



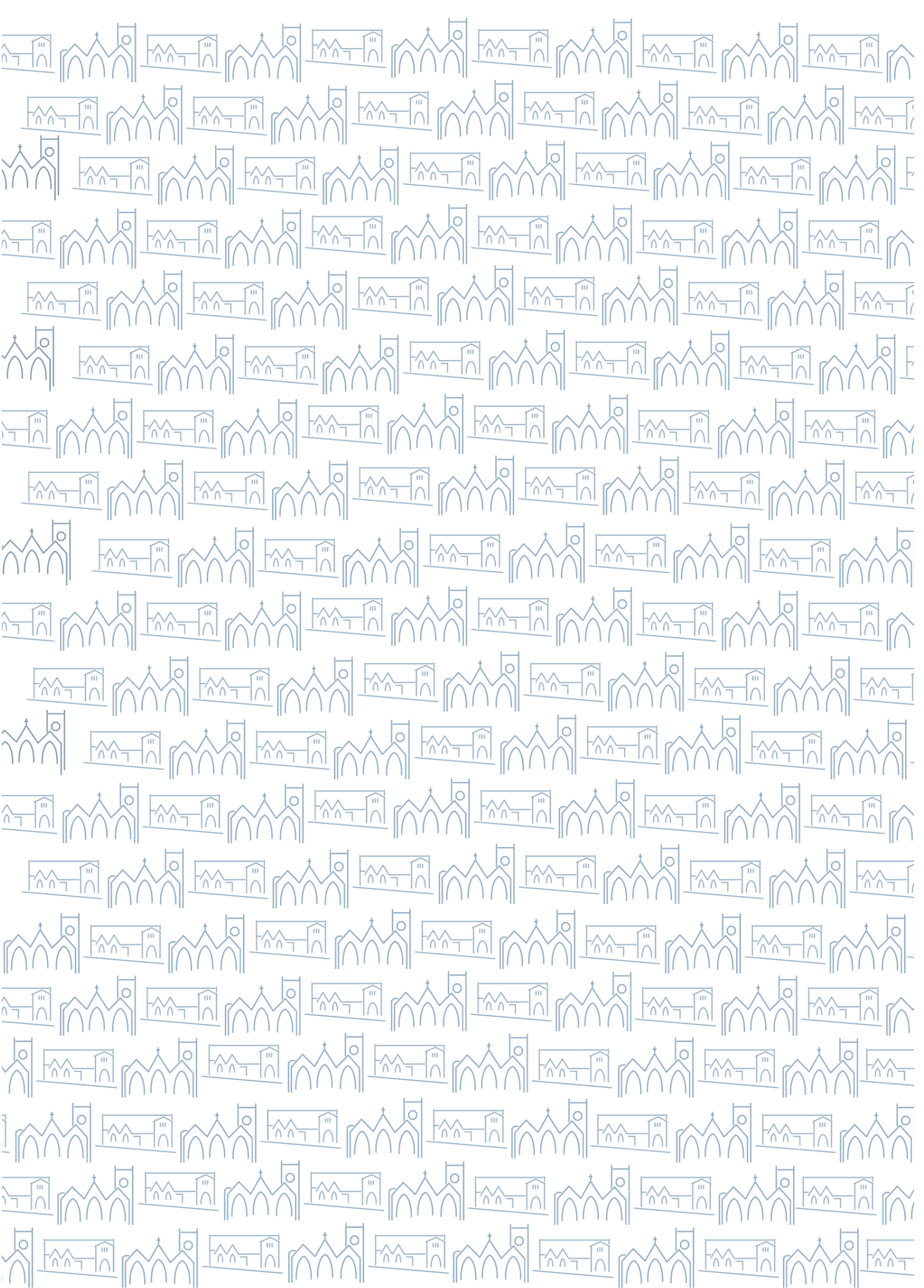
PARISH PROFILE

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "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 21st 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.

