00
<b>Reserves</b>				
Unrestricted	£44,577.00	£57,488.00	£38,737.00	£30,517.00
Restricted	£152,966.00	£174,964.00	£127,496.00	£140,533.00
Total	£197,543.00	£232,452.00	£166,233.00	£171,050.00

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# HT & ET STEP

PRAY GROW SERVE  
ILFRACOMBE