

THE PARISH POST

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF SANDFORD, NEW BUILDINGS AND UPTON HELLIONS CHURCHES

2ND FEBRUARY 2020

A warm welcome to our 8.30am communion service at Beacon Church, New Buildings. Or join us later at 10am at St Swithun's Church, Sandford for our family communion. Do stay for refreshments after the second service.

REFLECTIVE MORNING PRAYER – every **Wednesday** at 9.00am at St Swithun's

THE BOILER

Anyone who has been into the church for any reason over the last couple of weeks will have noticed the drop in temperature as the boiler is broken. We have supplementary heating which is effective though noisy but wear extra warm clothes anyway while it's being sorted.

TEA AND TODDLERS – FRIDAY 7TH FEBRUARY AT ST SWITHUN'S

Completely undeterred by the slight drop in temperature, plenty of preschool children and their hardy parents and carers came along in January for a lively time of play and chat and of course wonderful drinks and snacks. Do join them this week from 9am to 10.30, the coffee is excellent so come along whether or not you have a toddler in tow.

LENT COURSES

Paul will be running a Lent course on Wednesday afternoons in March so please sign the sheet at the back of St Swithun's if you would like to be involved. More details nearer the time – and of course there are always courses in Crediton that you can join if that time isn't convenient.

POSTCARDS AND POSTAGE STAMPS

Although we receive (and post) far fewer items than a few years ago, thanks to people saving their stamps, Margaret still managed to deliver over 25lbs (11.5kgs) postage stamps to Hospiscare last year. And remember Pamela saves postcards, used and unused, for MAF. So please don't throw these items away but donate them to these two good causes.

THANK YOU TO OUR CLEANERS

Our cleaning team in the main body of the church consists of Bridget, Rosanne, Mary Rose, Charlotte and Teresa. Bert keeps the vestry clean and tidy and Rita has a weekly rota for the Under Gallery and toilet. Peter and the choir are responsible for the Gallery. Thank you all!

IN YOUR PRAYERS

- On Friday 31st January a prayer was released from the Methodist Conference by Revd Barbara Glasson which included these words, 'However we feel about today, we mark this Brexit day as people who celebrate or grieve *together* ... Let us hold this day gently, giving ourselves permission to leave without elation or despair, determined to love our neighbour, support the weak and welcome the stranger.'
- In a joint open letter to the Government, church leaders wrote that years of Brexit negotiations have left the UK 'bruised and divided ... but the Christian values of kindness, humility and respect must live on.' Pray for those in authority in the UK and in other nations that these core values are upheld.

Sunday readings: Malachi 3:1-5; Psalm 24; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40

Neighbourhood Prayer Network has a vision that every street in the UK has people in it praying for their neighbours. Their aim is to transform our nation through 'Prayer each day, Care each week and Share each month.' As you daily walk or drive past your neighbours, pray for God to bless them. If you know of any specific needs then pray specifically. Each week intentionally do one caring thing for a neighbour – visiting someone or taking in their bins or offering to ... whatever is the need. Then each month ask God for a way to share your faith or let them know they are so precious to and loved by God. You can see just how our communities would be transformed by these little things.

www.neighbourhoodprayer.net

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