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

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 14th and 15th 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

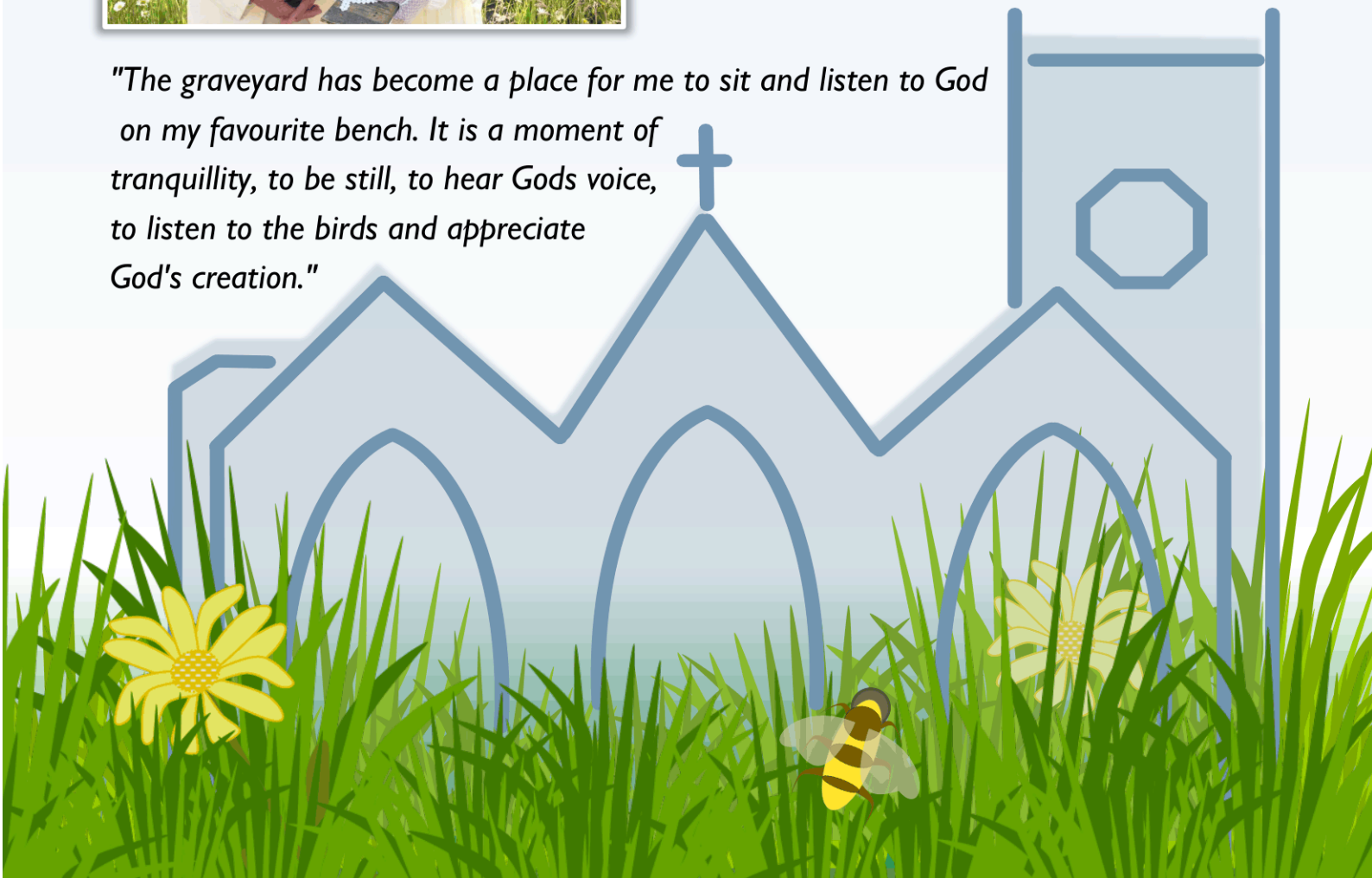
Holy Trinity Church has a large churchyard which offers a fascinating insight into the history of the town, and also has some Commonwealth War Graves.

