

THE PARISH POST

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF SANDFORD, NEW BUILDINGS AND UPTON HELLIONS CHURCHES

1ST MARCH 2020

A warm welcome to our 8.30am communion service at Beacon Church, New Buildings and our 10am family communion at St Swithun's Church, Sandford.

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

MAKING THE MOST OF MEDIA – MONDAY 2ND MARCH AT 7.30PM AT THE BONIFACE CENTRE

This evening is designed to help us nail social media, tell good news stories, engage with the press and livestream with style. Chloe Axford, the Diocesan Communications and Engagement Director is offering a whistle-stop tour full of hints, tips and sources so bring your mobile phones and devices with you. She will also cover communications planning, writing for social media, websites and press releases, creating great graphics, flyers and posters and simple filming, editing and live streaming. Please contact Paul Fillery (details below) if you are coming.

SANDFORD LENT COURSE – WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH AT ASHRIDGE FARM

Paul is leading this series from 2-3pm on a Wednesday afternoon courtesy of Jill and Richard Burston. He will help us to explore what it really means in our walk of faith to 'surrender' to God. Do bring your bible if you wish to.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – FRIDAY 6TH MARCH AT 2PM AT CREDITON METHODIST CHURCH

This service has been written by the women of Zimbabwe and is on the theme, 'Rise! Take your mat and walk!' As we participate we will be part of a great wave of prayer encircling the world, joining with people in over 120 countries. This is a Churches Together service and all are welcome.

CREDITON FOODBANK

Thank you for your continued support. The current needs are sugar, strawberry jam, custard, rice pudding, corned beef and tinned tomatoes, dog and cat food.

JOY 2020. THE GIFT OF YEARS – FRIDAY 20TH MARCH 2-4.30PM AT THE BONIFACE CENTRE

This event (one of a number during the Bishops in Mission weekend beginning Friday 20th March) is being hosted and led by Bishop Robert to encourage all those aged 60+ to know that they hold a vital place in their church and in society and gives an opportunity to offer afresh their gifts and time to God.

THANK YOU SCOUTS!

Last autumn Sandford Scouts spent an evening secretly bulb bombing around the village and the results are just beginning to show. They planted daffodils wherever there was a grassy bank or green space (eg by the Parish Hall car park) to enhance their community. Do thank any scout or scout leader you know.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

A very happy birthday to Linda on Friday 6th.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

- ◆ Pray for healing for those who have the coronavirus; pray for wise decisions by healthcare professionals and world leaders as they respond. Pray too for businesses and the money markets around the world as the impact of the virus takes greater effect.

SUNDAY READINGS: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-17; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

The period of Lent is when we remember Jesus alone in the desert being tempted in all manner of ways which would lead him away from God. Jesus really does know all about temptation, he has been there, he understands. And best of all for us, when we do fall and give in, he can deal with it.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

The APCM will take place on **Sunday 19th April at 11.00am** in the Under Gallery at St. Swithun's. This year we will be electing 2 churchwardens, 6 PCC members and 3 Deanery Synod representatives. Nomination forms are available at the back of St Swithun's and, in all cases, anyone on the Church Electoral Roll who is a communicant and willing to be nominated (proposer and seconder required) can stand for election. Please note that persons are disqualified from serving in either of these roles under a variety of conditions which are detailed on the nomination forms. You will also be required to complete 'a Fit and Proper Person' declaration.

Churchwardens serve for a term of one year, maximum six consecutive years.

PCC members serve for 3 years but are able to retire at any time during this period if they wish to do so. They can stand for re-election. The PCC normally meets about 6 times a year.

Want to know more? If you are interested in any of the above or would like some more info, please could you speak to one of the current churchwardens, Colin Clark and Linda Bennett-Smith, or Rosanne Baker, the PCC secretary.

Sides-people

If there are any sides-people who wish to retire or if there is anybody who is interested in becoming a sides-person, please could you speak to **Rosanne**.

ELECTORAL ROLL FORMS

This is the time of year when Alison, our electoral roll officer reviews the register and if you have joined us in the last few months, she may well approach you and invite you to fill in a form. If she misses you please pick up a form from the back of St Swithun's (or if you attend St Mary's or Beacon Churches please ring Alison on 866204 or email astoyle@btconnect.com and she will send you one). If you are already on the register because you filled in a form last year then you need do nothing more. As well as giving you an opportunity to vote at the AGM or be on the PCC, signing a form is your way of saying '**I belong.**' So whether your connection is with St Mary's or Beacon or St Swithun's please sign a form and return it to Alison.