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



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

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.



Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe with St Peter Bittadon
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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.

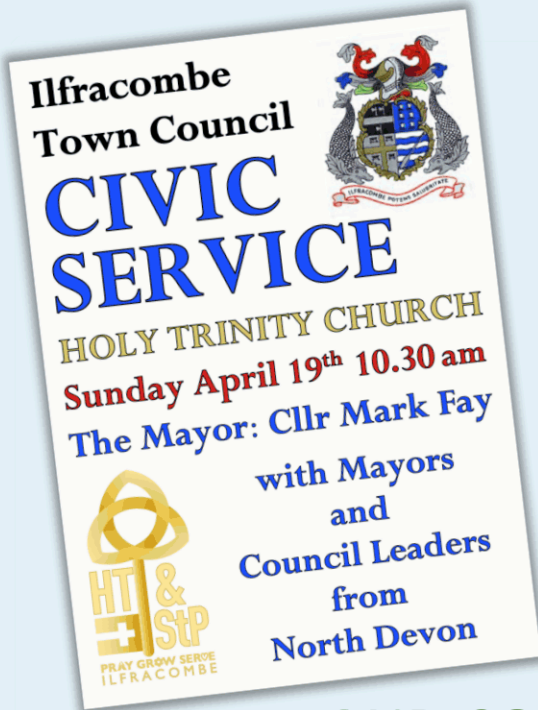


A short walk from Holy Trinity and High St. with Medical Centre & Pharmacy next door.



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.



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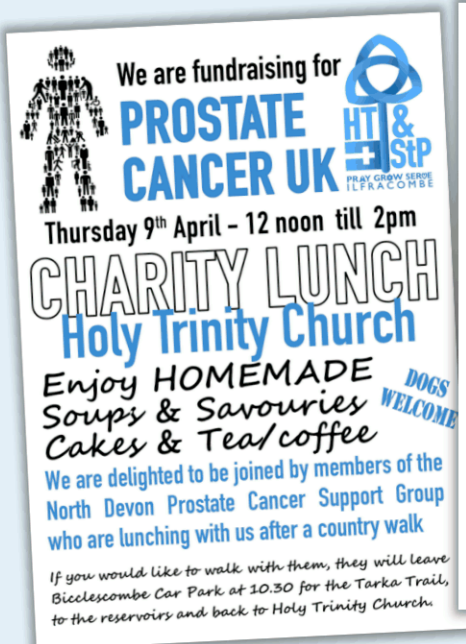
EVENTS @ HT & StP

FUNDRAISING FOR ...



local, national & international

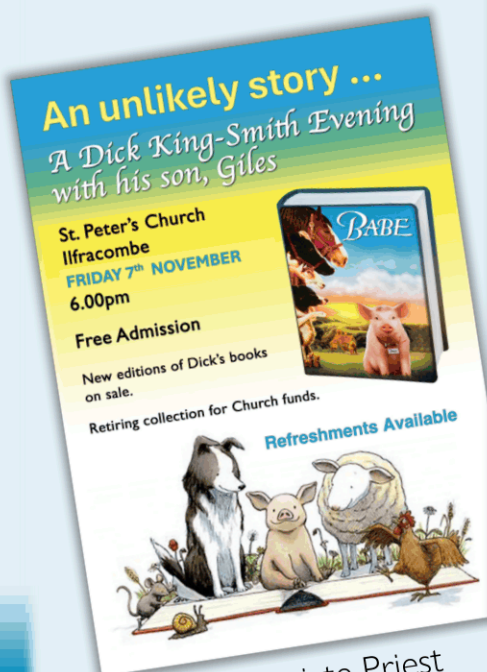
CHARITIES



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
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EVENTS @ HT & StP

CARING FOR GOD'S EARTH

CHURCHES COUNT ON NATURE 2024

HT & StP
PRAY GROW SERVE 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 & 4.30pm

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

FREE EVENT

BRINGING HOLY TRINITY CHURCHYARD TO LIFE

HT & StP
PRAY GROW SERVE 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

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

HT & StP
PRAY GROW SERVE ILFRACOMBE

DIOCESE OF EXETER
THE CATHEDRAL OF THE GLORIOUS RESURRECTION

UK
A ROCHA

SILVER AWARD WINNER 2024

ECO CHURCH

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

(Please bring a hand lens if you have one)

North Devon Coast National Landscape

Finding Nature's Footprints

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

HT & StP
PRAY GROW SERVE 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

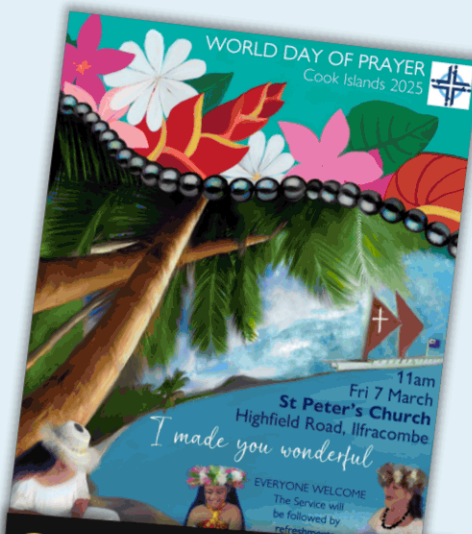
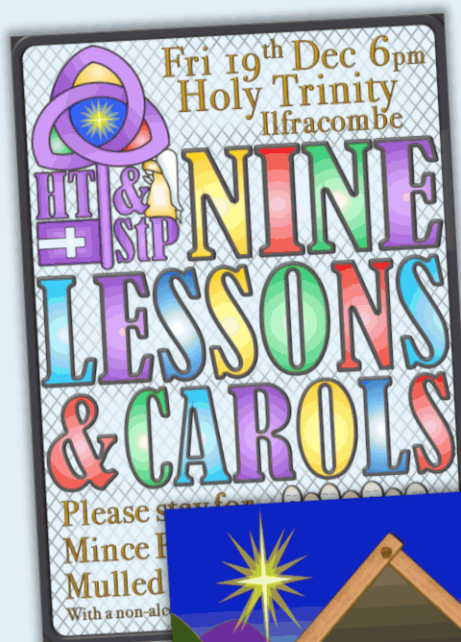
FREE EVENT



Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe with St Peter Bittadon
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EVENTS @ HT & StP

WITH A VARIETY OF WORSHIP



Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe with St Peter Bittadon
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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 Christmas 'Lighting the Lights' has massive support from locals and visitors (Left) and it all begins just below Holy Trinity Church.



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' Biclescombe 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.



Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe with St Peter Bittadon
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Photos by Charmain Lovett Photography

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: 1st Monday each month, 3pm Lady Chapel, Holy Trinity

Celtic or Taizé: 2nd Sunday each month, 7pm St Peter's

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

Evensong: 5th Sundays, 6pm Holy Trinity

Brunch Club: 1st 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.



Holy Trinity & St Peter's Church Ilfracombe with St Peter Bittadon
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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, Morteheo 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, Berrynarbour.

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).

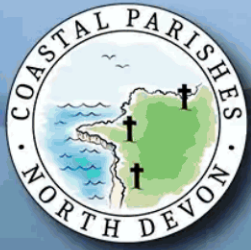
The Junior School children experience a rich programme of visits each year in which they learn about key festivals of the church year in an interactive manner. St Peter's Church is ideally placed for this as it is adjacent to the school.

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, Mortehoe & Lee



Woolacombe - St. Sabinus'



Mortehoe - St. Mary's



Lee - St. Matthew's

Coastal Parishes North Devon

The Church of England in
Woolacombe, Mortehoe, 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, Mortehoe & Lee

Mortehoe - 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: Mortehoe 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
or Church Admin Team: htsppcc@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
Reserves				
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

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



HT &
E StP

PRAY • GROW • SERVE
ILFRACOMBE